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THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

REFERENCE: WEBSTER'S FAMILY ENCYCLOPEDIA
ATTENTION: DEBBIE

OTTENHEIMER PUBLISHERS INC.
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17 October, 1991

Dear Editor,

In reference to the Webster's "Family Encyclopedia" (Volume 3-1991 Edition) allow me to draw your attention to the article on the Cyprus Republic (page 705) and especially on its analysis of the economy of the island. Here are points I believe relevant for your next edition.

The article notes: "Tourism...like the rest of the economy (of the island) has been badly affected by the unrest of recent years." It is a fact that the 1974 Turkish invasion and occupation of 37% of the territory of the Cyprus Republic cut off about 65% of its economic capacity. Yet by 1978-79 the GNP in the area controlled by the State had already reached the 1973 levels.

Cyprus is without any doubt looked upon today in the international community as an example of post independence economic development. The rate of economic growth averaged in the recent years the 7% per annum. The priorities were now placed on the industrial development and tourism. The Republic is classified as a middle income country with per capita income of nearly 10,100 US dollars.

Tourism on its part followed the same pattern. By 1979 it had surpassed the level of the pre-invasion period (1973) and it started growing fastly at an average of over 10% annually, reaching in 1990 the level of 1,560,000. We have in mind of course tourists that stayed in the island for a period at least 10 days.

On the other hand, it is general knowledge that in the occupied by Turkey area in the North there exists a situation that leads to mass unemployment and in consequence to mass immigration. According to a recent poll carried in these areas and published in Turkish papers 71% of those asked said that the Turkish

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Cypriots will be better off in the conditions of a unified, federative Republic a goal to which, by the way, lead the efforts of the UN Secretary-General. An initiative towards that direction was taken too, as it is well known, by the US President Mr. George Bush.

In this connection may I point out that the population distribution of ethnic groups in the island was in 1960, at the time of the last official census, as follows:
77.1% Greek Cypriots, 18.1% Turkish Cypriots and 4.8% other groups - Manorites, Armenians, Latins etc.

I appreciate you attention and I hope that the points I raised will be useful when you Encyclopedia is updated.

Sincerely yours,

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Adviser
Media and Communications