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LETTER DATED 10 AUGUST 1964 FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have received your appeal asking the Government of Turkey to cease the limited police action undertaken in Cyprus by my Government with the sole purpose of stopping the Greek Cypriot armed attacks, pending the adoption by the Security Council and the United Nations forces in Cyprus of adequate measures to halt these assaults and to protect the lives of innocent Turks.

I have the honour to inform you that upon your appeal, the Turkish Government has decided to stop immediately the action of the Turkish aircraft over the Mansura-Kokkina region, where the recent large-scale aggression of the Greek Cypriot forces is endangering the lives of the whole Turkish population in this area, including children, women and old men.

I am sure you will realize, however, that this decision of the Government can only make sense if the Greek Cypriot attacks are stopped forthwith and if your appeal for an immediate cease-fire is heeded by the Greek Cypriots. Unfortunately we have received information that the firing has started again this morning at 06.00 hours. This information is now being checked by us. If the firing continues there would be no other recourse for the Turkish Government but to continue to protect the lives of the innocent Turks trapped in a very narrow region in Kokkina, from attacks mercilessly for so many days by thousands of Greek Cypriot Forces.

I would like also to point out with utmost gravity that Greek aircraft have bombed yesterday at 18.30 hours the village of Kokkina killing three civilian Turks.

You are, I am sure, familiar with the tragic plight of the Turkish community since 21 December 1963. You also know as attested in many United Nations reports, that the recent attacks of the Greek Cypriots were the result of the war preparations and of a very heavy build-up of arms and military forces supported by Greek troops which have been sent to the island.

The Turkish Government, from the very beginning, had its hopes in the United Nations Peace-keeping Force and constantly asked the United Nations that this Force be vested with adequate authority enabling it to perform its task effectively. As you very well know all these timely requests of the Turkish Government were unfortunately not heeded. Furthermore, the UNFICYP has seen its freedom of action and movement more and more curtailed by the Greek Cypriot authorities and in the end has become totally incapable of performing its duties under the Security Council resolution of 4 March 1964, as is the case with the present Greek Cypriot large-scale attacks, has been prevented in the Mansura-Kokkina region of putting an end to them. As a result of this tragic situation, the Turkish Government appealed immediately to the Security Council for the adoption of measures to stop these attacks and, in view of the delay which occurred in taking necessary steps, have informed it of its decision to have recourse to a limited police action directed exclusively to military supply routes and to military targets in the said region, pending the action of the Council.

We are therefore compelled, Mr. President, to watch closely the events in this area. As long as the cease-fire is not wholly implemented and as long as the United Nations Peace Force cannot ensure restoration of the conditions existing before the fighting erupted on 5 August 1964, in the region and succeed in pacifying the island by establishing a firm control over import of arms and personnel there is always a danger of a new flare-up. On the other hand we have learned through bitter experiences and deceptions since 21 December 1963 that the Greek Cypriot authorities are not in the least mindful of their obligations and promises and are apt to break their words as soon as the opportunity presents itself, especially, when no sanctions are available to remind them of their responsibilities.

Therefore, until UNFICYP can effectively and freely control the cease-fire, and until the pacification of the island is effectively carried out, the Turkish Government will be in constant vigilance.

I would like to reiterate once more, Mr. President, that the Turkish Government hopes fervently that the Security Council, the United Nations Secretary-General and the UNFICYP will take prompt and effective measures to restore peace on the island.

I can assure you, Excellency, that the Turkish Government, faithful to its traditions and respectful of the principles of the United Nations Charter, principles for the defence of which the Turkish nation did not hesitate in the past to sacrifice the blood of its youth, is determined to see that these principles are respected sincerely by all concerned and to abide by the terms of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Your Excellency for all your efforts in the direction of peace and justice.

(Signed) Ismet INONU

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