

Colonisation of Occupied Areas

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COLONISATION OF THE OCCUPIED AREAS OF CYPRUS BY MAINLAND TURKS

1. INTRODUCTION

Immediately after the end of the second phase of the Turkish invasion, the Turkish Government began to send mainland Turkish labourers to the island for work on military construction projects such as the opening of roads, improvement of the airport etc. as well as for the maintenance and wherever possible the operation of establishments of vital importance which were left behind by the Greek Cypriots such as communications, electricity, water supply, agricultural farms and industrial establishments.

Special emphasis was given to the tourist industry. As early as October 1974, a large number of hotel employees began to arrive. In a short period of time the occupied part of Cyprus began to be flooded with Turkish mainland workers, and this brought about the first signs of conflict between the Turkish Cypriots who felt they were being discriminated against. The number of labourers from Turkey rose to several thousands between January and February 1975 and were spread all over the occupied part of Cyprus, according to their skills.

The first families to settle in Cyprus appeared at the beginning of January 1975. They were families of military personnel who had been killed during the invasion. In the same month, the Turkish Cypriot "Legislative Assembly" passed a law stipulating that immovable property was to be given to families of those killed during the invasion which settled in Cyprus. These families settled mainly in the town and district of Kyrenia.

In the same month demobilised soldiers who served in Cyprus submitted applications for permanent residentship which the Denktash regime readily approved.

In February 1975, mainland Turkish families from the lower strata of society began to arrive and settle in the occupied areas. Most of these settlers were entrusted with the maintenance and cultivation of citrus groves in Famagusta, Morphou and Karavas-Lapithos. Around that time the first information pointing to the intention of the Turkish Government to colonise the occupied parts of Cyprus with thousands of Turkish mainland settlers with the purpose of changing the demographic character of the island came to light. Despite the efforts of the Turkish Government to present colonisation as a temporary arrival of "seasonal workers", the Turkish Television news broadcast at 20:30 hours on 10.3.75 announced that the Turkish Cypriot consulate in

Ankara had granted visas to 115 citizens from mainland Turkey who intended to settle permanently in Cyprus.

Special offices were opened in Ankara and Mersin for arranging the transport of Turkish mainland settlers to Cyprus. On arrival, the Turkish Cypriot "Administration" gave them houses, arable land, and a monthly allowance of £15 until they become economically independent.

A special programme on British Television (May, 1976), which was also shown on Cyprus Television, showed interviews with Turkish mainland settlers who were living with their families in Famagusta.

Apart from the mainland settlers sent by the Turkish Government, on a planned basis, thousands more came and settled in Cyprus on their own initiative. The Turkish Cypriot administration makes no special provision for this category of settlers. These people settled arbitrarily in areas of their own choice.

See appendices 1,2,3.

2. ORIGIN AND SOCIAL STANDING OF SETTLERS

The immigrants who have settled in Cyprus come mainly from the areas of Mersin, Antalya, Adana, Iskenderun, Konya, Tarsus, Cukurova as well as from the areas of the Black Sea and Trabzon.

As regards their social origin, the settlers come from the impoverished classes of Turkey and from nomadic gipsy tribes. Almost all the settlers – with the exception of the families of Turkish officers killed during the invasion – are illiterate and closely attached to the almost primitive conditions they were used to in Turkey. This fact causes continuous friction and clashes with the Turkish Cypriots whose cultural and educational standard is much higher.

In the areas in which mainland Turks settled, there is a high degree of crime. The crimes are committed by Turkish settlers against the Turkish Cypriots, the enclaved Greek Cypriots or against other settlers. The most common crimes are thefts of any unattended movable property, abductions and assaults on Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot women. There are also many cases of stabbings and murders of mainland Turks as well as Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots.

The Turkish Cypriot prisons are full of prisoners and convicts from mainland Turkey. (It is not coincidental that, according to recent reports of the Turkish Cypriot press, the Denktash "Administration" is building new prisons). The Turkish Cypriot "Administration" was forced to expel hundreds of settlers, but after strict orders from the Turkish government to Denktash the implementation of this measure was seriously curtailed.

When the issue of the settlers was raised at a meeting between Turkish Prime Minister, Mr. Ecevit, and the leaders of the Turkish Cypriot

parties, early in 1978, Ecevit said that the responsibility lay entirely with the Turkish Cypriot authorities who were not selective and added that, it was too late for them to be expelled from the island and that in a final settlement of the Cyprus problem the only thing that could be done would be for them to be moved from the town to remote villages.

3. RELATIONS BETWEEN SETTLERS AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS

Relations between the settlers and the Turkish Cypriots have never been harmonious. The settlers treat the Turkish Cypriots as vassals, while the Turkish Cypriots regard the newcomers as conquerors who plot against their property, their life and their honour.

4. AREAS OF SETTLEMENT

The newcomers have been settled in all the towns and in most of the villages of the occupied part of Cyprus. (See Appendix 4). Some of the occupied villages are solely inhabited by Turkish mainland settlers such as Mousoulita, Prastio (Famagusta), Marathovounos, Flamoudi, Angastina, Achyritou, Nikitas, Pentayia, Livera, Orka, Ayios Ermolaos, Filia, Kontemenos, Skylloura and Vasilia.

The only area that has been exclusively and extensively filled with mainland Turks stretches from the eastern part of Ayios Amvrosios to the Karpass across the Pentadactylos mountain-range.

Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the exclusive settlement of mainland Turks in the villages of the Karpass where Greek Cypriots had remained enclaved was aimed at forcing the Greek Cypriots, through terrorism, to abandon their land.

5. NATURALISATION AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

The settlers sent over by the Turkish Government are registered in census lists as Cypriots and are given Cyprus identity cards. The naturalised settlers enjoy full political rights. They took part in the elections of 23rd May, 1976, and in the "parliamentary" and "presidential" elections of 20 June, 1976.

A typical case is that of a Turkish colonel, Dervis Svitats Sevim, who was an unsuccessful candidate of the Turkish Cypriot Populist Party (of Alper Orhon) for the post of "Mayor of Nicosia". He had previously been a military commander of Nicosia between 29 March, 1965 and 31 March, 1967.

Furthermore, around the end of 1978 and beginning of 1979, Turkish settlers under the leadership of ex-air force officer, Salahettin Oztokatli, and later under ex-air force officer, Ismael Tezer, tried to set up their own parties.

As a result of certain statements by Tezer that the Turkish Cypriots living in England who had acquired British passports are not considered to be Turks, the Turkish Cypriot parties, the press, and the Turkish Cypriot "Administration", reacted and in the end by various pretexts the setting up of the party was not allowed.

6. CONSCRIPTION OF SETTLERS

Around the beginning of 1978 those settlers who were required to do military service began to be enlisted in the Turkish Cypriot forces instead of going to Turkey and joining the Turkish army. They are trained at Caraolos camp, and their military service lasts 20 months whereas Turkish Cypriot soldiers have to serve 30 months in the army. This situation, gives rise to feelings of resentment among the Turkish Cypriots.

7. RECRUITMENT OF SETTLERS INTO THE TURKISH CYPRIOT "POLICE FORCE"

Turkish settlers have also joined the ranks of the Turkish Cypriot "Police Force" since the end of 1977 and are mainly in charge of policing villages where settlers live because Turkish Cypriot policemen find it extremely difficult to deal with them.

8. NUMBER OF SETTLERS

The total number of settlers towards the end of January 1976 stood at 27,000, around the beginning of March the number was 44,000, and in July of the same year the number was over 50,000.

In May 1976, the number of settlers sent over by the Turkish Government was 40,000 and that of those arriving on their own initiative was about 10,000.

Although settlers are continuously arriving many other settlers return to Turkey. Therefore the total number of settlers, according to the Turkish and foreign press, remains at around 50,000.

As regards the return of settlers to Turkey, the Turkish Cypriot magazine, OLAY (14.5.79), published a typical letter from a Turkish mainland settler in which he complained that, although he had been given an identity card and had thus become a citizen of the "Turkish Cypriot Federated State" and had also voted during the elections, he had now been notified by the "state" to leave.

The figure of 50,000 (at least during 1977) is arrived at from a comparison of a report by the "General Secretary" of the Turkish Cypriot "Ministry of Justice and the Interior" with a statement by the Turkish Cypriot "Minister of Housing and Rehabilitation", Hakki Atun. Specifi-

cally, in the report of the "Secretary" of the Turkish Cypriot "Ministry", dated 20.10.74, it is stated that on 19.10.74 there were 83,719 Turkish Cypriots living in the occupied area while 32,039 were still living in the South. Elsewhere in the report it is stated that from the Turkish invasion up until 19 October 1974, 12,000 Turkish Cypriots had gone to the occupied areas. From this, it can be deduced that out of a total of 115,758 Turkish Cypriots before the invasion 71,719 were living in the occupied areas and 44,039 in the free areas.

According to the statement by Hakki Atun which was published in the Turkish Cypriot press on 9.8.77, during the three years after the invasion, houses were given to 20,934 families or 83,650 persons who had settled in the North. Since the Turkish Cypriots who had settled in the North numbered only 44,039 according to the statement by the "General Secretary" of the "Ministry of the Interior", the rest, i.e. 39,611, are evidently settlers from Turkey. If the 10,000 settlers who settled on their own initiative and are not included in the first group that received help are added to that figure then the total number of settlers reaches 50,000 again. (see Appendices 5 and 6).

According to disclosures by a Turkish Cypriot official the final target is the settlement of 100,000 settlers in Cyprus. It is calculated that the Turkish Cypriots will eventually be absorbed by the settlers and will lose their Turkish Cypriot mentality and identity so that Northern Cyprus will actually become a province of Turkey. Already, both the Turkish Cypriot radio and television and a section of the Turkish Cypriot press are working towards this aim of creating a Turkish mentality.

9. THE TURKISH PRESS ON COLONISATION

Despite persistent denials from the official Turkish and Turkish Cypriot side, relevant reports in the Turkish press are sufficiently revealing as far as the settlement policy of Ankara is concerned. In addition to Dr. Kuchuk's articles. (see Appendix 7) the following excerpts are revealing:

9.1. Tercuman (16-19 Dec., 1978)

A series of four articles by Mithat Perin

"And then there are the ones from Turkey who insisted on stating their origin at every meeting. They have gone to Cyprus as immigrants from the Motherland. It is rumoured that there are about 60,000 of them. They hope to have deputies elected at the first upcoming elections. They too are preparing to form a party".

9.2 Milliyet (3.10.1978)

"The National Unity Party has brought to the island Nationalist Action Party members and former TMT officers (Bayraktarlik) as immigrants in order to take control of the government. By giving these immigrants credit, land and housing facilities, the National Unity Party was able to secure a majority vote in 1976. The same National Unity Party cadre provided Fikret Kurshat, the head of the party's youth and sport department at the time, with state funds to form the Turkish Cypriot Hearth Associations to cover the island".

9.3 Milliyet (17.3.1979), comment by Faruk Demirtas

"... Another problem is the Turkish mainland settlers. All these settlers are merely consumers who have been brought to the TFSC according to their political alignments. Now these settlers are also desperate. Some find emigration as the only way out...".

9.4. Aydinlik (26.3.1979) by Erdogan Ozbalikci

"Cyprus is an island of hardly 9,000 sq. Km. which is inhabited by 650,000 people. Around 500,000 of them are Greeks whereas the number of Turks is around 120,000. The number of Turks increased in a short period after the sending of settlers from Turkey following 1974.

"The total number of settlers is around 50,000. Besides these two communities, there are Armenians and Maronites numbering nearly 30,000".

9.5 Aydinlik (31.3.1979) by Erdogan Ozbalikci

"Following 1974, Cyprus was de facto divided into two; on the Turkish side a state was formed the existence of which is recognised only by Turkey. During the invasion many lost their lives and a new agony was added to the grief of both communities; Many were displaced, the economy was destroyed, and a group of hoarders became profiteers. The settlers sent from Turkey created new problems in the Turkish region, and during the National Front governments (of Demirel) the island was turned into a base for the dark aims of the National Action Party (of Turkish)".

9.6 Aydinlik (27.8.1979)

"Following the military intervention of 1974 Turkish settlers were brought from the mainland and settled in the villages, workshops, fields and houses abandoned by the Greeks. The Turkish Legation in Nicosia was organising and implementing such things as where the settlers would be settled, how much land they would get, how much credit each would be given, etc.

"As seen from the document we publish*, the number of Turkish mainland families who settled in Cyprus up to March 1977 was 5,182. The total number of settlers was 23,603. At the moment this number exceeds 50,000. The settlement policy still continues and everyday new Turkish mainland settlers are being settled in the Turkish part of Cyprus. If one takes into consideration the fact that before the 1974 intervention the number of Turks living in Cyprus was 120,000 then one can see the enormity of the number of settlers. It is evident that such a large number of settlers will open the way to major changes in the demographic structure of Cyprus.

"The settlement of the Varosha region is also continuing. Varosha - whose return to the Greeks is the subject of arguments and talks has been settled by Turks from Mersin and Antalya. This place is already named as the region of "Mersinites" and the "Antalyans". In the event of an agreement these settlers will face migration for a second time".

9.7 Yeniduzen (20.9.1979)

"Last Saturday about forty armed NAR fascist commandoes set off from the villages of Asha and Akhyritou and attacked the village of Sinda. The gang attacked the club building of the village and threatened everyone there. They told the people that they were "Nationalists" and "Idealists" and added, that if they (the people of Sinda) did not watch their step they would bring down Sinda on top of their heads and burn and destroy the village and that they did not fear anyone".

10. THE FOREIGN PRESS ON COLONISATION

Below are typical excerpts from foreign press reports which refer to the settlement of the occupied part of Cyprus by Turkish mainlanders.

* The paper publishes "TFSC" statistics from which it draws the above figures.

10.1 New Statesman, 9.6.1978, (Britain) "Cyprus, NATO and Turkish Colonialism", by Christopher Hitchens

"It seems that as many as 40,000 colonists may have been imported from Anatolia in an attempt to alter the demographic balance in Turkey's favour. Actually, as long ago as 1975 the semi-official Turkish bulletin, "Pulse", wrote that the 120,000 Turkish population "will reach 200,000 by the end of the year and time will see to the equalisation pro-

cess". This grotesque policy is being carried out under the auspices of the Turkish army, against the will of all Cypriots of either nationality".

**10.2 New Statesman, 22-29.12.1978, (Britain)
by Denis Macshane**

"The Turkish fascists are indreasing their implantation in Cyprus. A front organization called "Turk Ocagi Dernegi" has been set up with support mainly culled from the 50,000 mainland Turks imported into Cyprus since 1974. One Turkish Cypriot magazine has published maps purporting to show the locations of training camps in Turkish occupied Cyprus for units of Grey Wolves, the National Action Party's killer squads. Turkish Cypriot journalists I met were worried that the murderous violence from mainland Turkey - 800 deaths so far in 1978 - will soon arrive in Cyprus".

**10.3. The Guardian, 27.5.1978, (Britain)
"Turkish 'hell' in occupied zone",
by John Bierman**

"The importation of tens of thousands of mainland Turkish settlers into Turkish-occupied northern Cyprus 'has turned this paradise island into hell'. Dr. Fazil Kuchuk - leading Turkish-Cypriot who was Vice-President of Cyprus and leader of the Turkish community here until Rauf Denktash ousted him in an election in 1968 - charged in a signed article in his daily newspaper Halkin Sesi".

"The crime situation adds to the already considerable disaffection of the Turkish-Cypriots over the state of the economy. While a small group of entrepreneurs have been making considerable fortunes, the mass of the population has been suffering the effects of devaluation, soaring inflation, and rising unemployment".

**10.4. The Times, 27.5.1978, (Britain)
"Turk settlers 'making Cyprus a hell' "**

"Before the invasion the village (of Ayios Andronikos) had a mixed population of 2,000 Greek and 500 Turkish Cypriots, but Turkish journalists who visited the village after the kidnapping reported that 1,000 mainland Turks have been settled there since the departure of the Greek Cypriots.

"The journalists quoted the Turkish Cypriots of Ayios Andronikos as telling them that there was a tense situation in the village, that there was no contact between them and the settlers, and that they even used different coffee shops during their leisure time".

10.5. Daily Mirror, 21.6.1978, (Britain)

"Banish Turks, say Turks",

by David Tattersall, Deputy Foreign Editor

"Since the Turkish invasion and partition of Cyprus in 1974, about 40,000 immigrants from Turkey have flooded into the Mediterranean island.

"Many Turkish Cypriots are now realising that they have more in common with Greek Cypriots than with the immigrants from mainland Turkey".

10.6. Der Spiegel, 17.7.1978, (Federal Republic of Germany)

"They have brought hunger"

"According to Ankara's plan for colonisation, the Turkish population in the north of Cyprus had to increase from 120,000 to 250,000. Settlers coming from mainland Turkey and Turkish Cypriot emigrants who had left the island years ago, had to contribute to the change of the population ratio between Greeks and Turks in the island.

"The target is: two Turks to one Greek. They want, through this action, to weaken the argument raised by the Greeks, that the Turkish Cypriots, hardly reaching 20% of the total population, should only be able to demand at least the regime of a small minority, but never 40% of the territory, which their leader Rauf Denktash has declared an 'autonomous Federated State'.

"Initially about 10,000 members of the families of soldiers and officers killed during July and August 1974 came to live there and then about 30,000 indigent field and forest workers from Anatolia followed. Moreover about 70,000 Turkish Cypriots who left south Cyprus, went to live in the north.

"The settlers from Anatolia took most of the houses left behind by the Greeks, as well as fields and machinery. This caused resentment on the part of the Turks who came from the south and who felt they had been wronged in the sharing of Greek loot.

Besides, the settlers have brought with them customs and morals which are alien to the local people. Many settlers are illiterate and speak a dialect which is incomprehensible to the educated Turkish-Cypriots".

10.7. The Spectator, 16.9.1978, (Britain)

by Richard West

"In spite of past hatreds, many Turkish Cypriots say they regret the exodus of the Greeks and even that they feel more affinity with these fellow Cypriots than they do with the mainland Turks, especially the Anatolians. We call them A.A. for Anatolian Apes' said one local sophisticate. The mainlanders are accused of boorishness, arrogance, looting and not going away.

"Some mainland Turks reciprocate the hostility of the Cypriots. An Istanbul businessman, Mustafa Yucad, who has been on a holiday, said to me: 'We are not very popular here. If I was a minister I would say we should get out. The Cypriots don't like us and they can get on without us. They don't even look like us. They are small, many of them are diseased with rickets, from intermarriage. To me they look like Greek Cypriots, they are the same people' "

10.8. NRC-HANDELSBLAD, 4.7.1979 (Netherlands)

"Trick conceals flood of Turks to Cyprus"

by Michael Stein, editor

"In order to alter the demographic character of Cyprus the Turkish Cypriot inhabitants have received new names from their authorities. On the street policemen regularly ask them for their identity cards. Whoever makes a mistake and gives his former name risks being beaten up.

.....
"In the back of the travel document issued by the "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" is an annotation stating that the bearer has received a new surname. His birth certificate too bears his new name without stating that he ever had another name. This annotation is also left out of his passport, issued by the Republic of Turkey. He needs this passport because with his Turkish Cypriot travel document he cannot enter any other country except Turkey.

"By this change of names the Turkish Cypriot authorities are attempting to cover up the enormous emigration of Turks from the mainland to the island since 1974. The number of Turks brought to the north east of Cyprus in the last few years in order to increase the Turkish population of Cyprus is unknown. Turkish Cypriots, who generally have very bad relations with the far more backward newcomers, believe that more than 100,000 mainland Turks have already moved into previously Greek-Cypriot houses. This is an enormous increase when one considers that the original number of Turkish Cypriots was 120,000 of the total Cypriot population of 600,000.

.....
"Because many population records were destroyed or fell into Turkish hands during the 1974 war it is now very easy to supply the immigrants with fictitious Cypriot home towns. If it comes to real negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots - and at the moment this does not appear at all likely - then the Turkish Cypriots can, on account of a surprising increase in population, lay claim to a larger part of the island".

**THE CITIZENSHIP LAW OF THE TURKISH
FEDERATED STATE**

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

No. 7

Date: 25.2.1975

Article 6 (2)

The Council of Ministers, notwithstanding the other provisions of the present law and in conjunction with the provisions of article 14 and taking into account the terms and principles which it could define by procedural regulations, can grant citizenship of the Administration to anyone who wishes to apply for "Citizenship of the Administration" or to members of the Turkish Armed Forces who have served in Cyprus or to the wives, children, parents and brothers of members of the Turkish Armed Forces, killed at any time during the period between 20 July, 1974 and 20 August, 1974, or to persons who have served in the ranks of the Turkish Resistance Organisation in Cyprus or in Turkey.

**OFFICIAL GAZETTE
OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT
FEDERATED STATE**

No.32

21st April, 1975

**SUPPLEMENT III
THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS ACT
(2/1975)**

Decision Based on Article 28 (1)

The Council of Ministers of the Turkish Cypriot State in exercise of its powers in accordance with article 28 of the Births and Deaths Act of 1975 decides that:

In the case of citizens of the Turkish Cypriot Federated State born outside Cyprus and of persons to whom the citizenship of the "Turkish Cypriot Federated State" has been granted, not with standing the fact that they were born outside Cyprus, the procedure envisaged in the Births and Deaths Act of 1975 is applied and on the basis of official documents they are to be registered in special registers by the officer in charge of the Population Census and that after application by those who have been entered in the registers, a birth certificate is to be issued and the Minister of the Interior is hereby empowered accordingly.

TURKISH SETTLER REVEALS TURKISH PLANS FOR CYPRUS

The Turkish settler, Yusuf Veli Akyuz, who was from the village of Kaliyan Cayirli in the district of Macka in the province of Trebizond and who was serving as a soldier in the occupied area of Cyprus, defected to the free areas and gave himself up to the Authorities of the Cyprus Republic.

In a voluntary statement to the security Authorities of the Republic, the Turkish settler described how he came to be in Cyprus, the situation in the occupied area and the reasons why he fled from Denktash's "paradise".

The following is an English translation of his statement:

STATEMENT BY YUSUF VELI AKYUZ (22.6.1978)

NAME : YUSUF VELI AKYUZ
 FATHER'S NAME : VELI MUSTAFA AKYUZ
 MOTHER'S NAME : AISHE COLAK
 PLACE OF BIRTH : The village KALIYAN CAYIRLI in the district
 of MACKA, TREBIZOND
 DATE OF BIRTH : 8.8.57
 PROFESSION : Baker, former soldier
 MILITARY NO. : 60668

I was born (8.8.1957) in Turkey in the village of Kaliyan Cayirli in the district of MACKA in the province of Trebizond. At the age of 6, I went to the village school where I studied for five years.

After the invasion of Cyprus, Ecevit sent a notice to the Muktar of our village, Mahmoud Yiadirin, inviting those who wished to go to Cyprus as immigrants to make the necessary application.

The Muktar first asked for the names of those who wished to go. 70 families applied including mine.

Among the 70 families who came to Cyprus from my village were: Ali Dek, Mehmet Dek, Hassan Dek, Yusuf Dek, Dursun Ali Yesilyuz, Hassan Yesilyuz, Hassan Kargaoglu, Mohamed Kargaoglu, Osman Akyuz, Ali Akyuz, Hasan Akyuz, Hasan Karadag, Mehmet Karadag, Ibrahim Dek, Suleyman Kargaoglu, Cahit Beyazyuz, Gence Eksi, Susun Ali Bulut.

Subsequently another notice arrived, referring to what was to be given to the immigrants in Cyprus and those wishing to go were told to sign the appropriate forms.

They were to be given television sets, refrigerators, furniture, a house and at least 50 donums* of land. The state would pay for transportation from the village to Cyprus. My family, with my savings included, brought about 45,000 T. Lira (£642) to Cyprus.

There were 150 families in my village of whom 70 applied to come to Cyprus. We went from the village to Mersin by bus. We left the village on the 6 January 1975. We stopped in Trebizond where our passports were arranged and which stated that we were going to Cyprus as settlers. We stayed in Trebizond for two or three days in hotels until our passports were ready.

We reached Mersin on the 18 January. We stayed in the Children's home near the harbour. We boarded the ship on 21.1.75 - 200 families altogether, that is 70 from my village and the rest from other parts of Turkey but I don't know which parts. I do not remember the name of the ship. On 22.1.1975 we reached Famagusta where we were met by the Turkish Cypriot Director of the housing department who welcomed us.

Subsequently the families were put in a large building more or less opposite Gulseren Camp in Famagusta. The families from my village were transferred to a two-storey building and a barracks near the Selim-ye mosque in Nicosia. We stayed there for one week. They gave us food. Then they transferred all 70 families to Vassilia where they settled us. My family was given a lemon grove of five donums, a house, 3 donums of irrigable land, and 5 donums for growing grain.

The division of land was proportionate to the size of the family. They did not give us a television and fridge or household equipment because we did not arrive in time for the looting.

* 1 donum = 1/3 acre

We came a little late. They only gave us beds, a table and a few chairs. We bought furniture in Nicosia. For a year, my family was given a refugee allowance of 800 Turkish Lira a month (approx. £C11). The administration also gave us food.

There are also about 80 Turkish Cypriots in Vassilia. We had continual quarrels with them in the village because each interfered with the other's property. Two years ago, there was a big gunfight between Turkish Cypriots and settlers. There were no victims. The army and the police had to intervene.

I learned later that other families that came with us settled in Ayia Triada, Trikomo and Davlos.

After two months I got a job at Ibrahim Niyazi's bakery near the Kyrenia gate in Nicosia. The Turkish Cypriot driver, Deli Bayram, found me the job. The rest of my family works in Vassilia on the property they have given us.

Six or seven months after our arrival in Cyprus we were given TFSC citizenship. They gave us identity cards. My identity card states that I was born in Nicosia.

There are settlers all over Cyprus from Famagusta to Morphou. Settlers are still coming from Turkey, that is, they come as tourists, and stay in Cyprus as immigrants. Most settlers come from the district of Adana. The settlers are poor men and are nearly all illiterate. There are some skilled workers but the vast majority are farmers and thieves. Their attitude is: "You have. I don't have. I come and take". When an owner leaves his house, it will certainly be visited by thieves.

The papers referring to our army duty came through the Turkish embassy. The embassy gave the facts to the appropriate Turkish Cypriot authorities who summoned all those concerned to Kyrenia on 6.2.78. That day 67 settlers from all over the district came to Kyrenia to enlist. The TFSC Minister of the Interior wanted to send us to Turkey for training. The Turkish Commanding Officer, Hassani Saglam, did not agree with the Minister of the Interior's proposal and ordered that we should be trained at Gulseren camp in Famagusta.

We were taken from Kyrenia to a place in the mountains near Kyrenia where we filled in various forms. Then we were taken to Gulseren camp.

On 2.1.78 another 115 settlers were enlisted. There will be another enlistment of settlers on 22.6.78. The 115 settlers who were enlisted on 2.1.78 are also being trained at Gulseren.

At about the beginning of March the training of those enlisted on 2.1.78 was completed. As far as I know, some of these were sent to Turkish Cypriot units in Nicosia, Bogaz and Pergamos.

Our training consisted of drill and use of light arms. They divided us in two platoons. In the first platoon in which I am, we were trained in the use of A4 machineguns. The second division was trained in 60,81 Kmnt mortar, recoilless PAO guns and anti-aircraft guns. They also showed us the four-barrelled anti-aircraft gun which they brought from the next camp. This camp contained an anti-aircraft unit - I think about a company. At the entrance of this camp there is a notice which says "Gulseren Camp Anti-aircraft Company". The commander is a captain but I don't know his name.

The commander of the central training camp was a Turkish Captain, Riza Saydal, 30-35 years old. There were also two Turkish Cypriot lieutenants at the Camp, Mustafa Tincetgin and Halil Sadrasan.

On 6.4.78 we completed our training and the 67 trainees were sent to units of the 7th Regiment at Akhiritou. The commander of the regiment is a Turkish Cypriot, Osman Kemal.

Before I enlisted in the army, there was a fight at a wedding in which my name became entangled. I was kept under arrest for one month. While under arrest, I was beaten and violently maltreated. I lost two teeth during the beating. The cause of the quarrel was a woman. This is one of the reasons why I decided to desert to the Greek side. Also because of the oppression and barbarism in the army which was unbearable. Another reason was the high cost of living.

Signed Yusuf Veli Akyuz

**TOWNS AND VILLAGES SETTLED
BY MAINLAND TURKS (MT)**

**(Unless stated, towns and villages are settled by both
settlers from Turkey and Turkish Cypriots
from South Cyprus).**

KYRENIA DISTRICT

Ayios Amvrosios (MT only)
Ayios Georghios
Ayios Epiktitos
Ayios Ermolaos (MT only)
Vassilia (MT only)
Vavylas (MT only)
Dhiorios
Thermia
Kalogrea
Kazaphani
Kyrenia
Klepini
Kondemenos (MT only)
Kormakitis
Karavas
Lapithos
Livera (MT only)
Orka (MT only)
Panagra
Sykhari
Kharcha

NICOSIA DISTRICT

Avlona
Zodhia (Pano and Kato)
Kythrea
Katokopia
Morphou
Masari
Neapolis
Nikitas (MT only)
Pendayia (MT only)
Skyloura
Philia

FAMAGUSTA DISTRICT

Ayia Trias (MT only)
Angastina (MT only)
Ayios Andronikos
Ayios Theodoros
Ayios Sergios
Ayios Elias (MT only)
Varosha (suburb)
Akanthou
Akhyritou (MT only)
Vatili
Vasili
Vokolidha (MT only)
Gaidhouras (MT only)
Gastria (MT only)
Gypsou
Dhavlos
Ephtakomi
Kilanemos (MT only)
Komi-Kebir
Koma tou Yialou
Kondea
Lapathos
Leonarissos (MT only)
Limnia
Marathovounos (MT only)
Milia
Mousoulita (MT only)
Neta (MT only)
Patriki (MT only)
Prastion (MT only)
Pyrga (MT only)
Rizokarpaso (MT only)
Spathariko
Stylli (MT only)
Tavrou
Tricomo
Flamoudi (MT only)
Melanagra
Lythrangomi

APPENDIX 5

TURKISH POPULATION OF CYPRUS

From report by Ahmet Sami "General Secretary" "Ministry of Justice and Interior", "Turkish Cypriot Administration", 20 October 1974.

"... The overall situation on 19 October, 1974, in the Autonomous Turkish Cypriot Zone was as follows:

- a) 203 towns and villages came under Turkish control.
- b) 32% of the inhabited areas of the island is under Turkish control.
- c) The Autonomous Turkish Cypriot Zone covers 39% of the whole area of the island.
- d) A total of 99,871 people live in the Autonomous Turkish Cypriot Zone.

83,719 Turks
14,577 Greeks
1,376 Maronites
202 British and foreign nationals

"Out of 32,039 Turks who have remained outside the Autonomous Turkish Cypriot Zone about 10,000 Turkish Cypriots are enclaved in the British sovereign bases in the Limassol District and 12,000 in the Paphos District.

"About 4,200 are enclaved in other villages of the Limassol District and in Limassol itself.

About 3,209 are enclaved in the Nicosia District.

About 2,630 are enclaved in the Larnaca District.

.....
"The members of the Turkish Peace Forces, and Turkish citizens who have special duties in the Turkish Cypriot Zone, were not included in the figures given in this report".

APPENDIX 6

TURKISH CYPRIOT NEWSPAPERS "HALKIN SESI" AND "ZAMAN" OF 9.8.1977.

"According to a statement by the Minister of Housing and Rehabilitation, Mr. Hakki Atun, houses were given to 20,934 families, or 83,650 people during the last three years".

APPENDIX 7

TWO ARTICLES BY DR KUCHUK
THROWING LIGHT ON COLONISATION

HALKIN SESI 24.5.1978

What disgrace is this?

By Dr. Fazil Kuchuk

The act of kidnapping women by force of arms has long been buried in history by the civilised world; nobody even thinks about it. Unfortunately this act has been committed on the territory of the Turkish federated state of Cyprus which has absorbed every aspect of civilisation. The Turkish Cypriots learned to love and respect women so long ago that the present generation has never seen a woman being beaten by her husband, thrown out in the street or working in the fields while her husband plays in the coffee shop. Women and men have equal rights before the law. Both of them are the slaves of their children. They love their children and they sacrifice from their own food and clothing to feed and clothe their children. Turkish Cypriot parents do not let their children remain ignorant; they educate them as far as their strength goes.

It is after elementary school that elderly fathers ask for the help of their children. If the father is a shepherd he puts his child behind his herd, if he is a farmer he gives him or her a hoe. They work together and they earn together. In the evenings they all sit around the family table and eat what they have earned by sweat. As there is no such thing as "woman slavery" women work freely in the fields and factories; they herd their sheep in the fields away from their villages. None of the passers - by casts a malicious glance at these girls and women. Even those in love do not trouble women and girls when their request for marriage is refused. They go and try other girls, but they do not take up arms and try their hand at banditry.

A few days ago, in a Karpass village where a criminal case has not occurred for years, a group of men and women returning home from work on their tractor were stopped by two armed men and one of the young girls was dragged from the tractor into the forest. Who were the ones who dared to commit such an act? Were they after revenge or was it a matter of blood feud? No, none of these was the cause of this incident. The incident was the product of "heroism" on the part of two persons who knew how to avail themselves of the facilities provided by the wrong and lame settlement policy being followed for the past 4 years.

We have been writing for years and we have been asking the authorities to do something on this issue. Nobody heard us and as a result, this paradise island has been turned into hell. Let us repeat again

that we are not trying to separate Turkish Cypriots from mainland Turks. We have a Turkish nation which carries the same blood and faith. It is this nation which has shouldered the Cyprus cause in unison and which created a new Cyprus through years of struggle. We still have a lot of things to do in this country we have created. We have to complete our work. We will turn dried lands into luscious green and we will make water flow from springs once again. We will do these hand in hand, in solidarity. Helpers have arrived. People who respected law in their villages, who considered hard work as the holiest of their values, who knew how to make a living out of hard work and who had no eye on others' property have shown their presence in places they have settled. While these settlers inspired hope in us, we observed that jailbirds, rapists, parasites, gamblers and drug smugglers were also being provided with similar facilities and that they were mixing with the newcomers.

We warned the officials once again. We told them that these newcomers will be a nuisance to our decent citizens: We told them to halt them before it becomes too late. They turned a deaf ear on us and did nothing. On the contrary, the newcomers were given houses, land, food and money. They were even given "bonuses" amounting to tens of thousands of Turkish lira under the cover of settlement credits. People who had never been of any use to anybody all their lives were badly spoilt by all this bounty. They told the Turkish Cypriots: "We saved you; get out of here. These places belong to us. Those of us who had enough dignity to tolerate these thugs were nicknamed "Cypriot asses". We tolerate even these insults, but that did no good either. Many people from the Motherland were as much concerned as we were with the situation. However, all demands to expel these castaways were left unanswered. Moreover, new officials emerged who would protect these persons. They said: "You cannot touch citizens of the Turkish Republic". It meant that they would not work and we would feed and clothe them and do anything they wanted us to do. It was those who found this protection who started believing that they were perfectly legal and who strangled drivers, robbed houses and exhibited unprecedented skill in theft. The prisons were filled to the brink. The populace was left with no courage to go out into the streets. The situation remains the same today. They just gave the most unabashed example on savagery.

July 1974 was such a happy time for us. The pain, poverty and the tears we had suffered for years were all forgotten. The darkness was torn and the sun never set on our horizons. The time had come to crown the cause we had fought for with our brothers from the Motherland. There was no more a border. Everybody would be able to go to their homes and nobody would ask them where they were going. We lovingly embraced our brothers from the Motherland and were in the streets arm in arm. We were infinitely happy. Unfortunately people started to appear who cut our joy short. We saw that those exiled from the villages, those escaped from prisons and those wanted for anarchic

incidents were all flowing into the island. Seeing this and foreseeing the eventualities, the Motherland press as well as the Turkish Cypriot press appealed to the authorities to take some measures, but nothing was done. Those who had learned to make themselves happy by drawing on the blood of others like leeches destroyed the work of all those people who tried to work dirt into gold.

The incident at Ayios Andronikos cannot be considered to be a simple police case. The Turkish Cypriots have not experienced such an incident since 1571. The abduction of a girl into a forest in a modern civilised country is neither seen nor thought of. Those doing something that a human cannot do have no right to get their share from humanity and have no place on these lands.

Honourable administrators, honourable "protectors", what are you waiting for? Who is it that is forcing your mouths shut? Are you admiring the actors of the drama staged in front of you or did you swallow your tongues out of fear? It is a real pity. The surrender of government power to thugs can mean bringing us face to face with far more serious incidents in the future.

HALKIN SESI 25.5.1978

They must be sent back

By Dr. Fazil Kuchuk

It has almost been four years since the Peace Operation. Provocations are continuing one after the other. Those expecting future gains from settlers coming from the forests and villages of Eastern Turkey are continually encouraging and spoiling these newcomers. These new settlers did not even know about the struggle waged by the Turkish Cypriots and about the necessity of a Turkish presence on this island. They did not even know our language; they learned it after they came here. As a result of these those settlers who did not respect law in their original villages made the 400-year old inhabitants of this island vomit blood.

We are writing bitterly because we have to. Those who opened the doors without thinking are primarily responsible for the malice brought to the Turkish Cypriot community as well as to the new comers, and they will never be able to strug off this historic responsibility. Piling people on the island without planning has been of primary influence in the creation of the present situation on the island. We could not let the places we had won to remain empty. However, without planning and calculating, people were brought who had sectarian conflicts among them, who lived away from each other because of blood feuds and who belonged to two different faiths. All these people were put together and "Oriental sultanates" were established in many of our villages.

Mixing these untrained and unoriented settlers with the Turkish Cypriot community which is so civilised, which follows developments around the world every day, which respects law and order, which recognises government authority, which respects human rights and

freedoms, which had closed the age of banditry long ago, which earns its living by hard work, which avoids violence, which considers every Turk as its full brother, which respects its elders, which aids its deprived, which fights against the enemy but not against the weak, which upholds its pride above everything, which has learned to save itself from tekkes and sheikhs, which has eradicated ignorance, which has achieved 100 percent literacy, which has guarded Ataturk's principles, which has walked on the track of the Motherland and which continues to guard its future, is the main cause of the painful situation today.

How can we debase ourselves by calling people who ask the mukhtar what train goes to Cyprus "our liberators"?

The situation is not gratifying at all in some of our villages. Isn't the situation in these villages serious enough to push us into deep anxiety? Those coming from underdeveloped areas have been so spoilt that they have lost their consciousness and have been insulting everybody around them. These people are completely illiterate. After all, in their original villages they had no friends other than the trees around them. It is time to place these people under strict control. People who are as impolite and uncivilised as to spit in the face of the police should be sent back to their villages. The sooner they are sent back the sooner they will find the freedom they want and the sooner the Turkish Cypriot community - and the decent newcomer settlers - will find tranquillity. The administrators and the "protectors" must understand that the fists, knives and pistols of these thugs can one day produce incidents which none of us may like. Those coming from Turkey's western provinces are as much concerned with the incidents as we are. They too carry the same feelings and grief.

WE ASK THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT NOT TO TURN THIS ISLAND THEY HAVE LIBERATED INTO A GRAVE.

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