THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF CYPRUS AND THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS

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CONTENTS

Introduction	V
PART — I	
Geography and history of Cyprus	1
Cyprus before Turkish rule	2
The Ottoman takeover	6
Administrative organisation and settlement policy under Ottoman rule	7
The British takeover in Cyprus	8
Etniki Hetairia (Greek National Society)	9
Action Program of Etniki Hetairia	10
PART — II	
First Greek and Greek Cypriot demands for Enosis	15
Shifting of Cyprus Issue to the international arena	16
The Zurich and London Agreements	20
The Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus and the first Cypriot Republic	21
Developments after the establishment of the Republic and violation of the	
Constitution by Greek Cypriots	24
The establishment of EOKA and acts of terror	26
The Akritas Plan (Extermination of the Turks)	27
$\mathtt{PART} - \mathtt{III}$	
Events of 1963 and 1964	31
The Ayvasıl Massacre	34
The London Conference and the proposal for a NATO peace-keeping for α	35
Economic pressure exerted on the Turkish Cypriot community	39
Efforts aimed at finding a solution to the problem through negotiations	
among parties concerned	42

Attempts aimed at changing the status quo on the island by employing	33
force	1
The 1965 Magosa (Famagusta) incidents	
The 1967 incidents of Boğaziçi and Geçitkale	•
The establishment of a temporary Turkish Cypriot Administration in Cyprus	
(December 28th, 1967)	(
Efforts aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the issue - Intercommunal	
Talks (June 24th, 1968)	6
Cyprus before the July 15th, 1974 coup d'etat	8
The coup d'etat of July 15th, 1974	
PART — IV	
2.790 12.13	
Turkey exercises her right of intervention - The first Cyprus Peace Operation	
and its objectives (July 20th, 1974)5	1
Disclosure by the Athens Court of Appeals: "The Turkish intervention in	
Cyprus is legal"	4
Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire and the succeeding	
developments	ô
The First Geneva Conference (July 25-30, 1974)	7
The Second Geneva Conference (Aug. 8-13, 1974)	3
The Second Peace Operation (Aug. 14th, 1974))
Greek Cypriot atrocities against humanity during the Second Peace	
Operation	2
Mass murders at Atlılar, Muratağa and Sandallar villages62	?
The question of refugees and missing persons	,
Facts behind the question of missing Greek Cypriots)
Disclosures of a Greek Cypriot priest	
Disclosures by Rina Katselli	,
PART — V	
The establishment of the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus: (February 13th,	
1975)	,
And Independence: (November 15th, 1983)	1
Bibliography91	

INTRODUCTION

What is the Cyprus Issue, which was made a problem for the world peace?

Whose countries' hegemonies was Cyprus under until today?

When did Turkey start to pay close attention to this subject?

What did Greece do to get hold of the island?

What was the reason for Turkey's Peace Operation in Cyprus?

What was the agreement and treaties on Cyprus?

What is the present situation, and what may happen in the future?

There is no doubt that these and many other questions occupy the minds of persons, who are interested in world issues and try to find new but not complicated answers to these questions to free themselves from subjective influences and to approach them more objectively. This is the aim of this booklet.

It was intended to give intellectuals, thinkers, members of the press, politicians and statesmen, in short all persons who are interested in the subject, an impartial and a brief account of facts and developments by adhering strictly to historical realities, and avoiding distortions or personal views starting from the geography and history of Cyprus till the promulgation of independence.

And, it will be seen that these problems are being raised always by the Greeks, who called all the alien land where they established colonies their own national territories, and considered the East as their own backyard even before owning it but securing a corner there first, and caused disturbance on every possible occasion by forgetting about friendship, the world, their neighbors and, most important of all, the realities. It is the same today. In fact, didn't they claim major portions

of Cyprus, Epirus, Macedonia and Anatolia as their own national territories after securing footholds in these lands? Aren't they the ones crying for this or that, which make even their allies bored and fed up in international organizations and NATO, after securing footholds in them?

And it will also be seen that it was Greece, which pursued a speedy expansionist policy in full agreement with its "Megali İdea" by exploiting views and facts to operate its propaganda machine, and deviating from facts without hesitation when propaganda purposes demanded it. It was Greece, who had reached its present borders from being a small peninsula without scoring even a single victory battlefields during the past 100 years but by propaganda similar to Hitler's, is grabbing every possible opportunity to annex Cyprus (Enosis) as part of its expansionist policy.

The Greek and Greek Cypriot administrators, whose aim is to annex Cyprus to Greece after ending its independence, supposedly succeeded in freeing the island from British rule. Then, as their second step, they tried to make the Turkish Cypriot community, which they considered the greatest obstacle for the realization of Enosis, submissive through political and socio-economic embargoes by violating all kinds of human rights, eliminating them through massacres, which they actually tried hard to implement in 1963, 1964, 1967 and 1974, or by forcing the Turks to flee from the island, thus minimising their effectiveness.

However, Greece failed in its attempts but succeeded in destroying the Republic of Cyprus with the 1974 coup d'etat and got rid of Makarios, who was considered a factor delaying the realization of Enosis.

At this point, Turkey, by exercising her power emerging from the treaties, intervened in the development, and was forced to maintain part of her armed forces on the island as a guarantee for the lives of Turkish Cypriots.

But today, there is a Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus confirming the fact that the Turks in Cyprus do not constitute a minority, and that they gained their freedom at the cost of their lives and years of suffering. This Republic, after the realities were learned and the doubts were dispersed, will undoubtedly be recognized by all the states of the world.

The new State and reasons for its establishment will be understood better day after day, and it will ultimately be accepted by the United Nations, thus the protection of independence of the island of Cyprus, and its contribution to world peace will be realized.

The United Nations must recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in the same manner as they have admitted small states into the structure of their organisation. For the Turkish Cypriots have more of a right to be admitted to the Organization than the Federation of Saint Kitta Nevis. which became a member of the U.N. on September 23rd. 1983 with its population of approximately 40.000 and its territory of approximately 175.000 sq.km.. constituting only one twentieth of the area of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. And naturally, they have more grounds for their state to be recognized independence than Saint Lucia, which was admitted to the U.N. in 1978, Saint Vincent in 1979, Antigus and Barbuda Islands in 1980.

The U.N. and all the nations of the world will agree to the fact that the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" is only a milestone on the road leading to the principle "to live humanly and to respect human dignity". Turkish Cypriot's living freely and independently within the borders of their own State is a great development to the advantage and benefit of the civilized world. To live side by side, and not isolated from the Greek Cypriots is a step toward diffusing conflict threatening world peace once and for all.

CYPRUS TURKISH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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