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Letter dated 8 November 1989 from the Permanent Representative of
Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 8 November 1989 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Özer Koray, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 47, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mustafa AKSIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 8 November 1989 from Mr. Özer Koray
to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to my letters on the same subject, I would like to bring to your attention the following chain of provocative actions taken by the Greek Cypriot administration in line with its ongoing militarization program in South Cyprus:

1. Annual military manoeuvres, code-named "Nikiforos '89", were held in South Cyprus during the third week of October. According to Greek Cypriot press reports of October 17 and 21, 1989, live ammunition and new weaponry were used throughout the exercises which were designed to put to test the preparedness and the offensive capabilities of Greek Cypriot forces "advancing" in combat, including those of the reserves and the newly-established "militia forces". The declared aim of the exercises was "re-capturing the territories under occupation". After the manoeuvres, military parades were held in Larnaca where the newly-purchased modern weapons were also displayed. The Greek Cypriot daily Ta Nea of October 18, 1989 quoted the "National Guard" Commander, General Marcopoulos, addressing his forces at the start of the "Nikiforos '89" manoeuvres, as having declared that "The time has come for the reunification of Cyprus and the realization of freedom and independence ... Let me see you in action! ... We are fully justified in our actions and policies ... You can rest assured that eventually we shall be victorious ..."

2. According to the Greek Cypriot daily Eleftheria of October 17, 1989, directly quoting the Greek Cypriot National Guard Commander and the Greek Cypriot Defense Minister, Greek Cypriot militia forces are to be supplied with weapons and ammunition and will be required to keep these in their possession so that they will have immediate access to them at any given time.

3. October 21, 1989 issue of "Jane's Defence Weekly" reported, among other things, that the Greek Cypriot administration displayed its newly-acquired French Matra-Mistral short-range surface-to-air missiles during a military parade held on the "29th anniversary of independence". According to Greek Cypriot press reports of October 2, 1989, the displayed weaponry also included HOT-2 missiles, Milan anti-tank missiles, EE-9 type Brazilian Cascavel armored cars, French AMX-30 B-2 type tanks, Greek Leonidas vehicles, Swiss Oerlikon anti-aircraft guns and a host of other offensive weapons. The "Jane's Defence Weekly" magazine also noted that the Greek Cypriot administration is "... considering organizing joint exercises with the Greek armed forces, a development that would have considerable political implications". It is further noted that, in addition to the formation of militia forces and the conscription of women, the Greek Cypriot administration "... has started building a cadre of professionals, mainly to man the increasingly advanced new equipment".

4. Greek Cypriot press of September 29, 1989 reported that 600 women are to be admitted shortly to the Greek Cypriot National Guard for a period of 3 years on

a voluntary basis. The Greek Cypriot so-called "Defense Minister", Mr. Aloneftis, is reported as saying that some 5,000 additional women will then be conscripted for compulsory military service. According to the same report, the "National Guard" Headquarters have been instructed to draft the necessary plans for the conscription of women. The forces which will be replaced by these new conscripts will then be shifted to units along the frontiers.

The above actions and statements by the Greek Cypriot military and political leaders amply prove that the real intention of the Greek Cypriot side is not to reach a peaceful settlement with the Turkish Cypriot side, but to resort to armed violence, at an opportune time, to try to revert to the pre-1974 conditions when the island was virtually under Greek-Greek Cypriot occupation and domination. In complete disregard of the process of negotiations and Your Excellency's mission of good offices, the Greek Cypriot leadership have concentrated all their efforts and resources towards purchasing new offensive weapons and expanding their military forces. The Turkish Cypriot side is closely monitoring these developments in South Cyprus which are totally incompatible with the agreed aim of the talks between the two sides, namely the creation of a federal republic.

The planned joint Greek-Greek Cypriot manoeuvres in South Cyprus will constitute yet another provocative action against peace and security prevailing in Cyprus since 1974. It will be recalled that between 1963-1974, some 20,000 Greek troops were clandestinely brought into the island to augment the Greek Cypriot offensive against the Turkish Cypriot people. The aim of this joint military move was to eliminate the Turkish Cypriots and to annex the island to Greece. The bitter memories of the ensuing blood-shed, terror and suffering are too fresh in the minds of our people.

The Greek Cypriot side should desist from its present aggressive and provocative actions against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The two sides in Cyprus cannot be expected to reach a peaceful settlement as long as one of the sides is arming itself and creating tension in the island. So far, Your Excellency's good offices mission has been undermined and faltered by the continued intransigence and hostile policies of the Greek Cypriot administration. Therefore, it should be stressed that the success of the current talks between the two leaders in the island will depend on the reversal of the ongoing military build-up in South Cyprus and will require a change of policy on the part of the Greek Cypriot administration which would be conducive to the restoration of mutual trust between the two peoples.
