



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/5698  
14 May 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1964 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of my letter addressed to  
His Excellency U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I would be grateful if Your Excellency would have the text of this letter  
circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

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

New York, 12 May 1964

No.: 1051/372

Your Excellency,

I cannot allow to go unchallenged the false allegations, the casuistry and pernicious double-talk contained in the letter addressed to Your Excellency by Mr. Rossides. While I regret that such polemics by correspondence with your office should continue you will, I hope, appreciate that such gratuitous propaganda on the part of Mr. Rossides must not be allowed to cloud the issue.

1. The firing by Greek Cypriots on innocent inhabitants of villages during the Greek Cypriot assault on St. Hilarion is well-established. Here are a few quotations from reliable Press reports:

The New York Herald Tribune, 29 April 1964. From cable dispatches, Nicosia: "Elsewhere on Cyprus a Turkish Cypriot was killed and another wounded in a Greek Cypriot attack on the village of Zerovounos, in the Northwest".

The Washington Post, 28 April 1964, Nicosia, 27 April, (UPI): "While fighting flared in the North, President Makarios was intervening in the South to halt firing at the village of Ayios Theodoros where Greek Cypriots have besieged a group of Turkish women and children in a schoolhouse". (These women and children are presumably the "terrorists" so often referred to in Mr. Rossides' letter.)

The New York Herald Tribune, 28 April 1964: From cable dispatches, Nicosia: "Canadian troops under the United Nations command patrolled the villages of Phileri, Krini and Aghirda to protect the few Turks who had not already fled".

These reports have never been denied by the United Nations command.

One wonders whether Mr. Rossides ventures to suggest that this "deliberate misrepresentation" should be attributed to the international Press. Are the members of the international Press conspiring to denigrate the Greek Cypriots? These are merely a few cases of armed attacks against civilian population at the time of the massed assault on St. Hilarion. Hundreds of such attacks at other times are extant.

2. Once again in Mr. Rossides' letter the stigma of "rebellion" is brazenly applied to the Turkish community fighting against overwhelming odds to protect

His Excellency U Thant  
Secretary-General  
United Nations, New York

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their lives and property from the ruthless usurpers. Mr. Rossides says that "... The present situation in Cyprus is in essence an armed rebellion against the Republic and the Government." One cannot help but agree with him: - but the "rebels" are the Greek Cypriot community who have arrogated to themselves the power and resources of Government, resorted to massacre and genocide, torn the Constitution to shreds, risen against the principle of PACTA SUNT SERVANDA which is the very root of international law, violated the Charter and flaunted the authority of the United Nations.

It is evidently the same urge to brand the innocent Turks of Cyprus as "rebels" which prompts Mr. Rossides to refer to paragraph 5 of the Security Council resolution of 4 March, 1964 where the function of the United Nations Force in Cyprus is stated to be "to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions". What is attempted in this context is to pretend that the Greek Cypriot authorities are "the Government of Cyprus" and that UNFICYP should help them in their nefarious task of putting down a so-called "rebellion". There Mr. Rossides deliberately ignores the fact that that view is not shared either by the Security Council or in Your Excellency's report to that body.

3. It is asserted that Vice-President Dr. Küтчük and the Turkish Ministers in the Government "withdrew from the Government". Such double talk could easily be extended to say that the Turkish Cypriot women and children still besieged in many parts of Cyprus have "withdrawn from society". Dr. Küтчük in the letter addressed to Your Excellency on 7 May 1964 says:

- "(iv) Turkish Ministers who had been ousted from their Ministries by force of arms since December last, have been threatened with prosecution for imaginary offences such as plotting against the State, and their Ministries have officially been declared as having been taken over by Greek Ministers again in violation of Constitution;
- (v) Despite my repeated requests to U.N. Command for access to my office buildings the Greeks refuse to give safe conduct to members of my staff up to now;"

By the same token one presumes, no consideration for truth would deter the Greek Cypriots from saying that Mr. Denktash who has been threatened with dire consequences if he sets foot on the island, has "withdrawn" from Cyprus.

4. Briefly, the whole tenure of Mr. Rossides' letter is a lame attempt to justify the brazen violence in the region of the Kyrenia mountains undertaken by well-organized armed bands masquerading under Government authority.

The fact remains that the "military action" in question was not only generally abhorred by world opinion but was condemned in Your Excellency's Report to the Security Council dated 29 April 1964 and by statements of the Commander of UNFICYP. Such a forlorn attempt to explain and justify, and to escape responsibility can only receive the attention that it deserves.

My Government as a primarily interested party, takes comfort in the statement in paragraph 9 of Your Excellency's report of 29 April 1964 to the Security Council where you declared that "... There must be an end to fighting and it will surely become necessary to determine responsibility if it continues".

Please accept Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

Orhan ERALP  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
Turkey to the United Nations

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