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## CONTROVERSY ON "COUNTER-GUERILLA" ORGANISATION

ANKARA (ITA) - The status of the "Counter-Guerilla" Organization within the Turkish Armed Forces has turned the main topics of the day in Turkey.

The "Counter-Guerilla" is a secret organization reportedly formed against "subversive terrorist acts", becoming particularly infamous after March 12th military intervention for torturing political prisoners, agitating anarchy in the country.

The organization was recently brought to attention by Republican People's Party (CHP) Senator Niyazi Ünsal and Deputy Süleyman Genç, who claimed that "Counter-Guerilla" center had been established on the suggestion of the CIA by an army general as an anti-thesis to the growing left movement in the country. They claimed that the organization has supplied arms to terrorist groups such as the "Gray Wolves", para-military troops of neo-fascist Nationalist Action Party (MHP), provoked them into action and continues to do so.

All democratic organizations of Turkey asked Ecevit's Government to dissolve this illegal organization and to ask the account for its all activities such as torturing, provoking bloody incidents and supporting fascist groups.

Former Prime Minister Demirel, actually leader of the principal opposition party, Justice Party (AP), tries to exploit the controversy with the purpose of provoking the Army against the new government and left forces. Reminding that Ecevit too had included the claims about counter-guerilla organization in the CHP's electoral platform, Demirel said Ecevit should either refute his former statements and allegations involving the Armed Forces in claims of political assassinations or come forth with definite proof backing his position.

As a matter of fact, since the latest general elections, Ecevit has seemed to forget his earlier statements and even he did not say anything in the government programme about the illegal activities of the Counter-guerilla organization.

But after the controversy started on the subject, Prime Minister Ecevit was obliged to talk and, instead of insisting on his earlier claims, asked that this debate be halted.

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At a news conference on February 4, 1978, Ecevit refuting his earlier statements denied the existence of a counter-guerilla organization run by the State and claimed that his earlier allegations were not definite claims, but some suppositions.

"According to my investigations there is no official counter-guerilla organization established in the State," Prime Minister said, "we must all be respectful towards the Turkish Armed Forces and help them for the realization of their desire to remain out of politics."

Notwithstanding Ecevit tried to avoid more debate on the issue, Demirel continued to provoke the Armed Forces by claiming that these attacks aimed at the Armed Forces as a whole and Prime Minister should take a firm stand against the allegations of left circles.

On the other hand, in Parliament, Ex-general Faik Türlü, infamous martial law commander of the past and actually Justice Party deputy, claimed that, with these charges against the Counter-Guerilla Organization, the Left started a total war against the Armed Forces and went on to provoke the Army by reminding the fate of Allende, assassinated President of Chile.

Thereupon Prime Minister Ecevit held another press conference and repeated that the Army should not be spoiled and drawn into politics.

"Demirel wishes to draw the present government into dark debates of the time when he was in power," said Ecevit; "Since he realizes he will never come to power again, he now even considers of destroying the regime."

However, this attitude of Ecevit satisfied neither the rightist opponents nor the Left forces who suffered too much from the arbitrary detentions, torture practices and provocations of the Counter-Guerilla Organization. According to the letters, it may be reasonable to halt the controversy with the purpose of avoiding any provocation such as was in Chile, but unless the new government dissolves this infamous organization within the Armed Forces, it will continue to provoke bloody incidents and even try to overthrow the actual government if it takes some precautions unpleasant for the United States and the big bourgeoisie. (C-DC-DN-7/2)

#### POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS GO ON AT THE SAME RATE

ANKARA (ITA) - Despite the measures taken by the new government, the bloody incidents provoked by the "Gray Wolves", para-military commando units of neo-fascist Nationalist Action Party (MHP) still go on all over Turkey.

Prime Minister Ecevit said that the Inter-ministerial Council on Internal Security has determined certain precautions to be implemented in order to curb anarchy, which will be put in practice step by step.

Ecevit disclosed that both in schools and all public institutions, administrators at all levels will be requested to exert their full authority to prevent possession and use of arms, involvement in acts that may endanger security of life and freedom of education, discrimination among citizens or students. He said the administrators that fail to or do not implement the law, or neglect their duties or overlook violations of laws, will be taken from duty and if necessary, legal proceedings will be launched against them.

The anti-terrorist measures are being applied by Interior Minister Ex-general İrfan Üyükdül, who was a martial law commander during the period of military repression between 1971 and 1973.

Notwithstanding many governors and administrators were dismissed or replaced and some members of the "Gray Wolves" were arrested, the terror campaign of this para-military organization could not be halted within two months.

For example, protesting the mass arrestation of their fellows and the decision to close the training schools which had turned the bases of "Gray Wolves", on January 29, 1978, thousands of rightist students, indiscriminately hurling explosives in the air, terrorized residents of Ankara for several hours. "Gray Wolves" threw dynamite sticks and fire-crackers in heavily populated areas of the city and shouted: "Killer Government! Down with Communists! Long live Nationalists!"

Within one month from 16th January to 10th February 1978, 35 persons were assassinated for political motives. So, total number of the victims of the incidents happened after the formation of Ecevit's government reached 53. The political assassinations of one month are below:

- JAN 16: In Gaziantep, Nihat Kaymakel is shot dead by the police.
- JAN 17: In the district of Oğuzeli of Gaziantep province, Kemal Özşönmez, Judge of Criminal Court, and worker Halil Boşnak are shot dead during armed raid on the judge's office.  
In Istanbul, Necip Bulut, member of Republican People's Party (CHP), is shot dead by "Gray Wolves".  
In Istanbul, student İsmail Güzel is ambushed and shot dead.  
In Bingöl, worker İdris Ekinci is shot dead.
- JAN 19: In Konya, a group of Commerce School students were attacked by a rival political group, Şahin Buyrukbilen and Uğur Selvi are shot dead and ten students wounded.  
In Kahramanmaraş, Training School student Mustafa Kahraman, member of "Gray Wolves" organization, is wounded as a result of early explosion of a bomb he produced himself and dies in hospital.  
In Niğde, student İsmet Emel is shot dead during an armed conflict.  
In Ankara, student Levent Yıldız is shot dead by "Gray Wolves".
- JAN 21: In Aydın, student Adnan Ork is stabbed dead by unidentified persons.
- JAN 22: In Malatya, porter Mustafa Bal and worker Haydar Ceritli are shot dead during a raid on a coffee-house.
- JAN 23: In Eskişehir, student Erdem Hepgüler is shot dead during an armed conflict at the Chemistry Engineering School.
- JAN 24: In Kars, "Gray Wolves" raid on the Institute of Artisans and stab to death teacher Talat Temel.
- JAN 26: In Malatya, Engineer Erhan Bitlisli is shot dead by "Gray Wolves".  
In İzmir, student Mustafa San is found shot to death.  
In Istanbul, trade-union representative Hayati Dağaslan is shot dead.
- JAN 27: Famous movie star Uğur Güçlü is shot dead in the street in Istanbul.  
In Istanbul, student Sait Ulusoy is shot dead by "Gray Wolves".  
In the district of Siverek of Urfa province, two policemen, Hacı Osman Doğan and Hüseyin Ergin, are shot dead by masked persons.  
In Samsun, Training Institute student Canay Ünal is shot dead at his home.
- FEB 3: Student İbrahim Bozkurt who was gravely wounded 3 days earlier by "Gray Wolves" dies in a hospital.
- FEB 4: "Warriors", para-military unit of religious National Salvation Party (MSP), kill policeman Özkaya Erçelik who tried to prevent them putting party posters on walls.
- FEB 5: Worker Ali Şahin, member of General Workers' Trade Union and candidate of Workers' Party of Turkey (TİP) for provincial elections, is found hanged in front of the house of former mayor of Ankara city.
- FEB 6: In Elazığ, university student Rahmi Şahin is shot dead by unidentified persons.
- FEB 7: In the district of Sarıgöl of Manisa province, a coffee-house is raided by an armed group and Mahmut Bozkurt is shot dead.
- FEB 8: In Ayseri, taxi driver Emin Akmermer is kidnapped and shot dead by a rightist group.  
In İzmir, during a hold-up, bank client Abdülaziz Akbay is shot dead as a result of exchange of fire between the robbers and the police.  
In Mardin, during an armed raid on a coffee-house, Seyh Davit Asker, Mehmet Yılmaz and Sükrü Anak are shot dead.
- FEB 10: Student Sait Sevoan is shot dead in Gaziantep.

#### TRIALS AND IMPRISONMENTS OF INTELLECTUALS CONTINUE

ISTANBUL (ITA) - Trials of intellectuals, despite the change of government, still goes on in Turkey.

Recently, Mr. Galip Sırlıoğlu was tried before the Criminal Court of Istanbul for "having published a book entitled What They Said on Revolution?" ./.

On the other hand, hundreds of political detainees are still kept in prisons. 49 political prisoners were recently transferred from Istanbul to the prisons of other cities. They are accused of "having organised an uprising in Istanbul prison".

The youth leaders who had been condemned to life-prison during the 1971-1973 military rule too are still in prisons. They had not been included in the general amnesty granted in 1974.

The President of Turkish Journalists' Trade Union demanded a new amnesty for all political prisoners in Turkey. (C-V-M-DN-DG-10/2)

#### LARGEST WORKERS STRIKE IN TURKEY ENDED

ISTANBUL (ITA) - The largest workers strike in the metal works sector in Turkey ended with an agreement between the Metal Workers' Union (Maden İş) and Union of Metal Works Industry Employers (MESS).

Because of this 8-month dispute, 11,000 workers from 28 factories were at strike, and 14 factories were lock-out, thus leading production in this field of industry go dead.

The reason of this dispute was far beyond an ordinary wage raising demand.

The Metal Workers' Union (Maden-İş) is the strongest workers union in this sector. In addition to this, it is affiliated to the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions (DISK).

Annoyed by increasing influence of the progressive trade unions, Turkey's big capitalists such as Vehbi Koç stated that they would like to see tripartite collective bargaining introduced, with single agreement covering whole metal works sector. But the Maden-İş refused this proposal and pushed all affiliated workers to strike. The principal slogan of the trade union was "We are going to smash the MESS (Union of Metal Works Industry Employers)!"

However, at the end of 8-month strike, workers' union leaders were obliged to accept the representation of the MESS and signed a collective agreement covering workers at 63 factories and premises.

Although the Maden-İş Chairman Kemal Türkler claimed that they won a victory over employers by obtaining some wage raisings, it seems so that the employers gained more advantages by forcing the workers' union to accept the Union of Metal Works Industry Employers (MESS) as the sole interlocutor. In fact, this is a strategical gain for the employers.

On the other hand, according to Aziz Nesin, world known socialist writer and Chairman of Turkish Writers' Trade Union (TYS), another gain of the employers is the fact that they could liquidate their enormous stocks thanks to this 8-month strike which was not well planned by the Metal Workers' Union (Maden-İş). Starting from this argument, Aziz Nesin, who had been one of the few socialist intellectuals fighting for the cause of the working class of Turkey during the darkest days of fascist repression, accused Kemal Türkler and his team of having served the interests of employers.

After their dismissals from the administration of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions (DISK), these accusations have created a new controversy on the attitudes and policies of the Metal Workers' Union leaders. (For the manipulations within the DISK, See: BULLETIN, January 1978). (V-C-DG-8/2)

#### PRO-WESTERN FOREIGN POLICY OF ECEVIT'S GOVERNMENT

ANKARA (ITA) - In a policy statement to the Parliamentary Budget Committee, new Foreign Minister Gündüz Ökçün defined the principles of the foreign policy of the new government as follows:

TURKEY AND NATO: "Our government regards Turkey's membership in NATO in the framework of the balance between the East and the West and the detente. With its special and sensitive geopolitical situation Turkey is a very important element of the balance. Thus, Turkey shoulders an important but difficult responsibility

with its membership in the alliance under today's conditions. It is necessary for Turkey to be shown the necessary understanding and support from its allies and friends in order to carry that serious responsibility. In other words, the extent and effectiveness of Turkey's contribution to stability in our region will be linked to the understanding, political and financial support we will receive. Turkey cannot be expected to take measures which will endanger its economic development."

**TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES:** "Our relations with the USA which have been stagnant in the last three years have not only affected our ties with Americans adversely but has also left our national security, even our economy facing adverse conditions. We took up Turkish-American relations with priority after coming to power inviting Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to Ankara, telling him that we attribute great importance to improving our ties and pointed out certain matters for a healthy correction of the problems between us."

**TURKEY AND THE EEC:** "Measures will be taken to revive our frozen relations with the EEC in a way compatible with the requirements of our economy and industrialization, keeping our national interests in view. In that framework, we will follow the purpose of re-arranging the agreements between us, not only by giving flexibility to the texts, but by eliminating them as sources of complaints, in a form which will function in the interests of the sides, will answer the changing economic and political needs of the day, will increase the freedom of movement of our country and give them a healthy make-up."

**TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS:** "The most important question in our relations with Greece is the Aegean. Turkey has national rights in the Aegean Sea. We will attribute great importance to the issue of our vital national rights in that sea. This question and the air field issue over the Aegean can be solved through bonafide, constructive negotiations."

**CYPRUS PROBLEM:** "A bi-sonal, bi-communal, independent, non aligned federal solution in Cyprus will serve the interests of Greece and Turkey as well as establishing peace on the island. Within the 3,5 years that have passed since 1974, Turks in the south have been moved as the Greeks in the north have been transferred to the south. Therefore, a displacement of one third of the citizens of the federal republic to be formed, making them refugees in their own land is out of question since it will not contribute to the success of the new federal republic."

**SOCIALIST COUNTRIES:** "In the scope of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation we believe that a cooperation and rapprochement to be realized in the Balkans will make important contribution to detente in Europe. With the USSR, our friendly and good neighbourly relations will be conducted in a framework of mutual respect, benefits and independence."

**ARAB COUNTRIES AND THE MIDDLE EAST:** We are determined in principle, to elevate our relations with all Arab countries to the highest level without discrimination. We will spend efforts to develop the necessary legal framework for cooperation with all regional countries in the fields of economy, commerce, technology, energy, workpower, culture, tourism, transport, agriculture and financial. We also emphasise the possible contributions of Islamic summit conference to developing our relations with Islamic and Arabian countries. For a peace, the Palestine people have to be recognized their national and legal rights, including the right to form their own state."

**ECONOMIC ORDER:** The existing economic order in the world today does not answer the needs of countries, particularly on the path of development and the world chases a healthier and just new economic order. Since we believe that leadership in such a search lies with the developing countries, we will carry out whatever duties that befall us."

As seen above, the new Turkish government principally has adopted a pro-western policy. For example, Turkey's commitment to NATO was affirmed more clearly by Prime Minister Ecevit at his press conference on January 22, 1978:

"Turkey is situated in such a geopolitical position that she simply cannot afford to suspend its security arrangement for too long. But in spite of this we have never even indicated that we wanted to withdraw from NATO or from the military wing of NATO, we would not use blackmail. If NATO still has a function to perform as a component of the delicate balance on which detente is based we would be willing to contribute to the extent of our means." ./. .

Taking into consideration this loyalty to NATO, the Carter administration intends to ask Congress, probably in March, to act on a 1-billion dollar military aid programme for Turkey that has been stalled in Congress for almost two years.

Another further development of this pro-NATO attitude is that Ecevit's government will allow reopening of about 24 US military bases in Turkey that Demirel's Government closed in retaliation for an arms embargo imposed by Congress in 1975. Those installations are used primarily as electronic eavesdropping posts on the Soviet Union and their shutdown, officials claim, has resulted in a loss of information useful in arms limitation negotiations with the Soviet Union.

(C-DN-DG4/2)

#### ECEVIT'S GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED BY EUROPEAN SOCIAL-DEMOCRATS

ANKARA (ITA) - As Ecevit's government was being congratulated firstly by US President Carter and British Prime Minister Callaghan, European social democrats have launched a vast campaign in order to help Turkish social democrat government.

Norwegian Social-Democrat leader and Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund who visited Turkey in February called on western European social-democrats to support and help the Ecevit's Government to overcome Turkey's internal and external problems.

Earlier, at a meeting in Strasbourg of the Council of Europe Socialist Parliament Group, Mr. Frydenlund said that the latest entry into the group was in the Mediterranean with social-democrat Bülent Ecevit forming a government in Turkey.

The Norwegian leader stated that it is necessary for the western European socialists to support the Ecevit's Government economically and politically to overcome Turkey's problems. He added that this is the responsibility and duty of the European left.

(For the close relations between Ecevit's Republican People's Party (CHP) and Socialist International, see: BULLETIN, December 1976, November 1977).

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TURKISH SWING BETWEEN ISLAM WORLD AND EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

ANKARA (ITA) - Seeing Turkey was currently experiencing the harmful consequences of its unrealistic economic policy regarding the EEC, Turkish governments try, with the purpose of gaining over new markets for Turkish exports, to develop economic and commercial ties with islamic countries.

But the experience of last four years shows that this new orientation too has failed to give an impetus to Turkish exportation.

It becomes clear today that the association agreement between Turkey and the EEC signed in 1964 has profited only the EEC countries whose exports to Turkey increased considerably without there being a similar increase in Turkish exports:

TRADE WITH THE EEC  
(million dollars)

YEARS	EXPORT	IMPORT	DEFICIT
1973	611	1155	544
1974	717	1708	991
1975	615	2238	1723
1976	956	2342	1384

(Source: Weekly Europe Selected Statistics, No.83)

On the other hand, the statistical data released by the Association of Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen shows a growing deficit also in the Turkish foreign trade with islamic countries:

TRADE WITH ISLAMIC COUNTRIES<sup>+</sup>  
(million dollars)

YEARS	EXPORT	IMPORT	DEFICIT
1973	1179	222	43
1974	225	735	510
1975	235	844	609
1976	248	1091	845

(+) Bahrain, Qatar, Mascherone and Oman, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Kuwait, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Sudan, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Iran and Pakistan.

Despite these facts, outgoing "Nationalist Front" Government, even violating the secular principle of the Turkish State, carried on the efforts of developing organic ties with the islam world. With this purpose, the 2nd Islamic Countries Economic, Industrial and Technical Cooperation Conference was held in Ankara between 17 and 19 october 1977. A out five countries were invited to send ministers to the 3-day conference, but Libya was the only state being represented by a minister and this was interpreted as a new failure for the Turkish foreign policy.

(C-DN-M-DG-27/12)

MALARIA ON THE RISE IN TURKEY

ANKARA (ITA) - Malaria is on the rise in alarming proportions in the fertile plains of Adana and Hatay in south-east Turkey, the United Nations representation here disclosed.

The disease, once practically eradicated in Turkey, afflicted more than 100.000 persons in the Turkish provinces of Adana, İçel and Hatay. The danger might spread to other south eastern provinces.

(DN-DG-3/11)