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LETTER DATED 2 SEPTEMBER 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF GREECE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In his diatribe circulated as doc. S/6635, the Permanent Representative of Turkey let himself be carried away to the point of denouncing Greece as following an imperialist and colonialist policy.

In the United Nations forum, imperialism and colonialism are familiar notions. There may have been disagreements as to their exact definition but never have these concepts been interpreted in a manner which could by any stretch of imagination apply to Greece.

As has been stressed again and again, Greek policy regarding Cyprus is intended to support the Republic's right to self-determination and freedom from foreign interference. This policy is, if anything, anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist.

Applying the same test to Turkish policy, one is forced to the conclusion that it aims - through the right of veto and other devices, combined with threats of military intervention - to impose the will of a minority upon an overwhelming majority: all the attempts at partition, federation, physical isolation of the Turkish population, are clearly reminiscent of the precept "divide and rule". Both these features are the very essence of imperialism and colonialism.

It is suggested that, instead of indulging in futile exercises, in name-calling and semantics, Turkey would be better advised to direct her efforts towards inducing her kinsmen on Cyprus to co-operate with the authorities and the rest of the population, with a view to restoring the normal movement of people, goods, services and ideas.

I shall be grateful if Your Excellency would kindly have this document circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Alexis S. LIATIS
Ambassador