ORGANISATION OF RELATIVES OF MISSING CYPRIOTS (UK)
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NEWS BULLETIN MARCH 2016

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<<<<<<<<<< ORMC (UK) GENERAL MEETING: >>>>>>>>>>

- **WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY 16TH APRIL**
- **FROM 5.30PM**
- **AT THE CYPRIOT COMMUNITY CENTRE (Erlham Grove N22)**

THOSE WISHING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ELECTION TO THE ORMC (UK) COMMITTEE MUST SEND IN THEIR NOMINATION FORMS BY THE 9TH APRIL AT THE LATEST. NOMINATION FORM IS ENCLOSED.

TURKEY'S AIMS IN THE ISSUE OF OUR MISSING UNCOVERED: Turkey has issued a document for the Committee of Ministers (CoM) in Strasbourg, before their scheduled meeting (which took place on 8-10 March 2016) and the issue of our Missing was on the agenda. In its document Turkey praises itself for the help it has offered to the Committee of Missing Persons (CMP) including financial support. It claims that it has done everything possible to help by ***"sharing any new information about the whereabouts of the remains of what could be reported missing persons".*** It also claims that ***"it has already provided the CMP with all the relevant information on the location of graves of missing persons that it has in its possession at the end of 1997. There is no pending request from the CMP for additional information from military archives or otherwise"!!!***

Well if that is not trying to pull the wool over the eyes of the Committee then we do not know what is!!! It should be stressed that the CMP has never been able to send a formal request to Turkey to submit to the Committee all relevant information on the fate of missing persons, including information from the military archives, as a consensus is required by the three Members of the CMP for any action/decision of the Committee. We have a strong suspicion that Turkey is influencing CMP members' decisions.

In a large section of the document Turkey tells the Committee about the work of the Missing Persons Unit (MPU) which it set up, in the occupied areas, in November 2010 to investigate and bring to justice any perpetrators of these crimes. The unit has personnel of 12 and so far in its six years of existence it has managed to bring to justice ……. **NOBODY!!!**

We have responded to the Turkish report with letters to the CoM Ambassadors as well as British MPs: see our website for more details: http://www.ormc-uk.org/latestnews/latestnews.html

MEETING WITH D. BARROWES MP: On Friday 29th Jan 2016 a meeting was held with MP David Burrowes to discuss the latest developments in the issue of our missing and especially the submission to the Council of Ministers (CoM) in Strasbourg by Turkey. Present were the ORMC (UK) President N. Neokleous and E. Secretary C. Paul. It was a very useful meeting and ideas were exchanged as to the way we should respond to the Turkish submission.

COMMITTEE of MINISTERS DECISION: The CoM is again calling on Turkey to co-operate fully with the CMP and give access to all so called military zones as well as make available to them any reports and military archives containing information on burial sites, including that of relocated remains. It also asks Turkey to intensify its proactive approach to providing the CMP with all necessary assistance in order to achieve tangible results. The CoM insists that Turkey pays the sums awarded by the European Court in the judgment of 12 May 2014.

The issue will again be discussed at their 1273rd meeting in December 2016.

NEW YEAR'S CAKE CUTTING: On Sunday 10th January 2016 we celebrated the coming of the New Year at St Barnaba's Church Hall after the liturgy, memorial service and prayers for those still missing, at St Mary's Church in Wood Green.

Many of our members, friends and supporters of ORMC (UK) attended and participated in the traditional New Year's cake cutting. The Cyprus Consul General Mr. I. Koukoularides was also present and gave a short speech in the church. The V. Rev. Bishop Athanasios led the prayers in the hall and then cut and distributed the cake to all those present.

We hope and pray that the New Year will bring the deserved relief to all who are still waiting for news of their loved ones.

DONATIONS: Since the 1st of January we have received the following
E.Gavriel £20, K.Pafiti £20, N. Ioakim £20, E. Andreou £10, Y. Kashimeri £1