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LETTER DATED 18 MARCH 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

I have the honour to submit enclosed the text of a message addressed to Your Excellency by Mr. Rauf R. Denktash, President of the Turkish Communal Chamber in Cyprus.

I would be grateful if Your Excellency would have the text of this message circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Orhan ERALP
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Turkey
to the United Nations

New York, 17 March 1965

Excellency,

With reference to the letter of Mr. Zenon Rossides dated 15 March 1965 (S/6233) addressed to Your Excellency, I should like to make the following observations:

1. Mr. Rossides' attempt to define the term ENOSIS (annexation of Cyprus by Greece) as "a movement based on self-determination" is not only a direct insult to the intelligence of the distinguished members of the Security Council, but it is also a bogus attempt at self-deception. Mr. Rossides forgets that in the 1955-58 struggle for achieving ENOSIS, the number of Greek Cypriots killed by the Greeks far exceeded the number of Turkish Cypriots and British soldiers put together. In order to silence those Greeks who believed in peaceful coexistence in a free and independent Cyprus, 278 Greeks were killed and 295 wounded by EOKA terrorists. Some of these unfortunate men were shot while praying in church, others while lying ill in hospitals. Under this reign of terror, the will of the terrorists was imposed upon the Greek population in the form of ENOSIS - annexation of Cyprus by Greece!
2. Mr. Rossides equally ignores the basic fact that Cyprus was given its independence and became an equal Member of the United Nations on the specific condition, agreed upon by the authorized representatives of the Greek Community, that ENOSIS would be outlawed. The attempt to achieve ENOSIS by those who agreed to forgo it for the good of Cyprus and for peace in the area after independence is nothing but proof of a calculated treachery and dishonesty - it is an attempt to defy international treaties and to avoid legal responsibilities under the guise of supporting the principles of self-determination. We feel confident that no one will fall for this fraudulent attempt.
3. Further, Mr. Rossides forgets that he has no right to speak for the Turks of Cyprus - a population which was signatory to the agreements as an equal partner with the Greeks. The fact that Mr. Rossides' leaders have put themselves above the laws and the Constitution of the land does not authorize Mr. Rossides to assume that he can speak for the Turks of Cyprus.

/...

If self-determination is what the Greeks want, they can have it only under one condition: self-determination, separately for each community, as it was done in the case of the Cameroons. Brute force and repeated threats of total annihilation of the Turkish Community have not silenced the Turkish conscience and the Turkish voice during the last fifteen months, and it is highly unlikely that these methods will suffice to silence us in the future.

4. I will take this opportunity to refer to official documents published in "History Speaks" in order to prove the fact that ENOSIS is an idea imported by Greek mercenaries of intrigue and violence from Greece, and that this idea is being imposed upon the Greek Cypriots by armed bandits supported by regular troops and arms from Greece.

British Public Record Office document No. C.O. 883/6 (report to the then Chief Secretary of Cyprus by Mr. T.J. Chamberlayne, a British administrator in the Kyrenia District, dated 14 April 1899):

"I beg to draw attention of the Government to an elaborate plan to organize in Cyprus an agitation for annexation to Greece, which was formed last November in Athens, under the name of a so-called patriotic league. The objects and intended organization of this union or league are clearly set forth in the 'Salpinx' newspaper of 28 November 1898... It is purposed to establish this organization in all towns and villages of Cyprus to embrace rich and poor, small and great, and its object may be summed up in its own words - After the Ionian Islands, Thessaly and Crete, it is now the turn of Cyprus."

And in his report of 28 November 1901, Mr. Chamberlayne states: "professional agitators have arrived from abroad, who are introducing a sinister element into the agitation... The other side amongst the Greek-speaking Cypriots did not dare to resist this cry of union with Greece".

On 30 August 1902, Mr. Chamberlayne reports:

"It must be remembered that the movement is engineered from abroad by past masters in the art of intrigue, who have established a very complete organization of so-called patriotic clubs, throughout the island, and who have the command of money."

5. Union of Cyprus with Greece is therefore nothing but a policy of expansionism on the part of Greece, and its object is to bring an end to the life of the independent Republic of Cyprus and to re-colonize its inhabitants under threat of complete annihilation to those who refuse to accede to this policy.

Yours respectfully,

R.R. DENKTASH
President
Turkish Communal Chamber,
Cyprus
