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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 20 September 1974 from the Permanent Representative
of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the President of
the General Assembly

I have the honour to request that the following complaint made by my Government today to the Commission on Human Rights be circulated to all Members of the United Nations as an official document of the General Assembly in connexion with agenda item 12 (Report of the Economic and Social Council, 1/ chap. V, section C.2):

The Republic of Cyprus, a Member of the United Nations, wishes to complain to the Commission on Human Rights of the Economic and Social Council against Turkey for flagrant violations of fundamental human rights committed by the invading forces of Turkey contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On 20 July 1974, Turkey, without a prior declaration of war, invaded Cyprus and commenced military operations in its territory by means of its land, sea and air forces and, until 30 July 1974, occupied a sizable area in the northern part of Cyprus.

On 14 August 1974, after a cease-fire was ordered by the Security Council under a number of resolutions, Turkey continued to extend its occupation of the island of Cyprus by further military operations.

In the course of the said military operations and occupation, Turkish armed forces have, by means of systematic conduct and adopted practice, caused deprivation of life, including indiscriminate killing of civilians; have subjected persons of both sexes and all ages to torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment, including commission of rapes and detention under inhuman conditions; have arrested and are detaining in Cyprus and Turkey

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session,
Supplement No. 3 (A/9603).

hundreds of persons arbitrarily and with no lawful authority; are subjecting the said persons to forced labour under conditions amounting to slavery or servitude; have caused through the aforesaid detentions, as well as by displacement of thousands of persons from their places of residence and refusal to allow them to return thereto, separations of families and other interference with private life; and have caused destruction of property and obstruction of the free enjoyment of property. All the above acts have been directed against Greek Cypriots only, owing, inter alia, to their national origin, race and religion.

(Signed) Zenon ROSSIDES
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cyprus
to the United Nations
