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TELEGRAM FROM THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UKRAINIAN SOVIET

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL, DATED 24 AUGUST, 1946.

MR. TRYGVE LIE SECRETARY GENERAL UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

On behalf of the Government of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic I have the honour to address the following statement to the Security Council. In recent times and especially since the opening of the Peace Conference in Paris as a result of the irresponsible policy of the present Greek Government a situation has arisen in the Balkans which represents a grave danger to peace and security in this part of Europe and which causes rightful concern to all sincere champions of peace. The fact which is the cause of concern is above all the numerous border incidents on the Greek Albanian Frontier which are being provoked by the Greek armed units with the connivance and encouragement of the Greek authorities. The Greek detachments are systematically opening fire at the Albanian frontier guards as well as at the Albanian peasants who are engaged in agricultural work in the areas adjacent to the frontiers. Cases are becoming ever more frequent in which the Greek armed groups penetrate into Albanian territory with the obvious object of provoking an armed conflict with Albania which would serve as a pretext for the wresting of the Southern part of Albania in favor of Greece. Moreover the atmosphere is rendered still more tense by the repeated statements of representatives of the present Greek Government of the alleged state of war between Greece and Albania made by them in their public speeches and in the press as well as from the rostrum of the Peace Conference in Paris. Persecution by the Greek Government of national minorities in Macedonia Thrace and Cyprus is likewise the cause of anxiety. The regime established for them by the present Greek Government is notorious for its extremely brutal character. Tens of thousands of Macedonians Bulgarians Thracians and Albanians who found themselves under the unbearable yoke of national oppression and racial discrimination are

compelled to seek asylum in neighboring states fleeing from the threat of wholesale physical annihilation. They are forced to leave behind the land of their forefathers, their homes and property and seek refuge outside Greece and to suffer dire need and privation. Such a policy which resorts to the same sinister methods of fanning national hatred which were used in the past in the preparation of wars in the Balkans threatens to convert the Balkan Peninsula into a center of bitter conflicts and to entail international complications. The same purpose is served by the unbridled propaganda of Greek Monarchist extremists who put forward demands for the wresting from Albania of native Albania territories and who seek a new partition of the Balkans. The principle factor conducive to the situation in the Balkans as created by this policy of the present Greek Government is the presence of British troops in Greece and the direct intervention of British Military Representatives into the internal affairs of this Allied country in behalf of aggressive Monarchist elements especially in the preparation of the referendum set for September 1 1946 which is to determine the form of Government in Greece. The holding of the referendum under such conditions when there are foreign troops in the country which support the elements many of whom collaborated with the German and Italian invaders against those Greek patriots who courageously fought the invaders on the side of the Allies is contrary to the war aims proclaimed by the Allied Powers both during the war and after its termination, as well as to the aims and principles of the United Nations Charter, in particular to Paragraph 2 Article 1 of this Charter which recognizes the right of every nation to determine freely its destiny and its form of Government. For the above reasons and in virtue of Article 35 Paragraph 1 of the United Nations Charter, I have the honor to bring to the attention of the Security Council this situation as being of the nature covered by Article 34 of the United Nations Charter and to ask you to place on the agenda for the next meeting of the Security Council the situation in the Balkans which has resulted from the policy of the Greek Government and which endangers the maintenance of international peace and security as well as the question of measures to be adopted by the Security Council without delay in order to eliminate this threat to peace.

D. MANUILSKY, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian Soviet