

SECURITY COUNCIL



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LETTER DATED 27 MAY 1965 FROM THE DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In his letter dated 6 May 1965 (S/6334), the Permanent Representative of the Greek Cypriot Government has provided the members of the Security Council with yet another example of his familiar distortions about the situation in Cyprus in his usual practice of trying to cover up the guilt of his unlawful administration.

This time the distortion relates to a crude mountain path connecting the Turking village of Temblos with Nicosia via the dangerous and practically unnegotiable precipices of Saint Hilarion which the Turkish Cypriots felt absolutely constrained to build as a result of the arbitrary siege clamped upon the Turkish section of Nicosia on 15 April 1965. The restriction imposed on the freedom of movement between the Turkish sector of Nicosia and this tiny Turkish hamlet was enforced so ruthlessly and inhumanely that the Turkish Cypriots had no other alternative but to resort to this desperate move. It should also be borne in mind that the Greek Cypriots stubbornly refused to allow any Turkish Cypriot, irrespective of its age and sex, to pass through the Greek Cypriot checkpoint at the Kyrenia end of the Nicosia - Kyrenia highway - leading towards Temblos - in spite of the fact that they had all along enjoyed full freedom of movement on this otherwise Turkish Cypriot-controlled highway, thanks to the faithful adherence of the Turkish Cypriots to the agreement they had entered into with UNFICYP regarding the unmolested use of the highway by Greek Cypriots under UNFICYP supervision.

In his zeal, Ambassador Rossides frantically tries to impute to this "track" - as it has been described by an UNFICYP spokesman - bulit entirely for humanitarian reasons, a strategic military importance.

I feel sure Your Excellency is fully familiar with the circumstances and the crying necessities under which the Turkish Cypriots had to open this path. It will be recalled that Dr. Kuchuk, the Vice-Fresident of Cryprus, had dwelt at sufficient length (S/6311) on the humanitarian reasons and the tragic consequences ensuant

upon the monstrous and inhuman Greek Cypriot blockade which were directly responsible for the decision to open up the St. Hilarion - Temblos path. I shall therefore refrain from repeating them in my letter. I would like, however, to quote for the tenefit of the members of the Security Council the following from an article which appeared in the 1 May 1965 issue of the "News Bulletin" published by the Turkish Community in Nicosia, which, in my opinion, demonstrates vividly the humanitarian aspects involved in this matter:

"A little Turkish Cypriot baby was murdered the other day. This little taby, two-and-a-half months old, was murdered by Makerios, Grivas, Clerides, Papadopoulos, Kyprianou and the rest of the evil men who are responsible for the terror that rules Cyprus today.

"This little baby was murdered by Makarios just as surely as if he had gone to the village where she died, and had strangled her with his own hands.

"Sixteen days ago the baby's mother came to Nicosia for the day, with another of her children to obtain medical treatment. The baby was still being fed by the mother herself, but for the few hours that she was going to be in Nicosia, the mother had made suitable arrangements for the care of her baby in her village.

"This was the day Makarios, without warning, clamped down his latest inhuman blockade on the Turkish Community. As a result the mother was trapped in Nicosia, and could not get back to her baby.

"Throughout the whole of the rast sixteen days of this rediaeval torture imposed by the Archbishop of Cyprus, the United Nations, the Red Cross, the Red Crossent and Diplomatic Missions had been making stremuous and continuous appeals to Makarios, on behalf of this mother, for her to be allowed to return to her baby. The Archbishop of Cyprus saw no good reason why he should allow this mother to return to her village to feed her baby.

"The baby has at last died as a result of being deprived of her mother's milk. Over the past sixteen days, the villagers had tried all possible human endeavours to satisfy the baby, all to no avail. A United Nations doctor had tried his best to keep the frail little spark of life alive, but he could not fight against nature, the baby could only have been satisfied with her mother and Makarios had decided that the mother could not go to her baby."

Nevertheless, Ambassador Rossides' letter, apart from its propaganda purpose, portends a dangerous omen against which I feel duty-bound to place Your Excellency on guard. It has become a standard pattern for the Greek Cypriots to precede their

nefarious actions, aimed at extending their unconstitutional authority, by a smoke screen created through a propaganda barrage. It will be recalled that their offensive against the promontory of Tylliria in August 1964 and, more recently, their aggressive deployments in the lefka-Feristeronari-Ambelikou area, in the course of which they have arbitrarily forced UNFICYP units to withdraw from territory under exclusive UNFICYP jurisdiction as far as patrolling rights were concerned, followed this clearly emerging pattern. The possibility of a similar Greek Cypriot move of arbitrary encroachment around Temblos in the immediate future cannot be discounted. I wish, therefore, to express the hope that UNFICYP will continue its vigilance in this area in order that any such eventuality may be effectively checked and averted.

To demonstrate the hollowness of Ambassador Rossides' allegations, I shall note here that the Turkish Cypriots are in full agreement and co-operation with UNFICYP in securing that the St. Hilarion-Temblos path is not put into use in any manner connected with military purposes. In response to inquiries in this connexion, an UNFICYP spokesman is reported to have stated that "UNFICYP had taken measures on 30 April to ensure that the track between Temblos and St. Hilarion will not be used for military traffic."

I shall be grateful if Your Excellency would kindly have this letter distributed as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Vahap ASIRCGLU
Deputy Permanent Representative
of Turkey
to the United Nations