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Letter dated 3 February 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On 18 December 1983, Tryfon Tryfonos, a young soldier of the Cyprus National Guard who was on duty on the demarcation line in Nicosia, was fatally shot in cold blood by the Turkish occupation forces. This serious incident constitutes the third premeditated murder of a Cyprus National guardsman by the Turkish forces of occupation along the cease-fire line. It forms part of a series of aggressive actions on the part of the Turkish side, which aim at escalating tensions and seriously hindering the quest for a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem.

The universal condemnation of the Turkish attempts to dismember Cyprus, coupled with the world's realization that the Turkish forces of occupation in Cyprus are responsible for the perpetration of countless abhorrent crimes against innocent people, led the Turkish side to attempt to justify these cold-blooded and premeditated murders.

Thus, the Turkish propaganda machinery has fabricated a short film, reference to which is made in the recently distributed document A/38/774-S/16281 dated 20 January 1984, in which the twin authors desperately exert many efforts to justify the criminal behaviour of the Turkish aggressor.

The scenario of this film is clumsy and naïve in its presentation and nature. The Turkish aggressor, who without doubt is the writer, composer, producer and director of the said film, tries to attribute "unbecoming" behaviour to his prospective victims, the Cyprus National guardsmen. The obvious aim of this film is to pre-empt world condemnation of Ankara by endeavouring to show that the National guardsmen, by their behaviour, "provoke" the Turkish army to such an intolerable extent that the subsequent murders of Cypriots, not mentioned in the film, would be viewed as the natural result and outcome of exhausted patience on the part of the Turkish soldiers. Thus the Turkish aggressors, who are not known

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for their patience, do what comes naturally to them; that is, they exterminate anyone who "provokes" them.

The timing of the broadcast and distribution of the Turkish film proves beyond doubt that it was deliberately and misleadingly planned and fabricated ahead of time to serve as justification of the premeditated and cold-blooded murders of Cyprus National Guard soldiers. It is no mere coincidence, in this connection, that the film was broadcast on Turkish television immediately following the murder of the National Guard soldier on 18 December 1983.

Elementary technical knowledge and simple logic direct one to the inescapable conclusion that the relevant scenes in the film were either the result of deliberate provocation by Turkish soldiers (who are entirely absent from the film, for obvious reasons), or that they were deceitfully staged. For it would be completely naïve to conclude that Cyprus National guardsmen, or those of any country, would behave improperly or shout in a vacuum without reason and without provocation from the opposite side.

The mere fact that the fabrication of the said film by the Turkish side preceded the murder of National Guard soldiers, as well as the fact that its broadcast followed the latest cold-blooded murder, also undoubtedly prove the premeditated nature of the crimes. To no avail, Turkish propaganda attempts to justify such crimes by shifting the responsibility on the shoulders of the victims. No fabricated film can justify or shift the responsibility for the indisputable crimes of the Turkish side. The film is a fake, while the murders of the National Guard soldiers are a painful reality.

But the twin authors of document A/38/774-S/16281, lacking convincing arguments, found it expedient, in the projection of their propaganda, to quote from an article of the Cypriot daily <u>Fileleftheros</u> regarding the said film. I will not comment on the substance of the article, which expresses the views of the editors, except to say that it underlines the fact that the Republic of Cyprus is a democratic society with complete freedom of the press, in sharp contrast to the situation in Turkey where no one is allowed or dares to criticize the Government, in the press or elsewhere, without fear of persecution.

I should be grateful if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 41, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Constantine MOUSHOUTAS

Ambassador

Permanent Representative

of Cyprus to the

United Nations