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Swedish UN soldiers came to Gaziveren after the Greek Cypriot attack



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New Concept at Almond Resort in Alsancak



This year the owners of the famous Almond Resort and hotel in Alsancak have come up with a new concept; mixing their delightful family holiday destination with longer term facilities particularly intended to cater for older guests who would like some assistance close to hand.

As soon as you walk into the entrance of the Almond you are faced with a warm and pleasant environment. There is a European, somewhat Germanic air about the main hotel foyer. You follow through the building and it takes you to a beautiful swimming pool and various seating

areas. Beyond, there are the exquisitely maintained gardens and then further on you will come across the Bee hives and chicken rearing area, where there are also Ostriches!

Time for change.

This season, for the first time, the Asik family, who have been running he Almond since its inception, have introduced a number of long-term accommodation options designed to make life comfortable for those who no longer wish to live conventional accommodation. Situated in a separate area from the other accommodation for added privacy,

there are a range of 2-bedroom bungalows, with wheelchair access. This accommodation provides 24 hour security and assistance and use of all the hotel facilities such as swimming pool, gym and gardens. There are also single room units available for long term rent.

Long term accommodation

The concept is described eloquently by Gulten, daughter of the founders, (responsible for marketing and PR): 'We have seen so many people leaving North Cyprus because they lose confidence with age, homeownership is to much of a burden and they are lonely....It is now a passion for us to help seniors enjoy their lives with like minded

people by creating a lovely community at The Almond – where people are friendly, fun and helpful. We have created onsite clubs and arranged for social events purely for this reason...'

The hotel web site linked below show the full details of accommodation options. Price for long term accommodation will depend of duration and season and emailing the address below will help you find out all you need to know.

www.almond-holidays.com

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20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

President Ersin Tatar meets 42 Swedish 1964 UNFICYP Veterans



President Ersin Tatar meets with 42 Swedish UNFICYP Veterans who served in Cyprus in 1964

“Your deployment to the Island came about due to the bloodshed and attacks against Turkish Cypriot civilians who were expelled from the 1960 partnership Republic of Cyprus by the Greek Cypriot Side who aspired to unite Cyprus with Greece.”

President Ersin Tatar met with a group of 42 Swedish United Nations Peacekeeping Veterans who served in Cyprus as from 1964 at the Presidency on Friday evening.

President Tatar, who thanked the group for visiting the Presidency, said: “This week, we marked the 60th anniversary of the deployment of UNFICYP to the Island of Cyprus. The 1960 Republic of Cyprus was founded with the two equal Peoples – the Turkish Cypriots and the Greek Cypriots, who were co-existing together on the Island. However, in December 1963, the attacks had started on Turkish Cypriots, who were expelled from the state apparatus by force of arms. We were forced to abandon 103 Turkish Cypriot villages, and to live in enclaves and tents without sufficient resources including our basic human needs. You had been deployed as UN Peacekeepers following the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 186 on March 4, 1964.”

Stating that “you had come to the Island to carry out your duties and to

protect the Turkish Cypriot People who were being faced with military attacks and inhumane treatment that included terrible atrocities,” President Tatar continued: “Turkish Cypriots feel gratitude to you for your services at the time. I was a child living about two streets away from the Presidential complex in Lefkoşa. I remember watching UN soldiers, who were on the Island to protect the Turkish Cypriots. Those are memories that we have never forgotten.”

President Tatar added: “Despite your presence on the Island, the Greek Cypriots never stopped, and continued their attacks, including on Erenköy, Geçitkale, Yeniboğaziçi and carried out other atrocities in different parts of the Island of Cyprus”.

Explaining that the “real peace operation in Cyprus happened on 20th July 1974 with the Peace Operation by Guarantor Türkiye following a coup d’etat by the Greek Junta and declaration of the Hellenic Republic of Cyprus,” President Tatar said: “Since this lawful intervention, an Exchange of Population Agreement allowed for Turkish Cypriots to move to the North, and the Greek Cypriots to move to the South which was done on voluntary basis.”

Stating that resolution 186 treated the Greek Cypriot Side as the sole government of the Island, which is the reason the Greek Cypriots are today being treated as the ‘Republic

of Cyprus’, President Tatar added: “This partnership ceased to exist since the usurpation of the rights of the Turkish Cypriot People, who were kicked out of the republic in 1963, and this republic has been occupied by the Greek Cypriot side ever since. The Turkish Cypriot People exercised their inherent right and we have been running our own affairs and governing ourselves as a State, out of necessity, which is today the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.”

Stressing that “Turkish Cypriots are today able to continue their existence on the Island in peace and freedom within the TRNC,” President Tatar stated that countless negotiations over several decades were held for an equality-based federal settlement. “However, the Greek Cypriot Side rejected federal settlements at least 15 times,” President Tatar said, adding: “In April 2004, the Greek Cypriot People rejected the UN Comprehensive Settlement Plan in the separately held simultaneous referenda by 76 per cent, which was accepted by the Turkish Cypriots by 65 per cent. In July 2017, the final attempt for a federal settlement again collapsed. The Greek Cypriot Side do not want to share power and prosperity with us Turkish Cypriots on the basis of equality, and they have no incentive to do so whilst they are treated as the sole government of the whole Island by the international community. This is the crux of the problem.”

President Tatar stated that the Turkish Cypriot Side has withdrawn its consent for a federal based settlement and is today putting forward a new vision and position for

a realistic and practical settlement that is based on the existence of two States and the sovereign equality and equal international status of the Turkish Cypriot People.

The President said he had spoken with some members of the group, who had explained to him that they had visited numerous sites in the TRNC. “As you have seen, we are a fully functioning state, with our own Parliament, government, judiciary, police force, military, municipalities, civil organisations and so forth. The Turkish Cypriot People are a sovereign people with a right to self-determination. We will not accept becoming a minority of anybody.”

President Tatar thanked the group for visiting the TRNC and wished them long and healthy lives.

Speaking on behalf of the group, Anders Arvidsson thanked President Tatar for meeting the group, and said they were visiting different parts of the country and reliving memories of the time they were serving on the Island.

Mr Anders also stated that there are two distinct peoples with two different languages, cultures and religions, that no progress has been made for a settlement over the past 60 years, and he said that a settlement can be reached with recognition by the international community.

President Tatar was accompanied by Foreign Press Officer Kerem Haser.

Source: PRESIDENCY OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS



20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

Fahri Zihni talks of Cyprus 60-year-old spiteful and unfair embargoes



**Fahri Zihni talking
in the Cyprus Mail**

**Readers Mail....
From Fahri Zihni....**

Hi Chris,

You kindly shared a number of my articles published in the Cyprus Mail with your worldwide followers and if you would be so kind would you please share my latest article?

Fahri Zihni talks of “60-year-old embargoes on Turkish Cypriots spiteful and unfair“

By Fahri Zihni.....

It is now the 60th anniversary of the Turkish Cypriot community being subjected to social and economic embargoes. Yes, 60, not 50 years. These have been implemented through the concerted and costly actions of successive Greek Cypriot administrations. What is their purpose, and what have they achieved for anyone including the Greek Cypriot community in all this time?

Pierre Oberling’s book *The Road to Bellapais* explains that following fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots during 1963-4, 25,000 Turkish Cypriots became refugees, 527 houses belonging to Turkish Cypriots in 109 villages were destroyed, 2,000 houses were damaged and 4,000 government officer salaries ceased payment. In addition to the 25,000 refugees, 23,500 persons were unemployed and a further 7,500 dependants of

missing persons were without an income. In total, the UN reported that 50 per cent of the Turkish Cypriots were made destitute.

Then, the Greek Cypriot side, which surrounded the enclaved Turkish Cypriots, embarked upon implementing an economic embargo. By September 1964, food and general supplies to Turkish Cypriot enclaves of Nicosia, Lefka, Tylliria, Limnitis, Famagusta and Larnaca were blockaded. When it became clear to the newly installed UN forces that some of the people in these enclaves were close to starvation, permission was given for a list of essential foodstuffs to be passed through, based on a “calorific minimum” for each person.

These restrictions were later relaxed but a long list of what was deemed to be “strategic materials” continued to be banned. These included cement, sand, timber, trucks, tractors, automobile spare parts, tyres, telephones, radios, lead and plastic pipes, steel plates, fuel in large quantities, rubber boots, leather shoelaces, studs for boots, leather jackets, gloves, raincoats, socks for men, woollen clothing, khaki cloth, tent material, bags, thermos bottles, fire extinguishers, accumulators and cables.

Items which could be used for direct military purposes were also blocked, and these included barbed wire, wire cutters, ammonium nitrate, electrical detonators, galvanometers, mine detonators, safety fuses, exploders, explosives and shot-gun cartridges.

The block on these items meant that not only was it impossible for Turkish Cypriots to match the military capability of the Greek Cypriot side, which had free access to military and non-military resources, but it also severely restricted essential building activity to house the refugees, impeded essential transportation and effectively halted all economic activity.

Further, the Greek Cypriot government also imposed a 20 per cent tax on the grain sold by the Turkish Cypriots as “compensation for Greek Cypriot land under Turkish Cypriot cultivation”, even though much more Turkish Cypriot land was under Greek Cypriot cultivation.

Aside from the economic blockade, sporting, social and cultural embargoes continued between 1964-1974 and freedom of movement between the enclaves became very challenging. U Thant, UN general-secretary observed that there were “too many cases of close bodily searches and lengthy interrogations which did not appear to be justified by the need to look for arms and strategic materials”. This was deeply resented, especially by women, being searched by policemen and soldiers.

Today, the Greek Cypriot administration’s international communications strategy is about giving an impression to outsiders that Greek and Turkish Cypriots were living happily together until the events of 1974, and blaming the “Turkish invasion” for all the current problems. To many Turkish Cypriots, Cyprus was divided not in 1974, but during 1964-74, geographically, ethnically, administratively, socially, politically and economically.

This represented a period of despair. Visiting tourists mostly did not know of Turkish Cypriots’ existence in enclaves, now amounting to just 5 per cent of the landmass, and those who happened to travel into the

enclaves were shocked to find a bleak, dimly lit place with homeless families, hungry children and squalid living conditions. I speak from experience, alongside 100,000 Turkish Cypriots who were there in this period of hopelessness. Again, the UN’s U Thant declared that “restrictions which in some cases have been so severe as to amount to a veritable siege indicate that the Government of Cyprus seeks to force a potential solution by economic pressure as a substitute for military action”.

In March 1964, the UN will have been perfectly aware of two things. First, that both Greek and Turkish communities were two equal founder members of the Republic, and that the Turkish Cypriots were by far the main victims of the conflict. The UN’s role was to act as a buffer between two founder member communities. Yet, the UN resolution 186 was agreed without the consent of the Turkish Cypriot community, and it quite absurdly and arbitrarily referred to the Greek-Cypriot-only assembly as the (legitimate) government of Cyprus. To add insult to injury, the UN put its forces under the control of the Greek-Cypriot-only government which remains the case to this day.

Following the tragic events of 1974, the Greek Cypriot government continued with its efforts to block the north’s trade and social, cultural and sporting links with other countries through legal challenges, and doing so with much ease by the virtue of the UN’s resolution 186.

Turkish Cypriots were then, and are still, excluded from international sports. Turkish Cypriot football clubs were ejected from the mixed-teams Cyprus Football Federation in 1955 and so they set up their own federation. The Cyprus constitution confirms, under Article 87, that “the Communal Chambers have competence to exercise in matters

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continued ... Fahri Zihni talks of spiteful and unfair embargoes

such as charitable and sporting foundations for each community”, separately. As football federations and clubs are not organs of the state, there is no way of explaining why individual Turkish Cypriot teams could not compete under Fifa and Uefa rules through their federation, like Palestine and Taiwan, other than as a consequence of clever politicking behind the scenes by the

Greek Cypriot administration.

I have already written extensively about current economic embargoes on northern Cyprus, and the abject failure of the European Union to deliver any economic benefit to Turkish Cypriots beyond tokenism.

Please see Article 1 and Article 2 on links below.

Coming back to my initial question, it is impossible to see how these 60-year-old embargoes on the Turkish Cypriot community have been of any benefit to anybody. If anything, this somewhat spiteful policy has created loss of faith in the minds of Turkish Cypriots in what they can expect in terms of fairness and equality in a united future Republic. It is time for the Greek Cypriot government to

review this policy, and for the EU and UN to act to remove this serious violation of human rights.

Fahri Zihni is former chair of Council of Turkish Cypriot Associations (UK), a former policy advisor at the UK’s Cabinet Office and a former president of Society of IT Management, UK

What the hellim PDO means for Turkish Cypriots

<https://cyprus-mail.com/2021/04/04/what-the-hellim-pdo-means-for-turkish-cypriots/>

Greek Cypriots thwarting north’s attempts to produce halloumi

<https://cyprus-mail.com/2023/05/28/greek-cypriots-thwarting-norths-attempts-to-produce-halloumi/>

President Tatar meets with Holguin

President Ersin Tatar received the Personal Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG), Maria Angela Holguin Cuellar on Monday, March 11.

According to the information released by the Presidency, the first meeting of Holguin’s second round of contacts on the island, took place at the Presidency at 11.15 am.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office.

Further information can be found on the **Presidency of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus** on the link below.



President Ersin Tatar comes together with UNSG Personal Envoy María Ángela Holguín Cuéllar

<https://kktcb.org/en/president-ersin-tatar-comes-together-with-unsg-personal-envoy-maria-12117>

Martyrs of Malya and Baf commemorated with ceremonies



The ceremony for Malya Martyrs took place at the Malya Martyrs Monument in Aydıncıköy, while those who fell as martyrs in the Baf

Resistance were remembered in ceremonies at the Baf Martyrs Monument in Güzelyurt on the 60th anniversary of the resistance.

In his speech at the ceremony held at the Baf Martyrs Monument, President Ersin Tatar expressed that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) owed its existence as an independent Turkish state in the Eastern Mediterranean and the ability to live in freedom and security to the martyrs and their noble struggle.

Tatar stated that the government of Makarios, encouraged by the United Nations’ decision on March 4, 1964, which recognized the Greek Cypriots as the sole representatives of Cyprus, initiated attacks against Turkish Cypriots in Baf. He emphasized that

the resistance in Baf against these attacks became part of the glorious struggle of the Turkish Cypriots.

In the ceremony at the Malya Martyrs Monument in Aydıncıköy, drawing attention to the ongoing struggle in Cyprus, President Tatar said that it was not possible to accept a mentality that would assimilate the Turkish Cypriot people into the so-called Republic of Cyprus for a settlement, eliminate the TRNC, and sever ties with Türkiye, which would lead to returning to the sorrowful days of the past.

20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

“Transforming Girne”, Environment Project Progresses



The ‘Transforming Girne Environment Project’, which aims to teach the principle of ‘Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle’ (abbreviated as “3R”) to students through their teachers, will be completed on March 22nd.

Training of 51 teachers from 4 state

schools within the boundaries of Girne Municipality began on March 6th and will end on March 20th. Initiated by the Girne Municipality Youth Council, the ‘Transforming Girne Environment Project’ will come to an end with a certificate ceremony to be held on Friday,

March 22nd. The training is provided by volunteer trainers Vijdan Şengör (Theory) and Irene Raab (Practice) and covers the topics of ‘reuse’, ‘waste reduction’, and ‘papermaking’.

Upon completion of the project, recycling bins and environmental education booklets will be delivered to the schools involved in the project: 23 Nisan Primary School, Karaoğlanoğlu Primary School, Şht. Hasan Cafer Primary School, and Mustafa Çağatay Primary School.

Project Philosophy and Objective

The project, which aims to critically address the division created between nature and humans and to raise individual’s awareness of

environmental values, provide the necessary perspective of the 3 Rs; the effects of consumers, producers, and intermediaries on their environment; green skills that need to be acquired in line with today’s conditions and needs, and skills that should not be lost are discussed. With the completion of the organized trainings, it is aimed for the certified teachers to convey these principles to their students within an educational plan. Furthermore, it is planned for recycling-themed exhibitions prepared by students to take place annually in the relevant schools after the completion of the project.

Source (Turkish): Girne Municipality



Shakespeare’s Ghost Play will be in Lefkosa on 18th April

The Theatre Groups of Girne Municipality will perform “Shakespeare’s Ghost” again, this time in Lefkosa.

The play, which has received intense interest from the audience since its first performance, will be staged at Lefkosa Atatürk Cultural Centre on Thursday, April 18th, at 20:30. In the announcement made by the Theatre Groups of Girne Municipality, it was mentioned that art enthusiasts who want to watch the play can obtain

their tickets from the website www.kibrisbiletcim.com.

Written by Ufuk Aydoğan and directed by Batuhan Oruç, the cast of the play includes Kıvanç Giritli, Ömer Dünder, Fatima Saatova, and Shernaz Yardımcı. Lighting design is done by Mehmet Saygıer, and set design belongs to Cem Taşlıovalı.

Details of the play were reported in our 10th January edition article



20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

Why No Turkish in the RoC “History and Culture Exam” for citizenship?

Readers Mail....

By Prof. Dr. Ata Atun....

The European Union’s pressure on the Greek Cypriot Administration on the issue of golden passports has started to yield results. The Greek Cypriot Administration will no longer be able to hand out the so-called “Golden Passport” to anyone for its political and financial interests, because the Greek Cypriot Administration made an important change in December regarding naturalization. From now on, those who will be naturalized will first have to be able to speak, read and write Greek at level B1 according to international foreign language exam criteria. Depending on the situation, the slightly lower A2 level may also be accepted. It is not yet clear what this special “situation” is or will be.

According to the amendment to the Citizenship law, which was published in the Official Gazette after the House of Representatives adopted the draft law approved by the Council of Ministers, a foreigner applying for citizenship of the so-called “Republic of Cyprus” can be naturalized on the condition that he or she has knowledge of the Greek language at level B1, as set out in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, based on language certificates at the level mentioned in the Decree.

Knowledge of the Republic of Cyprus.

In addition to this, they will also be required to have “adequate knowledge of the basic elements of the contemporary political and social reality of the so-called “Republic of Cyprus”” and to pass an exam on this subject. This exam will be prepared, conducted and evaluated by a committee consisting of staff from the Greek Ministries of Education and Justice.

If the candidates who will take the exam say, “Between 1963 and 1974, the Greeks attacked the Turkish Cypriots in order to ethnically cleanse the island of Cyprus, mercilessly killed hundreds of Turks, burned down their homes, looted their property, confiscated their livestock and crops, and forced the Turkish Cypriots to migrate en masse,” they will fail definitely. He/she can never become a citizen.

If he/she says, what the members of the committee, all of whom are Greek Cypriots, want to hear and denigrates the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey, he/she will pass this so-called “History and Culture Exam” with a hundred percent.

Constitutional rights of Turkish Cypriots.

But there is lawlessness and suspension of human rights involved. According to the Constitution of the so-called “Republic of Cyprus”, the valid official languages are Greek and Turkish, yet this amendment law does not include a sentence such as “being



RoC - Why no Turkish included?

able to speak, read and write Greek or Turkish at B1 level”. The requirement is limited to knowing only and only “Greek”. The constitutional rights of Turkish Cypriots, which are clearly stated in the 1960 Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, have not been taken into consideration at all. When have they ever been taken into consideration, and they will be taken into consideration this time too. If anything, the rights of the Greeks are the only valid ones.

What can the UN do?

And they shamelessly expect miracles from Maria Holguin, the Personal Representative of the UN Secretary-General, and with the magic wand in her hand, to touch the parties in Cyprus and try every possible means and pray that the negotiations will start immediately from the place where in Crans Montana in 2017, the Greeks overturned the table – due to their maximalist demands and their Enosis dreams of annexing the

island of Cyprus to Greece – in a way that, the map submitted at the meeting in 2017 in their pockets and the concessions made at that time will also be valid.

Speaking Greek Language

Going back to citizenship, many of the Greek fans among us do not speak Greek. If the citizenship of Turkish Cypriots is to be revised in terms of knowing how to “speak, write and read Greek” at an adequate level, then they will be disillusioned.

Oh, if you say vested rights!, we know how the Greeks took away all the rights of the Turks and did not even want to give them the right to breathe.

Prof. Dr. (Civ Eng), Assoc. Prof. Dr. (Int Rel) Ata ATUN

TRNC President Advisory Board Member

TRNC Republican Assembly 1st Term Deputy

If any of our CyprusScene.com readers and followers have news and reviews of Northern Cyprus, please send them to kyreniacommentator@cyprusscene.com and we will try to publish them for you.

If you like what we publish please consider [Buying a Cup of Coffee](#)

20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

Swedish UN soldiers came to Gaziveren after the Greek Cypriot attack



Anders Arvidsson having his hair cut in Gaziveren and returning to the TRNC as a proud Swedish UN Veteran

Introduction by Chris Elliott....

Recently we shared on CyprusScene to the world, an article published by The **PRESIDENCY OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS** telling of the visit of 42 Swedish ex UN soldiers who had served in Cyprus trying to keep the peace during the troubled period upto 1974.

To my surprise I received an email from Anders Arvidsson a Swedish ex UN soldier who has been bringing back to the TRNC, fellow Swedish ex UN soldiers for the past 30 years, and who served in Cyprus during that period and he sent me a history of the battle in Gaziveren village.

Readers mail....

From Anders Arvidsson...

Attack by Greek Cypriots on Gaziveren

At the north coast, 40 km west of Nicosia lies Gaziveren as the only Turkish Cypriot village between the bigger Greek Cypriot places Morphou and Pendaia, the coastal road west passes through the southern part of the village. **March 19 1964**, just before the UN force had become operative, the village is attacked. Superior forces of Greek Cypriots equipped with grenade launchers and at least one armoured car that opened fire against the few defence positions that had been arranged in the village.

Under continuous firing they started to advance closer towards the village.

Gaziveren had in the spring of 1964 a population of 700 of which about 200 had recently arrived as refugees from nearby villages where they had been in the minority or from dwellings not big enough to defend themselves from.

The few Turkish Cypriot defenders did not have much to protect themselves against the well-armed Greek Cypriots. In the village the armament consisted of a few British machine guns, which were Sten guns of WW II surplus, some ageing rifles and Enfield 303 rifles and all shotguns that worked in the village. With simple tactics the defenders succeeded in convincing the beleaguering Greek Cypriots to believe there were lots more defenders than in reality there was.

The young boys of the village ran between the different defence positions with most of the guns. On arrival there was a hail of fire from the defence position in question, they then reloaded and ran across the village and then sent another hailstorm of bullet in the opposite direction against the attackers. The surrounding force was thus given the impression that the village had a very strong defence force.

The Turkish Cypriots succeeded in keeping the Greek Cypriots out of the

central part of Gaziveren. The attack on the village was well documented, as some journalists and a small British force, trying to stop the fighting and they oversaw the whole struggle.

*his had started when a Greek Cypriot force demanded that all weapons in the village should be handed over; the villagers refused and erected a road block and totally stopped the traffic along the coastal road. Two hundred women and the children had taken shelter in the school house when the fighting began. There they were forced to lay on the floor while the Greek Cypriots shot at the house. Six of the villagers lost their lives during the fight: **Ali Faik, Erol Hüsein, Faruk Ahmet, Mehmet Dede, Niyazi Kumarci and Emin Izzet**. The Greek Cypriot loss numbered to five people. After a truce had been decided the British decide to place a post in the village, and their position was taken over by Swedish troops as soon as the UN force went into operation.*

The Canadian journalist Mark Harrison reported to his daily paper Toronto Star about the fight as follows.

Turkish women scream under hail of bullets.

By Mark Harrison Star staff writer.



Picture of John Aziz Kent with his father outside his bullet struck Gaziveren home which he had defended with just a shotgun.

Nicosia – Three hundred fear-crazed Turkish women and children were fired on yesterday by Greek Cypriots in the besieged village of Gaziveren, 30 miles west of here. None was hit, but at least 11 Turks and Greeks were reported killed in fierce new fighting in other parts of the village and at other trouble spots throughout the island. Some of the women lay cowering beside the road, screaming hysterically, as the Greeks opened fire. Others ran to the shelter of nearby buildings.

*A few paralyzed with fright stood rigid on the bullet-raked village street until rescued by British soldiers and correspondents. An American reporter picked up an aged woman and carried her to the safety of the village school house. A boy of 10, carrying a baby on his back ran frantically through the gunfire to shelter. A flock of sheep, bleating in fear, milled aimlessly among the fleeing women and children while Bren gun and rifle bullets peppered the street. Fragments from a bazooka rocket thudded against the side of British armoured car and its commander grunted. **“it’s getting too hot. Let’s get the hell out of here”***

Bullets gouge plaster walls.

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continued..... Swedish UN soldiers came to Gaziveren

For five hours until daylight faded, the terrorized women and children lay crouched inside the school house while Greek fire hit the outer walls, From the fields surrounding the village we could hear the rattle of Bren gun fire and saw Greeks firing from fortified positions which obviously had taken days to prepare. A hundred yards from the village we passed a pool of blood where a Turk had been wounded an hour earlier. We could see the terrified faces of women and children peering at us through windows. From one hut rose a strange animal-like sound and I peered in. A Turkish woman was sitting on a bed, her face contorted with fear, a guttural, almost inhuman sound welling from her throat every few seconds. Five children stood around her their eyes filled with fear and incomprehension."

Editors comment:

So that's an introduction to what the Swedish UN troops were faced with on arrival in Gaziveren and with them was Anders Arvidsson who years later came back to Cyprus with his wife for a holiday and left on the last flight from Cyprus to Sweden on 13th July 1974 before the Turkish peace intervention started.

Since then with his the experienced of serving in Gaziveren he has been bringing back parties of ex Swedish UN soldiers on memorial trips but looking back at the division in Cyprus on July 20th 1974 and the subsequent barrage of mis-information about the Cyprus issue by the so-called Republic of Cyprus, he has decided he must tell the **Truth of the Cyprus Issue** to the world so they can see the injustice perpetrated on the Turkish Cypriots for years and will be writing more of this in **CyprusScene** in the future.



Greek Cypriot "Marmon Herrington" armoured car and troops accompanied by journalists (right) during the attack on Gaziveren March 19th 1964.

President Tatar examined the Red Apple Unmanned Combat Aircraft



President Ersin Tatar paid a visit to the Özdemir Bayraktar National Technology Centre in İstanbul where he was briefed about the operations and research and development (R&D) and the design centre where 13 different engineering disciplines work together.

During his visit, President Ersin Tatar examined the production and work of UAVs, UCAVs, unmanned helicopters and the recently unveiled pride of Türkiye, the "Red Apple" Unmanned Combat Aircraft.

In his statement about his visit, President Ersin Tatar emphasised the importance of Motherland Türkiye having a "national defence industry". He said this is extremely important for Türkiye, which was most notably demonstrated firsthand in Azerbaijan.

Stating that the work conducted at the centre included a significant number of "young engineers who have pioneered their way to achieving higher than world standards," President Tatar said that "it would be important to have similar facilities in

the TRNC".

Pointing out that the work at the centre is "very important due to the geopolitical and geostrategic location of the Republic of Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," President Tatar stated that he "wholeheartedly believes that much more important work will be carried out under the leadership of Selçuk Bayraktar, ASELSAN and Roketsan in the new century of Türkiye".

Stating that he had the opportunity to examine, at the production site, the

UAVs and UCAVs that Türkiye exports, President Tatar thanked Baykar Chairman of the Board of Directors/Technology Leader (CTO), T3 Foundation Board of Trustees Chairman and Teknofest Chairman of the Board of Directors Selçuk Bayraktar, Aselsan General Manager Ahmet Akyol and Roketsan General Director Murat İkin.

Source:

**PRESIDENCY OF THE TURKISH
REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN
CYPRUS**



20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

Girne Bandabuliyaya Comes to Life Again



A collaboration agreement was signed for the 'Girne Bandabuliyaya Gastronomy House' project, which will be carried out in partnership with the Entrepreneurial Women's Development Cooperative Ltd. and the Labouring Women's Cooperative Ltd. under the leadership of Girne Municipality.

The signing ceremony, which took place in front of Girne Bandabuliyaya on Thursday, March 14th, at 10:00, was attended by Girne Mayor Murat Şenkul, President of the Entrepreneurial Women's Development Cooperative Ltd. İçim Çağınır, President of the Labouring Women's Cooperative Ltd. Emel Kale Kişi, as well as the Project Coordinator of the 'Girne Bandabuliyaya Gastronomy House' Niyal Öztürk, Girne Municipal Council Members Mete Ünal Girgen, Hakan Onurlu, Ali Tektan, Ziya Egemen Sencer, Haşim Yücel, Girne Municipal Director Hüseyin Köle, Deputy Directors Naile Soyel, and Ahmet Türker. Members of both cooperatives and press members also

attended the ceremony.

Aiming To Be At The Heart of Kyrenia

In the project, where infrastructure works are undertaken by Girne Municipality, all equipment and operating methods are undertaken by the Entrepreneurial Women's Development Cooperative Ltd. and the Labouring Women's Cooperative Ltd. The 'Girne Bandabuliyaya Gastronomy House' project includes topics such as setting up a gastronomy kitchen, creating a durable product sales area, meal and event areas, and creating an attraction centre.

Emel Kale Kişi

Starting her words by stating that the press conference was a milestone for them, Emel Kale Kişi, President of the Laboring Women's Cooperative Ltd., recalled that the development of the 'Girne Bandabuliyaya Gastronomy House' project dates back a year. Kişi stated that they reached an

agreement with Girne Mayor, Murat Şenkul, to hand over Bandabuliyaya to women's cooperatives upon his taking office, with work starting rapidly. Pointing out that women were involved in every aspect of the one-year preparation process, Kişi noted that the project was carried out entirely on a voluntary basis, and now it has reached the construction phase. Kişi added that with the implementation of the project, Girne would gain in many respects, including that the project would bring significant benefits both in terms of tourism and social life.

İçim Çağınır

Noting that the Entrepreneurial Women's Development Cooperative Ltd., established three years ago, has aimed to restore Bandabuliyaya with women's labour and for women to operate it, President İçim Çağınır reminded that they were able to achieve this goal with the election of Girne Mayor Murat Şenkul. Adding that as the Entrepreneurial Women's Development Cooperative, they operate with 150 women from east to west of Cyprus, Çağınır stated that they walk the path of women's development for the country's development. Continuing her speech by reminding that she herself grew up in Girne, Çağınır emphasized that Bandabuliyaya has always been a historical place where people gather and socialize with each other. Expressing their happiness at the revival of this historical building, which has been closed for many

years, Çağınır pointed out its importance for the country's economy and tourism. Çağınır added that Cyprus has a rich gastronomy and reiterated their belief that the project would also fill a significant gap by introducing national flavors to tourists. Çağınır concluded her words by reminding that everyone's support is needed for the realization of the project and called on those who want to contribute to reach out to them.

Şenkul: The Ancient Harbour Regains Its Old Face

Commenting that Bandabuliyaya has a long history and that it is their duty to revive this history, Girne Mayor Murat Şenkul emphasized that the journey undertaken in this regard is a very important one. Şenkul, who mentioned a few main headings that excite him about Girne, emphasized that one of them is Bandabuliyaya. Şenkul stated that the restoration and infrastructure works of the back streets of the Ancient Harbour are about to be completed, the renovation works of the Kordonboyu have also started, and with the revival of Bandabuliyaya, the harbour will regain its old face. Saying "It is time to regain the values we miss," Şenkul indicated that this is the main priority for him and all participants. Finally, Şenkul called for everyone's support for the project.

Source (Turkish):

Girne Municipality



20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

“Burda Olmaz” Played to a Full House

Barbaros Şansal’s one-man show “Burda Olmaz,” which was performed at the Girne Municipality Chamber Theatre Building on March 9-10, attracted great attention. Tailor Yamağı, who criticized the current affairs of both Turkey and Northern Cyprus with his sharp tongue and references, received full marks from the audience.

hours, had an unusual interactive format that included the audience. All proceeds from the play were donated to the Şampiyon Melekleri Yaşatma Derneği (Champion Angels Association).

Source (Turkish):

Girne Municipality

The play, which lasted for about 2



Pearls of Wisdom and Food for Thought No. 6 – Dogs

Reader mail....

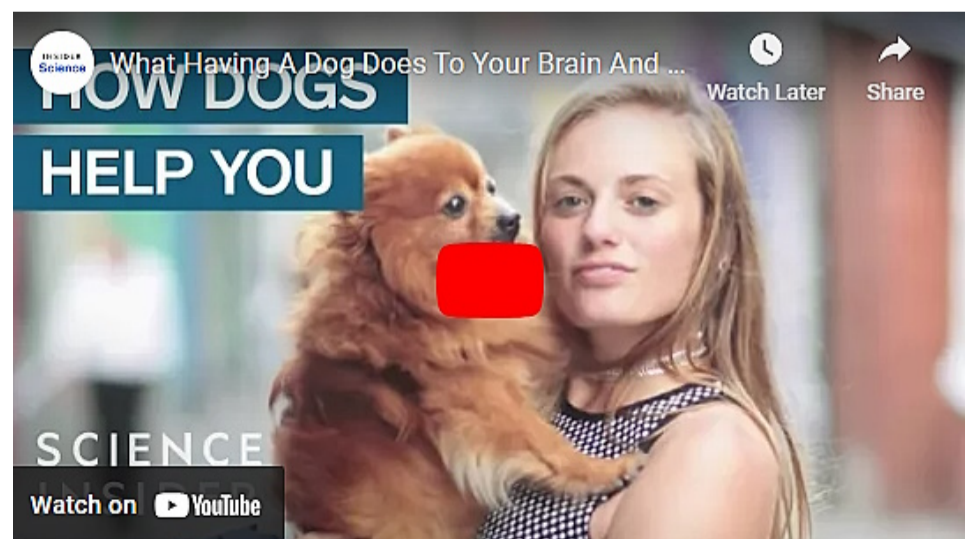
Pondering Traveller...

Today's thoughts are something that all dog lovers already know; but borne out by scientific studies into human brain activity...

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Watch this video to find out more:



Click the link below to play the video

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20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

Cypriot Lacing, a disappearing skill



Looking back in CyprusScene at the Cyprus Art of Lacing.

By Ismail Veli on 12th October 2015.

Cyprus is famous for its Sun, beaches and history. But the name of Cyprus is also synonymous with its legendary Lefkara lacing.

Lefkara is only a part of this unique talent however. I doubt we could get into a time machine, visit every village on the island 60 years ago, and find a single place where lacing did not exist. For many, lacing was a means of earning a little extra income. Lefkara was the Queen of lacing, but the other 650 villages in Cyprus were its princesses. Lacing may not be unique to Cyprus, but mention the name and many travelers and historians look to Cyprus as the island of lacing. Its tradition and quality has a place in people's hearts.

Lefkara lace

What about the history however? Lefkara lace derives its name from the name of the village of Lefkara. Other places like Kato Drys, Athienou, Kornos, and Skarinou are well known for what the locals call Lefkaritika. The lacework with its amazingly fine and intricate patterns originated from a local style embroidery called "asproploumia" (white embroidery). In the old days when money was scarce this would also be used as a dowry. During Venetian rule Lefkara was a summer retreat of the ruling Venetian families. The Venetian ladies took their embroidery to the village in order to pass the time. With little else to do this fascinated the local women so much that they took on lacing as a pastime. The silk production on the island was at an advanced level, therefore using this amazing material was ideal for work of such delicate nature. Many women would gather around in small groups for endless

hours producing lace of extremely advanced quality. It could often take weeks or maybe even months to complete one item.

The immense range of patterns and motifs date to the Venetian period. But lacing predates the Venetian period in Cyprus. French convents, the Apennines, Spain, Belgium, Germany, Italy and many places were well known for their unique form of lacing. No doubt many countries try to claim the honor of being the birthplace of lacing. I doubt even historians can pinpoint with any degree of accuracy as to where lacing originated from. A lace originating from Egypt, during Roman rule has however survived which proves that this amazing talent existed thousands of years ago.

Medieval times

In medieval times Venice was a major trading power with contacts all over the Western world and beyond. Lacing was established and popular during the 15th and 16th centuries. It was in Venice that the first known lace book named "Le Pompe" was published in the 1550's. The book had a multitude style of patterns, and advice for women on how to lace. Venice was at the time spreading its unique knowledge of lace. In the 1600's England, Spain and France and other centers in Europe were

producing immense quantities of good quality lace. As women were skilled in textiles their adoption of lacing seem to have become popular. The nobility in particular sought good lace-makers for their women. Refugees and immigrants who moved to different countries helped spread this skill even further. Good quality lace-makers were therefore popular with royal families.

As Cyprus was under Lusignan rule during the 15th century, it was natural that the Latins would bring this form of skill to the island. James II of Cyprus of the house Queen, Catherine Cornaro of Lusignan became King in 1468. His



Continued on page 11 >>>>



Cyprus and the ancient art of Lefkara lacing

20th March 2024 to 28th March 2024

continuedCypriot Lacing, a disappearing skill

decision to choose Catherine Cornaro as his wife and queen was to change the course of history. Only 14 at the time Cornaro was part of the Venetian nobility. This marriage in effect secured Venice major trading privileges in Cyprus. Venice eventually took control in 1489, and with this their influence and culture became more established on the island.

It was during this period that lacing in Cyprus became a firmly established tradition. Cypriots inherited this skill but turned it into their own unique style of which, as mentioned, Lefkara lacing became the most famous. Other styles of lacing however are also very popular. The first half of the 20th century, but in particular the middle part saw the steady growth of tourism in Cyprus. To satisfy tourists

desire for these beautiful handmade laces many traders often travelled to villages in order to seek out women who were skillful and dedicated enough to spend hours on end each day to produce infinite styles and patterns that tourists would buy as souvenirs or gifts for their families and friends.

My Family and lace making

My mother was one of these. With 3 children to feed and my father needing a life saving operation in the UK in 1957 she used this unique skill to earn whatever she could to ensure her children had food on the table and whatever clothing could be afforded. Not that the family did not help. However she was too proud to sit idle and live on handouts. Within a short period of time she was also helping to create patterns, and

designs for her friends and neighbors who admired her immense dedication and hard work. She trained many other women in how to lace successfully. Though in the UK since 1962, she never gave up lacing and continued to lace as a hobby, creating endless laces for all her children and grandchildren. At the age of 80 she finds it difficult to lace as she used to, therefore she has turned to knitting instead. Her sister, (aunt Emine) is skilled at Lefkara lacing, and just like my mother devotes much of her time to this amazing skill as a hobby

Present days sales of lacing are mostly cheap imported and machine produced items. No doubt the cost of buying handmade lace in this day and age is immense. For some like my family who are fortunate enough to have inherited an immense number

of original laces made by a dedicated mother, we no doubt consider ourselves lucky. The number of women capable of traditional Cypriot lace may be on the wane, but I doubt this unique skill will ever be forgotten in the hearts of Cypriots who will carry this tradition with great pride to future generations who will be less fortunate, and may not truly appreciate the immense skill, hard work and ceaseless dedication that has helped to put Cyprus on the map. After all not many places can boast that Leonardo De Vinci one of the greatest artists in world history preferred to buy his lacing from Cyprus. Exaggerated or not, this story has remained part of our proud heritage for centuries. And so it should.



Pictures of my mother and our family and you can see me as the youngest child.



Examples of Cyprus Lace

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Lefkosa 228 3311
Gazi Mağusa 366 5310
Guzelyurt 714 2140
Lapta 821 8512

HOSPITAL

Girne 8152266/815 2254
Lefkoşa 228 5441;
Gazi Mağusa 3662876/3665328
Güzelyurt 714 2125

ELECTRICITY

Electrical faults **188**
Lefkoşa 225 3436
Girne 815 2223
Gazi Mağusa 366 5514
Güzelyurt 714 2122

FIRE

Emergencies **199**
Forest Fire **177**
Girne 815 2111
Lefkosa 227 1259
Gazi Mağusa 366 5389
Guzelyurt 714 2200

WATER









Water problems:
Lefkoşa 228 3315
Girne 815 2118
Gazi Mağusa 366 4483
Güzelyurt 714 3516

AMBULANCE

Emergencies **112**

8-day Weather Forecast

22nd March to 29th March 2024

Fri 22nd  18° 6°	Sat 23rd  18° 7°	Sun 24th  19° 6°	Mon 25th  21° 7°
Tue 26th  24° 10°	Wed 27th  25° 11°	Thu 28th  25° 10°	Fri 29th  25° 10°

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SUPER EFE GOAL - GIVES ESENTEPE A LIFT

Result: BAF ÜLKÜ YIRDU 0 ESENTEPE KKS 1

By Richard Beale....

A superbly struck goal in the 25th minute from Turkish Forward EFE ÇOPUR was enough for Esentepe to take all 3 points and give them a morale boosting victory.

Saturday March 9, 2024 ; AKSA League 1 ; Güzelyurt Üner Berkalp Stadium.

Weather : Sunny with a slight breeze.

Baf Ülkü Yurdu (BUY) may be bottom of the League but they are still battling and scrapping away for their survival, this was no formality but in the end one moment of class was the difference between the teams.

EFE ÇOPUR glorious strike from just outside the box in the 25th minute, flew past goalkeeper Yusuf lit up an uneventful contest.

League 1 this season is a strange affair forget Miracle Değirmenlik the "Champions elect" who with rich sponsors have brought themselves success there is not a lot of difference between the remaining 15 teams. The margins between winning and losing are small, BUY are a young team with some talented players what they are missing is a couple of "old heads" to steady them and a forward to finish their approach work.

Esentepe also fielded a young team DİNÇER KARAL and MEHMET ADA are both 16 years old, SALİH KARAL (19), Goalkeeper OSMAN ERDOĞAN, MUSTAFA SOYTÜRK, DEVRAN GÜNEŞ and SEMİH ARSLAN all (20,) but they have experience players to help yesterday notably İLYAS (34),

OĞUZ, TUĞRA, and DENİZ (28), that was the difference.

Both sides approach work was good but also both sides defences were good as well, meaning that chances were few and far between, goalkeepers Osman and Yusuf having very little to do.

The Üner Berkalp Stadium traditionally is not a happy hunting ground for Esentepe a large stadium (capacity 7000), large playing area, a sunny day and a lack of atmosphere inside has normally been the ingredients that have led to their downfall in the past.

There must have been barely a 100 people in attendance, take away the U21 teams from both sides and maybe barely 70 paying customers, indeed think there was more Police on duty than spectators and surprisingly their services were not called upon.

Apart from EFE goal the only other highlights of the match came in the last 5 minutes. In the 90th minute Onur crossed to the far post for BUY, Mehmet Even returned the ball to Hasan Kaşıkara to stoop down but headed straight at goalkeeper Osman from a great position.

In the 95th minute Burak Tümkən who came on as a 56th minute replacement and worked hard for the team, set up Tuğra from outside the box to hit a low shot that struck the BUY right hand post.

For BUY I was impressed by YUSUF YILDIZ (meaning star !), who showed some good touches on the right and in midfield Ali Kemal Kaya was often the architect behind most of their moves.



EFE superb shot flies past goalkeeper YUSUF

For Esentepe DEVRAN GÜNEŞ and OĞUZ GÖKTAŞ formed a strong defensive barrier, EFE ÇOPUR and DENİZ KIBAR both worked hard upfront.

3 valuable points for Esentepe, keeps them in contention, 1 automatic play-off place left to play for and 1 place via the play offs with 7 teams in possible contention, everything to play for.

BUY 11 points adrift from a relegation play off place looked doomed but with 24 points to play for there still is a remote chance, they certainly aren't the worse team in the League.

ESENTEPE TEAM: Osman (gk) ; Mustafa, DEVRAN, Oğuz, Mehmet Ada : Tuğra : Salih (Nersin 80), Dinçer (Emre 46), İlyas (c) (Burak Tümkən 56), ; Efe (Semih 88), Deniz.

Replacements not used: Ulaş (gk), Okan, Burak Karabacak

BUY TEAM: Yusuf (gk), Ibrahim, Mustafa, YUSUF YILDIZ, Ali Kemal (Onur 85), Ahmet (Osman



Goal scorer EFE ÇOPUR great goal but also worked hard upfront

58), Ali Kerim, Mehmet (Mustafa Gardıyanoğlu 58) Emre, Halil (Osman 58) Hasan.

Yellow cards: Mustafa Çağlar, Ahmet Kılıç. (BUY). Mustafa, Tuğra, Mehmet Ada, Devran, (Esentepe).

Referee: Burak Mandıralı - excellent early on playing the advantage but a little frantic in the end handing out yellow cards.

ESENTEPE MOVE BACK INTO SECOND PLACE

Results: : ESENTEPE KSK 1 LAPTA TBSK 0

By Richard Beale....

The final score was 1-0, was it a boring game ?, not on your Nelly a thoroughly absorbing match, played at a very high tempo, with no quarter given and none asked for and more importantly the game was played in good spirits between the two teams.

Saturday March 16 : 2024: AKSA League 1 : Esentepe Erdal Barut Stadium.

Weather : Sunny intervals, cloudy at times with the odd spot of rain.

With Çanakkale losing, Gönyeli being held to a draw, Esentepe took full advantage moving back into second place, a spot they held at the end of the year.

A largish crowd including number of ex pats were thoroughly entertained in a match you could not take your eyes off it for a minute. Though there were very few goal chances both teams gave it everything.

Lapta maybe a mid-table team but they are very awkward opponents, boasting 3 very tall players defenders Ahmet Sezer, Necip both should be basketball players ! And upfront the powerful Barış had a bruising encounter with the much shorter Esentepe defenders Devran and Oğuz. Esentepe defence stood firm especially in the final 5 minutes and injury time where Lapta chucked everything at them including the kitchen sink but they held out and gained 3 vital - important points.

Esentepe had the better of what few chances there were with Osman in the home goal having very little to

do, except for the odd cross such as the dominance, solidarity of his defence in front of him.

Emek and Mustafa, Esentepe full backs were constantly up to support their attack, trying to prise Lapta's tall defenders out of position. İlyas Esentepe very experienced midfielder had a good match player in a defensive role for the suspended Tuğra. In defence Oğuz was very strong facing the powerful Barış.

14th mins: Lapta's best chance of the match resulted a rare mix up between Oğuz and Devran allowing Barış to get to the left hand byline before putting in a cross finding ex Esentepe player Ahmet Çağır who blasted a shot over the bar from a great position.

15 mins: Esentepe immediately replied with a Emre shot that brought the Lapta goalkeeper Hakan to his knees with a low shot.

19 mins: After Hakan had handled the ball outside his box, Emek short free kick set up Deniz who's shot just wide of the left hand post.

An even first half played at a tremendous pace well refereed by Abdullah Genç who liked to keep the match flowing.

HALF TIME SCORE: 0-0

52 mins: Efe on the left refused to give up a lost cause, winning the ball back to Emre who crossed to the far post, where Ege Can got in a spectacular hook shot who brought an equally good save from goalkeeper Hakan.

63 min: Esentepe scored the only goal of the match and it was down to



EGE CAN (hidden) puts the final touches 1-0

the experience and persistence of striker Deniz Kıbar. Deniz looked likely to lose the ball to the very tall Ahmet Sezer, but much smaller in status he barged the Lapta defender out of way who went down in a heap, got to the left hand byline, went across saw his shot blocked by goalkeeper Hakan and rebounding to an unmarked EGE CAN AÇIKPORTALI who bundled the ball in. **1-0.**

A foul on Ahmet Sezer? - maybe some refs would have blown up but Abdullah consistency liked to keep the match flowing.

The match remained very open, Esentepe needing that game securing second goal and of course Lapta wanting a equalising goal.

Lapta were winning several corners pushing 9 men into the box as they fought to break down Esentepe stubborn defence.

90 +5 mins; With the last kick of the game Barış at last found space at the far post, rising high to meet a



Selçuk corner but goalkeeper Osman was equal to it clutching the ball out of the air.

FULL TIME SCORE : 1-0

SUMMING UP: A absolutely vital win, before this match Esentepe have 5 home games left and 3 away, they must take full advantage of their home matches and they did in this match and it was a tough/difficult game but Esentepe sit in second place 2 points ahead of Gönyeli. Next Sundays match away to Gönyeli is going to be a 6 pointer !.