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Letter dated 21 February 1984 from the Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your urgent attention to a number of extremely ominous developments concerning the systematic and recently intensified process of Turkish colonization of the occupied part of the Republic of Cyprus. Turkey and its instruments in Cyprus have recently embarked upon a renewed effort aiming at permanently securing and further expanding the utterly illegal presence of the thousands of colonist settlers implanted from mainland Turkey (Anatolia). The objective of this stepped-up effort is to change by force the age-old demographic character of the island Republic in furtherance of the sinister partitionist and annexationist designs of Turkey against Cyprus and its people as a whole.

As recently reported in the Turkish Cypriot press (Yeniduzen of 10 February 1984), following a decision by the so-called "Council of Ministers" of the phantom pseudo-State (the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus"), 7,000 of the over 50,000 colonist settlers from Turkey who had been brought to the occupied area, but had so far not been given "citizenship" for various reasons, will now be made - en masse - "citizens" of that illegal entity. The same paper goes on to refer to efforts being made to grant "citizenship" to those mainland Turks who have come to the occupied area for a temporary stay. Furthermore, the paper adds, because the granting of "citizenship" to Turks from Turkey is facilitated, new settlers are expected from Turkey.

These recent attempts to "legalize" the colonization of the occupied areas of the Republic of Cyprus by thousands of mainland Turks constitute one of the most flagrant violations of every basic norm of international law by the Turkish aggressor, aiming at a total change in the demographic character of Cyprus. Such ominous illegalities, coupled with the continuing intransigence of Turkey and its

contemptuous disregard of unanimous or near-unanimous resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, come as a further affirmation of Ankara's vicious designs never to allow the forcibly expelled indigenous inhabitants of the occupied areas to return to their ancestral homes and lands.

In addition to the aforesaid illegalities, the Turkish settlers, acting upon instructions from Ankara, are being organized into a single political party with the obvious aim of providing support for the régime of Mr. Rauf Denktash.

The Turkish Cypriot newspaper Soz of 27 January 1984, under banner headlines, reported the declared intention of the leaders of the "Turkish Unity Party" and the "National Turkish Party", (both political parties being composed of illegal Turkish settlers in the occupied areas), to dissolve their parties in order to merge into a single political party. Soz then commented that Turkey was behind the merger of the two parties and that the leaders of those parties had been invited to the Turkish Legation (illegally functioning in the occupied areas) and had been told that they should dissolve their parties and form a single big party of settlers from Turkey so that, after the elections, they could play a key role in the political life of the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus". The officials from Turkey also told them that three members from each political party should be in contact with the Turkish Legation to get the necessary directives. Soz reported that its correspondent had learned that the Turkish Legation, by its move, was aiming at creating a division between the Turks from the mainland and the Turkish Cypriots. According to Soz, the officials of the Turkish Legation told the two men that there was no need to hide the fact that Turkey was behind the move and that Mr. Denktash was already informed of this.

The same newspaper, Soz, of 1 February 1984, reported the formation of a new political party in the Turkish occupied areas, called "Yeni Dogus" ("New Birth Party"). The paper reported that the formation of this new party had been ordered by the Turkish Legation and that such an operation was aimed at bringing the "Turkish Unity Party", the "National Turkish Party" and all the Turkish settlers in the occupied area under one roof.

Furthermore, the Turkish Cypriot paper Ortam reported on 2 February 1983 that the newly formed "New Birth Party" included fanatic rightists and mostly the settlers from Turkey who had received "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus citizenship". The same paper added that it had reliable information to the effect that the "New Birth Party" had been formed through the efforts of Denktash and the "Turkish Ambassador" in the occupied areas, Mr. Inal Batu. Ortam went on to report that Mr. Inal Batu had worked to bring about the dissolution of the "National Turkish Party" and the "Turkish Unity Party" and the formation of the "New Birth Party".

As reported by the Turkish Cypriot newspaper Halkin sesi of 9 February 1984, on 7 February 1984 the "New Birth Party" elected Mr. Aytac Besesler, a retired officer of the Turkish Army, former "Minister" of the puppet régime of the occupied areas and close friend of Mr. Denktash, as the new party's leader.

The above actions have been strongly criticized by Turkish Cypriot opposition leaders, who foresee a clear threat to the Turkish Cypriots, emanating from Ankara's annexationist designs.

Mr. Ozgur Ozgur referred to Mr. Denktash's efforts to seize extraordinary "constitutional" powers and asked of him: "Since you are under the yoke of Turkey, from whom do you seek such powers?" Mr. Ozgur added that if Denktash gets this power "he will run the community like a vali [Turkish provincial governor], according to the winds blowing from Ankara". Mr. Ozgur went on to say that, if the community re-elected Denktash with such powers, it would be re-electing "Ankara's vali".

Mr. Ozgur in the same article also referred to the latest efforts by Turkey to form a separate party of settlers from Turkey. He revealed that during the 1981 "elections" the Turkish Legation worked for Mr. Tezer (a settler and a retired Turkish colonel) and his party. "Now", Mr. Ozgur added, "Turkey wants to gather all Turks from Turkey under one umbrella. The aim is to give strong 'constitutional' rights to Denktash and to bring about the re-election of Denktash just like in 1981. That means that Ankara wants to keep Denktash, who will be acting in line with Turkey's desires, in power".

Mr. Ozgur went on to ask: "Are we a protectorate? If you ask us, we are an undetachable part of an independent, non-aligned Cyprus".

In a press release issued by Mr. Ozgur, the leader of the "Republican Turkish Party", and published in the Turkish Cypriot newspaper Soz on 7 February 1984, Mr. Ozgur, referring to Turkey's role in forcing the recently brought-in population from Anatolia to set up its own separate political party, said: "This attitude of the Turkish Legate is completely devoid of goodwill and has many negative aspects to it. The Turkish Republic's Legation, by gathering the population from Turkey under a one-party roof, is trying to influence the direction of the political evolution of the Turkish Cypriots. It is not clear at what point this separatist policy will stop. The Turkish Republic's Legation has no right to divide the oppressed people into Turks from Turkey and Turkish Cypriots and thus interfere in the internal affairs of the country". Mr. Ozgur went on to say: "It is deplorable and worrying for us that the Turkish Republic's Legation is the force behind the negative action of creating a separate party made up of people from Turkey. The "Republican Turkish Party" strongly requests an end to such actions, which are in the nature of racist apartheid ...".

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus joins its voice in support of that of our Turkish Cypriot compatriots in condemning this escalated campaign of anachronistic practices of colonization and racism on the part of Turkey, the ultimate objective of which is to alter the demographic character of the island and thus solidify its military stranglehold over the occupied areas of the Republic.

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In protesting in the strongest terms, on behalf of my Government, these new manifestations of abhorrent crimes by Turkey against Cyprus and its people, I wish to reiterate the request that Your Excellency take all steps deemed advisable and necessary with a view to discouraging and arresting such ominous developments, which are calculated to lead to the disaster of partition and to the ultimate annexation of Cyprus by Turkey.

It is hardly necessary to point out that such actions constitute a grave breach of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and manifest an arrogant disregard of Security Council resolution 541 (1983), thus undermining your intensive efforts for its implementation.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 41, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cyprus to the United Nations
