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Two Principal Objectives of the Turkish Army's Ultimatum

SUBMISSION TO THE MILITARY PLANS OF THE USA ON TURKEY

SUPPRESSION OF THE REMNANTS OF DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS



* US logistical group

⊛ US military mission

* US listening post

① NATO Southeastern HQ

△ NATO military Installation

② NATO Northeastern HQ

▼ NATO early warning post

◆ US Air Forces Nuclear Store

⊞ US Land Forces Nuclear Store

⊞ NATO Nuclear Store

③ NATO Tactical Air Forces HQ

☂ NATO Relay station

With the conclusion of Turco-USA Defense Cooperation Accord, Turkey turned into a spring board of the United States in the Middle East. The map at the left indicates the US bases and installations to be used against the independent countries and national liberation movements of the region.

TWO PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF THE TURKISH ARMY'S ULTIMATUM

ANKARA (ITA) - When the Ultimatum of Turkish Army generals was made public on the first day of the new year, all commentators, taking into consideration the sentences concerning the political violence, interpreted it as an expression of good will and a warning in order to put an end to the terrorist acts claiming more than 2 thousand lives within few years. And some observers predicted that a military takeover will be inevitable if the political parties cannot unite to combat terrorism.

Briefly, the Ultimatum delivered by the Chief of Staff and four army commanders to the President of the Republic said: "Our nation has no more tolerance for those who abuse the extensive freedoms provided by the Constitution, who sing the anthem of communists instead of our national anthem, who would like a return to Islamic Law, who would like to replace democracy with fascism, for anarchy, destructiveness and divisions."

Another preoccupation expressed in the Ultimatum was the international situation: "The developments in our region can suddenly turn into a heated battle in the Middle East. The separatists and anarchics inside the country are rehearsing a general revolt throughout the country."

And they warned: "Providing unity and togetherness in the country, taking necessary short and long term measures in the Assemblies for providing the security of life and property of our citizens have the utmost importance in this present situation. The Armed Forces have thus decided to warn the political parties which, with their constant bickering, were unable to prevent terrorism from reaching alarming proportions which threaten the unity of the country."

Whereas, as remembered, the most populated and sensitive 19 provinces of Turkey were already under the authority of military commanders charged with preventing terrorism. Just after the bloody Kahramanmaraş incidents, the Ecevit Government had proclaimed martial law initially at 13 provinces and later extended it to 19.

Despite the existence of military order in 19 provinces, the political terror has continued without decreasing. According to the official figures, within a one-year period of martial law, 1,126 persons have lost their lives in political incidents and about 10 thousand persons wounded.

If the principal preoccupation of the army generals were the political terror, the politicians had already authorized the army to tackle the problem. But the objectives behind the Ultimatum were completely different. The army generals were pushed forward in order to put in practice the sinister plans of the USA and the dominant classes of Turkey.

Turning Turkey again into a spring board for the US

It is not a curious coincidence that the Army's Ultimatum came into scene just after the appearance of the news about the USA's plans to set up a new pro-American military alliance in Middle East with the participation of Turkey, Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia. The developments in Iran and Afghanistan were used as a pretext for reviving the defunct pact of CENTO under a different name and with new partners. The only partner of the USA which existed in the earlier and will exist in the new planned was Turkey.

The first step in the direction of setting up the new pact was to have Turkey signed the Turco-US Defense Cooperation Agreement which lays down the basic principles of bilateral defense relations and assures continuing operation of the key US bases in Turkey. (Turkey unilaterally abrogated a previous defense treaty in 1975 in retaliation for the US arms embargo and closed all US military bases except for a strategic NATO air base at Incirlik).

Although, former Premier Ecevit reopened in October 1978 four key bases when the US Congress lifted the arms ban on Turkey, a permanent status for all US and NATO bases and installations in the country has been confronted with a strong opposition of democratic forces including the left wing of the Republican People's Party of Ecevit. ./.

Just after the army's ultimatum, the representatives of the US Government rushed to Turkey and within a few days, on January 9, 1980, the Turkish Government concluded the defense cooperation agreement. The accord means that the US is guaranteed use of the 26 bases, of which the most important ones are intelligence-gathering stations at Sinop on the Black Sea coast and Diyarbakir in the East.

According to the well-informed sources, the agreement facilitated also the establishment of nuclear bases on Turkish soil.

Demirel - Ecevit Collaboration For Anti-Terror Measures

POLITICAL
ASSASSINATIONS
FROM 12/12/79
TO 18/1/1980

ISTANBUL	68
ANKARA	24
ADANA	16
IZMIR	13
HATAY	11
SAMSUN	11
GAZIANTEP	11
HANISA	10
ESKISEHIR	9
BURSA	7
URFA	6
KAYSERİ	6
KÜTAHYA	5
UŞAK	5
MALATYA	4
TOKAT	4
RIZE	4
AYDIN	3
ORDU	3
SIIRT	3
TRABZON	3
ELAZIG	2
DENİZLİ	2
MERSİN	2
KONYA	2
TUNCELİ	2
AMASYA	1
DIYARBAKIR	1
MUŞ	1
VAN	1
ZONGULDAK	1
EDİRNE	1
ADYAMAN	1
MARDİN	1
GİRESUN	1
ERZURUM	1
NİĞDE	1
ANTALYA	1
SIVAS	1
BERLIN-FRG	1
TOTAL	250

Another consequence of the Army's Ultimatum has been the approachment between the leaders of the center-left and center-right parties of Turkey on the platform of anti-terror measures.

On January 14, 1980, Republican People's Party Chairman Ecevit and Premier Süleyman Demirel met for three hours and Ecevit agreed to back the Demirel Government in its efforts to pass through amendments on the acts concerning law and order (See: BULLETIN, December 1979).

Going further, Ecevit indicated also that he would be in favour of a grand coalition between his center-left CHP and the ruling center-right AP.

As a result of this conciliatory attitude, Ecevit forced the parliamentary groups of his own party to vote in Parliament in favour of the new anti-democratic law projects. When 11 left-wing deputies of the party tried to obstruct the debates on the measures, they were given to the Party's Group Discipline Council and were handed by this council a "warning".

Nevertheless, despite the pressure of Ecevit, some anti-democratic clauses of the law projects were rejected in Parliament with the votes of democrat deputies of the Republican People's Party and the National Salvation Party.

In fact, there is no need to aggravate the laws in order to prevent the terrorism, because the police and the military have already extraordinary authorities to combat the terrorists. The real aim of these amendments is to suppress the remnants of democratic rights and liberties.

As explained in precedent Bulletins, the real planner and executor of the political violence are the Counter-Guerilla Department within the General Staff Headquarters of the Armed Forces and the Nationalist Action Party (MHP) of fascist minded colonel Alparslan Türkeş (See: Info-Türk, Massacre in Ankara, Why?, Brussels 1978)

After the ultimatum of the army generals, all efforts have been concentrated on the suppression of democratic organisations and the intimidation of progressive people.

Within a one month period between December 12, 1979 and January 18, 1980, 250 persons lost their lives in political terror and the total number of the victims rose to 2,680.

However, despite this terror and repression, the democratic forces of Turkey unite in order to fight against anti-democratic measures.

Even democratic elements within the state apparatus under the control of extreme-right parties do their best for unmasking the real planners of the political terror. ./.

NOTE: From now on, only the figures of the political assassinations take place in the Bulletin. Our readers can ask the detail and the list of the names of the victims whenever they need, by writing to our Brussels office.

The new chief prosecutor of the Republic Fahrettin Kiyak stated on December 22, 1979 that his office initiated a comprehensive investigation about the activities of the Nationalist Action Party and some other political parties.

According to the Political Parties Act, only the chief prosecutor has the authority to proceed for banning any political party for involving in political terrorism and the Court of Constitution can decide on the file of this proceeding.

The former chief prosecutor, known as a sympathiser of the Türkeş's party, had always escaped handling the files about the NHP by using some games of procedure. (C-M-H-DN-DG-17/1)

TEACHER-HUNTING CONTINUES IN TURKEY

ANKARA (ITA) - The teacher-hunting launched by the government and military authorities is being carried on everywhere in Turkey. As the police and martial law forces arrest all teachers suspected to participate in the protest actions on the first anniversary of the bloody Kahramanmaraş incidents, the Ministry of National Education has dismissed 4,817 teachers for the same accusation until January 15, 1980. The number of the teachers who were subjected to investigation has reached 14.132 and about a thousand of them are still under custody.

The seat and all branches of the Association of Teachers (TÖB-DER) were already closed down by the martial law authorities. (C-M-H-DN-DG-16/1)

"FÜHRER" SELÇUK KARTALI DERNEĞİNİ ANLATTI



NAZI-STYLE TRAINING CAMP OF THE TURKISH FASCISTS

The Turkish press made public new documents on the military training camps of the Nationalist Action Party (MHP). A section of the "Grey Wolves", militants of this neo-fascist party of Ex-colonel Türkeş, founded in 1970 two side-organizations: "Association for Fighting Zionism" and "Association of Seljukian Eagles". The youths recruited to these organizations were trained at military camps near Izmir. At training, they were obliged to wear Nazi-style uniforms and to carry armbands with symbol of four crescents resembling the Swastika of German Nazis. Later, these organizations were liquidated due to some internal conflicts and the leader of the "Seljukian Eagles", Gündüz Kaplanlıoğlu was expelled from the MHP.

2 yıl önce kurulan Selçuk Kartalı Derneği, Nazilerin gamalı haçına benzeyen üzeneme yaptıktan başka Hitler'in şiddet eylemlerinde kullandığı SA teşkilî üniforma biçimini de örnek almıştı. Fotoğrafta ön planda konuşma yaparken gözü Gündüz Kaplanlıoğlu 1975'de MHP İzmir il örgütü tarafından Menemen ilçesi okullarında görevlendirilmiştir. Yanında (?) Yasar Pilici ve (3) Ömer Karık

TURKEY'S TOP CAPITALIST ASKED FREEZING THE WAGES

ISTANBUL (ITA) - Being encouraged by the military's ultimatum, the capitalist circles of Turkey have started to formulate their anti-popular demands clearer than ever.

Vehbi Koc, Chairman of the Koc Holding Board of Directors, called on the Turkish leaders, on January 6, 1980, to freeze for a certain period of time all the wages, rents and profits, "to save the country from the current economic crisis".

The top capitalist of Turkey drew a gloomy picture of the Turkish economy, stated that if "a strong government takes some courageous decision regarding both the law and order and the economic problems", the country could be brought out of the crisis. Under the current conditions when "the future of the country is at stake," Vehbi Koc added, "wages, prices, rents and profits must be frozen for a certain period of time. Let's give hand in hand and save this beautiful country from difficulties."

Koc has defied also the public sector by claiming that his holding would initiate attempts to explore petroleum and to produce cigarette. In Turkey, since the foundation of the Republic, the energy and tobacco sectors have been always under the monopoly of state economic enterprises. Koc said that the state monopolies were unable to produce sufficient amount of petroleum and cigarette and that they should be replaced by the private sector.

He urged also that the Turkish tourism sector be opened for foreign capital, with which the Koc Holding has many partnerships. (C-N-DN-DG-8/1)

TRADE UNION LEADERS ARRESTED FOR HAVING SUNG "INTERNATIONAL"

ISTANBUL (ITA) - Seven trade union leaders have been arrested by the military tribunal of Istanbul Martial Law Command, on the charge of "having made propaganda for communism" by singing the International at the opening of the 23d Congress of the Metal Workers Trade Union (Maden-İş).

The arrested trade union leaders are President of the Metal Workers Trade Union Kemal Türkler, Vice-Presidents Bahtiyar Erkul and Kemal Daysal, Secretary General Mehmet Karaca, President of Bank Employees Trade Union Metin Denizmen, Vice-President Abdurrahman Cevdet Özhasircı and a workplace representative of the Metal Workers Trade Union, Necdet Onaran.

Notwithstanding the International is sung everywhere even by the social-democrat worker leaders and politicians, it is always considered as a propaganda for communism by the Turkish rightist politicians and army commanders.

Just after the congress held 19-22 december 1979, the seven trade union leaders had already been detained by the martial law authorities on the same charge, but later the military prosecutor had freed them.

But, the army commanders, in their ultimatum given to the President of the Republic, said: "Our nation can no longer tolerate those who sing the anthem of communists instead of our national anthem."

Thereupon, on the order of the Martial Law Commander of Istanbul, the military tribunal was obliged to re-arrest the seven trade union leaders. Besides, the progressive military prosecutors and judges of Istanbul martial law tribunals were replaced by more obedient and conservative ones.

During the period of military repression between 1971-73, the editor of monthly socialist review Ant, N. Osman Saffet Arolat had been condemned to 7.5-year prison for having published the full text of the International and freed in 1975 thanks to a general amnesty granted to all political prisoners. (C-N-DN-DG-15/1)

A CALENDAR AND A BOOK CONFISCATED

ANKARA (ITA) - A calendar dedicated to the grand Turkish poet Nazim Hikmet was confiscated by the decision of the 9th Police-Court of Ankara. The judge considered one of the poems in the calendar as violation of famous fascist article 142 of the Turkish Penal Code. But on the objection of the publisher's lawyer, the higher court annulled the decision of confiscation.

On the other hand, the Turkish edition of a scientific book entitled "Republic of Turkey, 1917-74" was confiscated by the decision of the 11th Police-Court of Ankara. The judge claims that this book prepared by the Academy of Social Sciences of the USSR contained the propaganda for communism. (C-DG-12/1)

CENSORSHIP ON THE RADIO AND TV NEWS

ANKARA (ITA) - The Martial Law Command of Ankara province has imposed censorship on the news programmes of the Turkish Radio and Television. Since a certain time, many news concerning "law and order" have been censored by the army officers. The existence of such a censorship practice was confirmed also by the new Directory General of the Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT), Dogan Kasaroglu.

Protesting against this practice, the main opposition leader Bilent Ecevit expressed his fear that, if this practice continues, the people will be obliged to listen to the broadcastings of foreign radios and influenced by "alien" ideologies. (C-M-H-DG-13/1)

TURKISH WRITERS UNDER THE THREAT OF KILLING

ISTANBUL (ITA) - World famous Turkish humorist and President of the Turkish Writers' Trade Union (TYS) Aziz Nesin stated that many members of this organizations were under the threat of killing and asked the Governor of Istanbul to take necessary preventive measures.

"In the course of 65 years of my life" I have never seen such an obscure period. More than fifteen of our members are being menaced by the fascists, their names were placed in the 'black lists' arranged by the fascist organizations. Under these circumstances, defending the democracy has become identical with defending our lives." (C-M-DG-15/1)

TURKEY HAS BIGGEST WOMEN WORK FORCE

ANKARA (ITA) - Fourtyfour percent of the Turkish work force is composed of women, putting Turkey on the lead in this respect among the world countries, it was closed in a seminar titled "An approach to the woman problems in the Turkish society" which opened on January 11, 1980 in Ankara.

Prof. Dr. Nermin Abadan, Chairwoman of the Turkish Social Sciences Association, stated that this percentage included the so-called "unpaid family workers", which work in the agriculture sector.

Noting that Turkey was among the seven countries in the world which do not import their foodstuff from abroad, Prof. Unat urged that the agriculture sector should be equipped with modern technology and more importance should be put on the education of the working women. According to a research, 52.6 percent of the Turkish women have never read any newspaper. (C-DN-DG-13/1)

WHO ARE BEHIND THE ARMS AND DRUGS SMUGGLING?

ANKARA (ITA) - In a recent interview published by the Istanbul daily Cumhuriyet, former Interior Minister Hasan Fehmi Güneş disclosed that there were several "Mafia" type families in Turkey which had shared among themselves various smuggling activities.

"Some of them are involved in arms smuggling, others in contraband cigarettes and again others in drug smuggling," Güneş told the daily. Among them are also some politicians and even police chiefs. Recently, a police chief, Zahir Avcıbaşıoğlu was apprehended with 13 kilograms of heroin in Ankara. The street value of the seized heroin was estimated as 17 million dollars.

The raw material for heroin is the opium gum which is extracted from opium poppies. The gum is converted into base morphine first and then into heroin.

Turkey had to ban opium poppy cultivation in 1971 under the pressure from the United States which claimed at the time that the bulk of the heroin reaching American addicts originated from Turkish poppy fields. Turkish opium gum was then turned into base morphine and transported to Marseilles where it was processed into heroin and shipped to the United States through the now defunct "French connection".

But the claim of the United States did not reflect the reality, because 80 percent of the opium cultivation was carried out at the opium fields of the "Golden Triangle", the US-controlled areas of Indo-China. Furthermore, the poppy cultivation was one of the principal economic sources for the poor Turkish peasants. Under the pressure of the peasant masses, the Turkish Government resumed poppy cultivation in 1973, by introducing strict control measures. The foreign narcotic officials say that none of the heroin reaching the European markets now is of Turkish origin. Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, all suffering from domestic strife, have now become the major source of opium gum, they point out. The Turkish smugglers are involved as "middlemen", in carrying the drugs from these countries to the European dealers, the Turkish Narcotics Police Chief AYTEK said.

The said drugs are smuggled from Turkey to European points, particularly into Italy, by land route, either by car and more often aboard big international trucks.

The proceeds from drug smuggling are often brought back into Turkey as contraband arms, thus making a full circle of profitable smuggling activity.

A former deputy premier, Faruk Sükan said: "Boats unload their cargoes of arms at private little harbors which belong to some wealthy persons along Turkey's Mediterranean and Black Sea coasts. Contraband arms, including some very sophisticated weaponry such as rockets, enter Turkey also on big international trucks."

Recently, 66 deputies of the Republican People's Party (CHP) called for a parliamentary investigation on the issue of "drugs and arms smuggling".

Their bid said: "Enemies of democracy and our people have started to put into practice their bloody conspiracy planned under ground. Drugs and arms smuggling is one of the main factors of anarchy and terror in our country, which reached today's dimension. It has been repeatedly said, written and testified in courts that the militants, side organizations and aggressors of a political party (Nationalist Action Party of the fascist-minded ex-colonel Türkeş - ITA) who have been trained in camps are taking a significant part in the terrorist incidents. 2,000 million liras (67 million DM) worth of illegal arms have been seized within the last two years, and may be ten times more arms than this amount is now being used by enemies of democracy and people against the future of Turkey and our democracy."

FUEL SHORTAGE HITS POPULATION AND INDUSTRY OF TURKEY

ANKARA (ITA) - Millions of Turkish citizens are shivering in cold apartment buildings in major urban centers because of a severe fuel oil and diesel oil shortage.

The direct cause of the shortage is Turkey's inability to pay the necessary foreign exchange for crude oil. Last year Turkey imported two million less crude oil and petroleum products than its minimum annual need of 16 million tons.

For the months of December and January only one fourth of the necessary 2.1 million tons of oil and products could be imported, officials say.

Not only residential buildings but government offices, some hospitals and schools are without heat. The Education Ministry has announced a semester break for primary and secondary schools one week ahead of the scheduled time because of the heating problem.

The government is trying to purchase oil from Saudi Arabia on credit to ease the crisis and the public is eagerly awaiting the arrival of a tanker carrying 210 thousand tons of Iranian crude acquired on a short-term credit.

Turkey's two major oil refineries, one on the Aegean coast and another near the industrial center of Istanbul, have shut down because of the lack of crude oil to process.

The situation is exacerbated by an electricity shortage which has led to power cuts of four hours daily in most cities and towns.

As a combined result of both the fuel oil and electricity shortage Turkey's industry is operating at 25 percent capacity, business circles report. Newspapers announce daily closure of factories, from glass works to cement plants. This situation also threatens to increase unemployment which is already estimated to be 20 percent.

With fuel oil and electricity virtually ruled out as sources of heating, a rush for wood and coal has started. But these are also difficult to find because transportation from production areas to urban centers is disrupted by a shortage of diesel oil for trucks.

The price of wood has jumped to 4500 Turkish Liras (150 DM) per ton, almost double the official price in Ankara. Desperate homeowners are offering as much as 30,000 TL (1,000 DM) for one tone of fuel-oil, which is six times the official price, for small quantities offered by the blackmarketers.

Electricity cuts of up to nine hours daily were introduced in Turkey's largest city of 4.5 million, Istanbul. Elsewhere in Turkey scheduled power outages are for a minimum four hours. In Ankara, power goes off for four hours during the day and two hours in the evening.

Turkey's energy planners did not take adequate measures. Following the 1973 petroleum crisis, instead of increasing coal production and utilizing the country's large hydroelectric potential, they have preferred to rid of the storm thanks to the remittances of the Turkish workers abroad and foreign loans. But in 1977 Turkey came to the brink of bankruptcy and failed to pay its short term debts, estimated 8.500 million dollars. (DN-C-DG-15/1)

SHORTAGE OF PRINTPAPER MENACES NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHING HOUSES

ANKARA (ITA) - For the reason of the shortage of printpaper, the publishing houses of Turkey have not been able to publish new books since months. Recently, daily newspapers too, despite their privileged status concerning the distribution of printpaper, failed to obtain the usual quantity of paper and obliged to restrict their pages.

The State Paper Monopoly (SEKA) claims that national production of paper cannot answer the need of the press and that the import of paper has turned impossible because of the exchange bottleneck. Nevertheless, important part of the imported paper is sold at the black market instead of being distributed to the newspapers and publishing houses. (C-DN-DG-15/1)