



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to the United Nations Secretariat's Verbal Note LA/COD/4 dated 31 December 2008, has the honour to submit herewith (see attached Annex), information concerning frequent violations of the protection, security and safety of the Greek Diplomatic and Consular Mission and representatives to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Permanent Mission of Greece submits this information in accordance to operative paragraphs 10, 12 and 13 of the General Assembly resolution 63/126 and kindly requests that this information be included in the relevant report of the Secretary General for the 65th Session of the General Assembly. It should be noted that all the incidents referred to in the attached Annex have been brought, in a timely manner, to the attention of the competent authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, July 10th, 2009

Enclosed: Annex

To: The Office of the Secretary-General
of the United Nations
In Town
c.c.: United Nations Office of Legal Affairs
-Codification Division
In town



ANNEX

Violations of the protection, security and safety of the Greek Diplomatic and Consular Mission and representatives to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- January 14th, 2008: The front license plate of a vehicle belonging to a member of the diplomatic staff of the Greek Liaison Office (license plates no. 27-CD-049), was stolen. The incident took place in the early morning hours, in front of the staff member's residence in Skopje.

- February 19th, 2008: At about 18:30 hours, a group of one thousand demonstrators gathered outside the Greek Liaison Office in Skopje and, while hurling anti—Greek slogans and insults and waving various flags, begun attacking the Office premises and threw numerous stones and bottles. As a result of the attack, which lasted about one and a half hour, stones and broken glass were scattered in the area outside the Office, as well as the yard inside, while one gas container was later found, fortunately, unexploded inside the yard. In addition, the Office's yard lighting, the lower floor windows and a piece of the façade marble were damaged. Moreover, three vehicles parked outside the Office premises were damaged. The first was an official vehicle (license plate no.027-CD-024) which suffered a broken side-window and other external damage. The others were two private vehicles carrying Greek license plates, belonging to Liaison Office staff members (no. AXZ 2344 suffered a broken rear-window, and no. NEP 2635 suffered a broken windscreen and other external damage). It should be noted that earlier on the same day and well before these events occurred, the Head of the Greek Liaison Office had warned the Head of Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that this demonstration, which was to take place at the center of Skopje and had been announced in the Press, could eventually endanger the safety of the Liaison Office. As events have shown, the demonstration did turn quickly against the Liaison Office. Furthermore, it should be noted that the Head of the Liaison Office had also requested the Authorities to increase, immediately, the police presence. Evidently, the police response was inadequate, chiefly because its presence at the initial stages of the incident was in small numbers, and could not, therefore, restrain the aggressive crowd. Police reinforcements arrived late and only after repeated requests by the Head of the Liaison Office to the Protocol Department of the Foreign Ministry.

-February 29th, 2008: In the early morning hours, a vehicle belonging to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office (license plates 27-CD-014), was found vandalized. The tires and doors on the driver's side were, respectively, deflated and damaged with the use of a sharp instrument.

- March 24th, 2008: In the early morning hours, the rear license plate of a vehicle belonging to the spouse of a member of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office (license plates no. 27-CD-001), was stolen. The vehicle was parked in front of the staff member's residence in Skopje.

-April 3rd, 2008: In the late evening hours, a vehicle belonging to a member of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office (license plates no. 27-CD-049), was vandalized. The vehicle was parked at the parking space of the residence of the staff member in Skopje (same vehicle as in incident of January 14th, 2008).

-April 21st, 2008: In the early afternoon hours, an attack occurred against the residence of the Head of the Liaison Office by unidentified individual(s). A window on

second floor was destroyed with a heavy piece of wood (dimensions 30cm X 10cm), as a result of the attack.

-April 26th, 2008: The residence of the First Counselor for Economic and Commercial Affairs of the Liaison Office, while its occupant was on short vacation, was broken in and a number of personal belongings were removed. The fact that the residence was also vandalized and that the stolen items were small in number and of low commercial value, gives cause to assume that the intent of the perpetrator(s) was to intimidate and to threaten, while, at the same time, gravely disturbing the domestic peace of the occupant and his family.

-May 15th, 2008: In the early morning hours, a vehicle belonging to a member of the administrative staff of the Liaison Office (license plates NZP-3600), was brutally vandalized by unidentified individual(s). Ethnically motivated slogans had been scratched on the entire left side of the vehicle with a sharp instrument. It should be pointed out that the perpetrator(s) managed to commit their act and flee the crime scene, despite the fact that the vehicle in question was parked in the parking area reserved for the Liaison Office, located right across the security guard's booth.

-May 30th, 2008: In the early morning hours, a vehicle belonging to a member of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office (license plates no. 27-CD-049), was vandalized for the second time (see above, incident of April 3rd, 2008). The incident took place in front of the residence of the staff member in Skopje.

- June 18th, 2008: In the early morning hours, unidentified individual(s) entered the courtyard of the residence of the First Counselor for Economic and Commercial Affairs of the Liaison Office. They uprooted all the plants and threw mud and dirt on his vehicle (same residence as in the incident of April 26th, 2008).

- June 20th, 2008: A vehicle belonging to a member of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office (license plates 27-CD-010), was brutally vandalized by unidentified individual(s). Ethnically motivated slogans were scratched on the vehicle with a sharp instrument. It should be pointed out that the perpetrator(s) managed to commit their act and flee the crime scene, despite the fact that the vehicle in question was parked in the parking area reserved for the Liaison Office, located right across the security guard's booth.

- June 27th, 2008: A crowd of approximately 100 individuals situated in front of the Consular premises of the Liaison Office, participated in an organized operation of intimidation against citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia who were waiting their turn in line outside the Greek Consular Office to conduct regular business. The crowd used whistles, hurled insults, and performed aggressive gestures against them.

- July 7th, 2008: Two vehicles with license plates nos. 27-CD-008 and 27-CD-050, belonging to members of the diplomatic staff of the Liaison Office, were brutally vandalized by unidentified individual(s). Ethnically motivated slogans were scratched on the vehicles with a sharp instrument. It should be noted that the perpetrator(s) managed to commit their act and flee the crime scene, despite the fact that the vehicle in question was parked in the parking area reserved for the Liaison Office, located right across the security guard's booth.