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STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CYPRUS

The President of the Security Council on 9 August, pursuant to the wishes of the Council, directed urgent appeals to the Governments of Cyprus and Turkey to end their hostile activities by a cease-fire. It is gratifying and encouraging that both Governments have responded positively and without conditions. On the morning of 10 August the President of Cyprus informed the President of the Security Council that "we shall respect the appeal of the Security Council for a cease-fire", and addressed a similar cable to me. In a letter to the President of the Security Council received on the afternoon of the same day the Prime Minister of Turkey stated that the Government of Turkey "has decided to stop immediately the action of the Turkish aircraft over the Mansura-Kokkina region ...".

These decisions of the two Governments now afford an opportunity for definitely ending fighting and relaxing tension in Cyprus, and it will be my purpose to take fullest possible advantage of this opportunity by exerting every effort toward constructive peace-keeping arrangements in all areas of the island. In consequence, I have instructed the Commander of the Force to co-operate fully with all parties in making the cease-fire thoroughly effective and to take every initiative and to lend all assistance toward this end. I strongly appeal to the Governments of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey and to the Turkish community of Cyprus to extend full co-operation and support to General Thimayya and to the United Nations Force in Cyprus which he commands, in their peace-keeping efforts.

I have also asked Mr. Galo Plaza, my Special Representative in Cyprus, to return there promptly and it is expected that he will do so by the end of the week.

The appeal of the President of the Security Council for a cessation of fighting was reaffirmed by a resolution of the Security Council, which also calls for an immediate cease-fire. That cease-fire is now in effect. This is a development that must be warmly welcomed. We must now look forward rather than

backward and we must hope and strive for a durable restoration of peace and normality in Cyprus and the ultimate solution of its critical problems.

In the light of the present situation, I do not believe that any useful purpose would be served by submitting the report on the incidents of fighting which have taken place in Cyprus since 5 August that was suggested by the President of the Security Council at its 1142nd meeting on 8 August. I have consulted the President of the Council about this and have his concurrence in my decision not to submit such a report at this time.

