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LETTER DATED 7 FEBRUARY 1964 FROM THE ACTING PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to document S/5529, containing the letter of Ambassador Rossides, dated 3 February 1964, and addressed to the President of the Security Council. It is deplorable that Ambassador Rossides persists in his attempts to confuse the issue with his unfounded allegations against my Government. As was stated in our previous reply to Ambassador Rossides, no threat to the independence and territorial integrity of Cyprus has been made by my Government or its Prime Minister. Prime Minister Inonu, in his letter addressed to the Heads of Governments, has explicitly stated the position of Turkey:

"Since the beginning of the crisis, Turkey has tried all the courses of action incumbent upon the guaranteeing powers and foreseen in the various Cyprus agreements. Thus since December 21st, the Government of the Republic of Turkey has repeatedly appealed to the leaders of both communities and to the Government of Cyprus inviting them to restore peace."

Ever since the outrageous incidents in Cyprus started, Turkey has always acted with patience and restraint and in accordance with the existing agreements on Cyprus. Turkey, as Ambassador Rossides claims, has not pursued "a policy that would further aggravate the situation". It is, on the contrary, the Greek Cypriotes who have aggravated the situation in Cyprus with their atrocities and massacres. As usual, Ambassador Rossides is trying to cover up these atrocities with his unfounded allegations. Ambassador Rossides claims that the Turkish Government has refused to comply with the cease-fire provisions. This is another baseless allegation. There is nothing in the provisions of the cease-fire which forbids the Turkish contingent to take up a different position.

The Turkish contingent is stationed in Cyprus by virtue of the Treaty of Alliance between Turkey, Greece and Cyprus. It was compelled to take up a new

position only after the firing on the Turkish Embassy premises where all the families of Turkish officials had to take refuge to escape mass murder.

Furthermore, it is well known that the Turkish military contingent also forms a part of the joint peace-making force established on 25 December 1963 and composed of the units of the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey. This was accepted by the Cyprus Government which issued on 26 December 1963 the following communiqué:

"The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has accepted an offer that the forces of the United Kingdom, Greece and Turkey stationed in Cyprus and placed under British command, should assist it in its efforts to secure the preservation of the cease-fire and the restoration of peace."

The Turkish contingent which is actually under General Young, the Commander of the joint peace-making force, is fulfilling its duty according to orders it receives from the British Commander.

Another allegation in Mr. Rossides' letter that cannot be considered seriously is that Turkish terrorists are forcing the Turkish inhabitants out of their homes, in mixed villages, to move to Turkish villages. It is only natural that the Turkish Cypriotes, faced with annihilation at the hands of the Greek Cypriotes, whose cold-blooded crimes and acts of terror the whole world condemns, should flee their homes and seek refuge in villages mainly inhabited by Turks. The Turkish Cypriotes are numerically less than the Greek Cypriotes, in fact they form only one fourth of the inhabitants of the island. How can they have the means to exert pressure on far-flung communities and force the Turkish Cypriotes to move out of their villages?

Ambassador Rossides, in his letter, mentions a Turkish shepherd who allegedly fled "from Turkish terrorism". Even if this story, the only one Ambassador Rossides could cite, is true one can well imagine the means used to obtain such a statement from the poor shepherd. Everyone knows that the BOIKA terrorists, who stop at nothing, have their own methods to wring from their victims any statements they want.

Ambassador Rossides also speaks of a "Berlin wall" in Cyprus. If such a tragic wall exists, it is the Greek Cypriotes who have erected it. This is what two British correspondents, Rene MacColl, and Daniel McGeacraie, who succeeded

in crossing "the wall" have to say about the crimes committed against the Turkish Cypriotes, in their report published in the first edition of the Daily Express on 28 December 1963:

"We went tonight into the sealed off Turkish Quarter of Nicosia in which 200 - 300 people had been slaughtered in the last five days.

"We were the first western reporters there and we have seen sights too frightful to be described in print, horror was so extreme that the people seem stunned beyond tears and reduced to an hysterical and mirthless giggle that is more terrible than tears.

"This much we can tell. In the Kumsal Quarter at number 2, Irfan Bey Sokak, we made way into a house whose floors were covered with broken glass. A child's bicycle lay in a corner. In the bathroom looking like a group of wax works were three dead children piled on top of their murdered mother. In a room next to it we glimpsed the body of a woman shot in the back."

I would request Your Excellency to be good enough to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Vahap ASIROGLU
Acting Permanent Representative
of Turkey to the United Nations
