

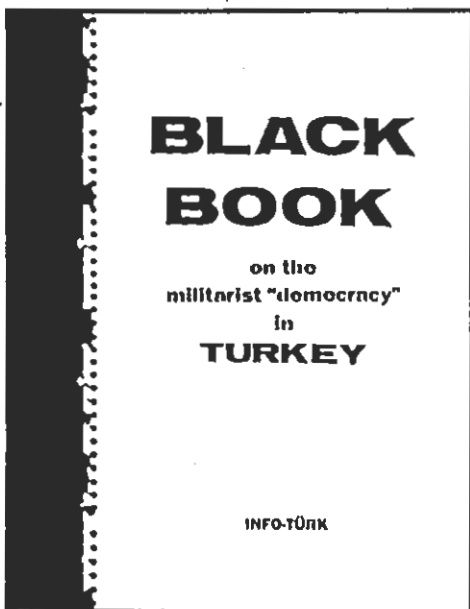


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While European institutions recoiled one after the other before the blackmail from the Ankara regime, INFO-TURK, with the aim on drawing attention once more to the hard realities of this country, has just edited a volume on the militarist "democracy" in Turkey.

Published only in English, this new document first gives a history of the political and socio-economic life of the Republic of Turkey and events leading to the 1980 coup d'état; then exposes chronologically the use of military dictatorship and the militarization of the system, and finally draws a detailed picture of the violation of human rights: political cases, endless persecution of intellectual pressure on opponents of the regime abroad, oppression of Kurds and Christians, torture and oppression of the working class.

Also the object of well documented research in this book are: the role of the Grey Wolves, the Counter-Guerilla Organisation and the United States; the IMF monetarist diktat; the creation of the military-industrial complex; external relations with the United States, socialist countries, the Third World and particularly Europe.

With 408 pages and illustrations, BLACK BOOK will be available from June, 16, 1986 at Info-Türk.

## THE CROWNING OF EUROPEAN CAPITULATION

- The Ankara regime has been granted the presidency of the Council of Europe and the OECD
- Parliamentarians of the Council of Europe will meet in Istanbul on June 30
- The Turkish government prepares to announce the request for Turkish accession to the European Community

Following a series of concessions, Europe crowned its capitulation to the Turkish regime by giving it presidency of two international organizations, one hand, and on the other, by adopting, as expected, rapporteur Steiner's "comprehensive" resolution at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

In fact, in April Turkey got hold of the revolving presidency of the Council of Ministers of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Starting from November 1986, she will have that of the Council of Europe. Furthermore, economic relations between the Ankara Government and the European Community, frozen since the 1980 coup, are being revived: an agreement on textile exchange was concluded on April 11, while negotiation for a new financial aid protocol is foreseen —despite strong Greek reservations.

The giving of the presidency of the Council of Europe, like other European actions of capitulation (See *Info-Türk* of March 1986), is in full contradiction with the previous stands taken. The Belgian socialist deputy Claude Déjardin, one of the defenders of human rights in Turkey, revealed this incoherence in a written question to the Belgian Minister of Foreign Relations in these terms:

"The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided, at its April 24 meeting, to give back to Turkey its place in the revolving presidency.

"Currently, she therefore holds the vice-presidency of the Committee of Ministers in view of succeeding the Irish presidency next November.

"Whereas, the European Commission on Human Rights must submit to the Committee of Ministers in February 1987 its report on Turkey's execution of the friendly settlement with regard to human rights there and this, following the withdrawal last year of the complaint previously lodged by five countries.

"Nevertheless, although there has been positive development in the situation for two years, anxieties remain legitimate because of: the promulgation in 1985 of the law on the police which gives the latter discretionary powers; the continuation of mass trials and trials of opinion; the numerous pieces of evidence regarding the practice of torture in police centers; the pseudo-amnesty for those detained for crimes of opinion which, if it permits the shortening of prison terms, does not reestablish civic and political rights and the obtaining of a passport.

"Does the Minister not think that under these conditions Turkey's designation to the presidency of the Council of Europe has been hasty and awkward?"

Only six countries voted against the Turkish presidency: Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Norway, Denmark and Luxembourg. Sweden abstained. The 14 countries which voted in favour of the Turkish regime include fervent propandists: France, the FRG, Great Britain, and Belgium. They affirm that "it is a sign of encouragement which has to be given to the Turkish government for the measures of liberalization that it has taken."

As for the parliamentary wing of the Council of Europe, it adopted the resolution project without the slightest modification and confirmed its decision to hold a parliamentary mini-session from June 30 to July 3 in Istanbul, a city where thousand of political prisoners are still in and thousands of others are presently being tried before military tribunals. Although the socialist group had previously been against this mini-session, it also has changed his position and decided to take part in this session in Istanbul, by a vote of 39 socialist deputies for and 26 against.

One of the opponents of this decision, the French socialist deputy Dreyfus-Schmidt, recalling a Victor Hugo maxim, said: "Even if I am the only one left in the world, I'll never surrender!"

In fact, the change in the socialist stand was motivated by the unexpected intervention of Mr Aydın Güven Gürkan, president of the Populist Social Democratic Party (SHP), who had come to Strasbourg during the meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly with a view to persuading the European socialists to moderate their criticisms vis-à-vis the Ankara regime. Addressing the meeting of the Socialist Group, Mr Gürkan said: "Although progress in the democratic life of Turkey is not yet sufficient, the democratic system functions in spite of everything. It is evident that Turkey cannot take its place in the European Community. It will be possible when the social-democrats come to power in Turkey. Therefore, we wish for the European socialists to take a stand encouraging this development instead of keeping their distance vis-à-vis Ankara."

The change in the socialists' position can also be seen in socialist deputies' participation in a reception given by the Turkish delegation in Strasbourg.

The human rights situation in Turkey was debated for the last time at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on April 24, 1986.

#### MR. STEINER'S VIEW

First of all, the rapporteurs of the political and legal affairs committees, Messrs. Steiner and Stoffelen presented their respective reports.

Mr Steiner's exposé begins with a self-criticism in the name of the Council of Europe: "One cannot pretend that since before September 12, 1980, democracy in Turkey functioned in any but the weakest way, that a quasi-war situation seriously threatened citizens' safety. Looking back, one must say that in the Council of Europe we have too long closed our eyes to this situation."

This statement could be appreciated if it was not used to justify the military affirmations and Europe's last change of opinion. It is true that the Council of Europe, before the 1980 coup, was never concerned as it should be with violation of human rights in Turkey, one of the first signatory countries of the European Convention on Human Rights. Since then, Turkey has undergone repression several times, but the Council of Europe has never reacted against the violation of the European Convention. A single time, in 1973, some Socialist deputies requested a parliamentary inquiry into the anti-democratic practices of the semi-military regime at the time, but the procedure was stopped after the intervention by the social-democrat leader Ecevit. Like the present leaders of Turkish social-democracy, Ecevit calmed the European parliamentarians by affirming that the military would be sincere and an electoral victory by his party could reestablish full respect for human rights. The Turkish issue was withdrawn from the agenda of the Council of Europe and Ecevit came to power, but violation of human rights continued throughout the seventies, even while Ecevit was prime minister. If Turkey has been dragged to violence and has suffered a military coup for the third time, Ecevit and the Council of Europe bear some of the responsibility.

After the 1980 coup, the violation of human rights took on such a dimension that the Council of Europe, like other European institutions, was obliged to react and suspend for two years Turkish representation in the Parliamentary Assembly. This gesture has doubtlessly contributed to the cooling of the repressive regime.

But the Council of Europe has not maintained his consistency up to the end, and this under a double influence: on one hand the influence of European governments that consider strategic and economic concerns of more importance than respect for human rights, and on the other hand, that of the Turkish social-democrat movement which is happy to be in a parliament while closing its eyes to the fact that the political parties of the working class and the Kurdish population are still banned and the progressive trade union center DISK is still suspended.

After having reintegrated the representatives of the Ankara regime in the hemicycle of Strasbourg in 1984, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe confirmed its capitulation meeting to meeting.

Reporter Steiner, in his last report, justified this capitulation in these terms:

"Without any doubt, the situation in Turkey has continued to improve over the last year. Above all, the inner resolve to continue the process of full democratisation has been strengthened. The political forces in the country have the will and the opportunity to criticise in strong terms situations deserving criticism and to achieve practical results thereby. The Council of Europe should continue to give wholehearted backing to these internal developments in Turkey, one of its member countries. That means in practice that the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe should carefully follow further developments in Turkey; in my view, further consideration of this matter in the form of an Assembly debate would only be necessary if the process of democratisation that is under

## THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S RESOLUTION ON TURKEY

"Having examined the report of its Political Affairs Committee (Doc. 5546) and the opinion of its Legal Affairs Committee (Doc. 5547), which take account of the fact-finding mission carried out in Turkey by the respective rapporteurs from 11 to 15 March 1986;

"Noting with satisfaction that the Turkish Grand National Assembly, acting in the spirit *inter alia* of Resolution 822 (1984) and Resolution 840 (1985):

"has continued to secure the lifting of martial law, which now applies in only five of Turkey's 67 provinces, situated in the extreme east of the country;

"has approved a law which has some characteristics of an amnesty, providing for conditional release of sentenced prisoners, having the effect of reduction of sentences by 60 percent;

"has ratified no death sentences in the last year;

"Also welcoming the assurances from the Government that public prosecutors must automatically investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, a number of which have been made publicly from the tribune of the Grand National Assembly, and noting the fact that, under the terms of the friendly settlement reached on 7 December 1985 between the five applicant states and Turkey, provision is made for further progress and continued information to the European Commission on Human Rights concerning:

"conditions and procedures of detention,

"greater implementation of personal rights and freedoms,

"the issue of amnesty;

"Noting the report and proposals which the Parliamentary Committee for the Inspection of Prisons, chaired by Mr Bülent Akarcalı, submitted to the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly on 22 November 1985, concerning *inter alia* improvement of access to lawyers and family visits, and including a decision to continue its work;

"Noting the recent revocation of certain restrictive measures contained in Law NO.2969, of November 1983, already largely ignored in practice by an increasing lively and critical press, concerning publication of the views of political leaders of the period before 12 September 1980, and also the disquiet of the press and of opposition parties of left and right concerning a new law with imprecise provisions concerning "harmful publications";

"Noting that revision of the Turkish penal code by a 25-man commission of jurists and academics is in progress,

"Notes with satisfaction that consideration by the Turkish Government concerning acceptance of the right of individual petition (Article 25 of the European Convention on Human Rights) is in progress, and expresses the hope that this will result in an early favorable decision;

"Welcomes the clear desire of the Turkish Government and people to normalise fully relations with the European organisations;

"Reiterates its serious concern both at the continuing mass trials against members of DISK and the Turkish Peace Association;

"Expresses the hope that the Turkish Government and Grand National Assembly will take further steps:

"to encourage and to intensify the fight against torture and degrading treatment;

"towards granting amnesty to those prosecuted or convicted for their opinions, exploiting to the full those possibilities which exist, even before amending the Constitution;

"to continue progress towards the necessary full affirmation of political pluralism and human rights, encompassing freedom of association, including within trade unions;

"decides to transmit this Resolution to the European Parliament and instructs its Political Affairs and Legal Affairs Committees to continue to follow developments closely."

way in Turkey were to slow down significantly or if entirely new events that might obstruct that process were to occur. The Parliamentary Assembly cannot but express approval if a European state has the inner strength to find its way back to democracy."

## MR STOFFELEN'S VIEW

As for the Rapporteur of the Legal Affairs Committee, Mr Stoffelen, he also arrived to an "optimistic" conclusion, though expressed some reserves concerning legal questions:

"When I compare the situation now with the situation one year ago my final conclusion is that real and considerable progress has been made on the way to the full restoration of a normal parliamentary democracy and complete respect of human rights.

"The lifting of martial law in nearly the whole of the country has a great impact and implies the lifting of many serious restrictions.

"One may note with serious concern that acts of

terrorism are perpetrated to a major extent by external forces in the south eastern part of the country coming from the territories of neighbouring countries (Iraq, Iran and Syria) and acknowledge the difficulties for Turkey.

"The freedom of political parties is almost unlimited. A recent change in the legislation enables former political leaders to speak freely inside and outside Turkey but they are not yet entitled to be candidates in national elections.

"The press is almost completely free.

"At the moment no member of the Turkish Peace Movement or DISK is in detention or imprisonment.

"The new law on the conditional release is very important and is a good step on the way to a solution of the problem of prisoners of conscience.

"The whole atmosphere is quite different from the atmosphere last year. It is much more free and relaxed.

"On the other hand the problem of prisoners of conscience is for a major part unsolved and is a serious

obstacle on the road to normalisation of the relations between Turkey and the other twenty member states of the Council of Europe.

"The fight against torture is more effective than last year. Public awareness and sensitivity for this problem is very great. Nevertheless torture is still widespread and is a serious structural problem.

"A long way has still to be gone on the road to full restoration of a normal parliamentary democracy and complete respect of human rights. It is however a fact that real and considerable progress took place in the period March 1985 - March 1986."

#### PARLIAMENTARIANS' REACTIONS

The picture thus drawn was therefore contrasting, as Mr Blaauw remarked, followed by Mrs Bosterud and Mssres Holst, Hugosson, de Azevedo. The positive side of the reports was put forth by speakers such as Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, Sir Dudley Smith, Mssrs Cavaliere and Lied. On the other hand, focus was placed on the negative side by Mssrs Dejardin, Dreyfus-Schmidt, Fisher, Amaro, Parry, Verdon and several Greek representatives. All stressed the restrictions on freedoms, the absence of amnesty, the lessening but still undeniable practice of torture. Dejardin stressed that real development could not however be judged irreversible, and he brought up the problem of the Kurdish minority. Mr Deyfuss-Schmidt estimated that it was a question of liberalization but not of democratization. Mr Verdon however expressed his confidence in the courageous action of the Turkish social-democrat party.

The Turkish speakers - Mrs Oney, Mssrs Ozarslan, Inan, Bayülken, Celikbas, Karabas, Sarioglu - rejected the accusations against the Turkish regime; they particularly insisted on freedom of the press and affirmed that all torture allegations led to inquests. They were of the opinion that it was no longer necessary to keep the question of the situation in Turkey on the agenda of the next sessions. Mr Inan wondered if those who criticize his country are not motivated by feelings of hate or disdain for Turks. As for Mr Sarioglu, who belongs to an opposition party, he put forward the observation that the latter enjoy the same rights and privileges as the other parties; the Turkish people, he concluded, aspire to total democracy.

In the general discussion, Mr Elmquist, President of the Legal Affairs Committee, indicated that the Committee of Ministers had just decided that Turkey would assume the presidency from next November; he did not consider this a pleasing decision since it is precisely in November that the Human Rights Commission will submit its report to the Committee, but he affirmed in conclusion that critical dialogue with the Ankara regime has proved fruitful.

The Assembly then refused the amendments presented by Mr Dreyfus-Schmidt on the resolution project. Mr Dreyfus-Schmidt requested, in his another amendment, that the two committees continue not only to follow the development of the situation in Turkey, but also to make a new report, to which Sir Geoffrey Finsberg, followed by the majority of the Assembly, was opposed. Only two amendments tabled by the rapporteur were adopted. Put to a vote by a show of hands, the resolution project was adopted.

#### TURKEY: THE 13TH MEMBER OF THE EEC?

In fact, the European softening vis-a-vis Turkey has been shown several times by European governments and spokesmen for the European Commission (See *Info-Türk* of March 1986).

In this process, on April 11, 1986, Turkey obtained its first success in the negotiations on the exportation of textiles to Europe. The commission recognized ten categories of Turkish textile products. According to this Turco-European agreement, Turkey will export up to the end of 1988 textile products worth a million dollars.

Some days later, on April 19, 1986, Premier Ozal visited Paris, under the title of "acting president of the OECD," to chair the ministerial meeting of this organization. Although this acting presidency was certainly not an exceptional diplomatic success, the Turkish press announced the event with triumphant headlines. During the OECD sessions, Ozal was warmly welcomed by the new French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. During the socialist rule in France, relations between Paris and Ankara were very tense because of the critical position of the French government with regards to the human rights situation in Turkey. Since the friendly settlement between Turkey and the five European countries including France, Turco-French relations had begun to improve, but this improvement bore its true fruits only when Chirac came on the scene. Accompanied by a group of Turkish businessmen, Ozal gave much hope to the French, especially in the area of investments in the Turkish war industry.

Following these talks, the representative of the French government, Didier Bariani (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs) figured as the most enthusiastic propagandist of the Ankara gaolers at the election of the acting president of the Council of Europe.

After Turkey was given the current presidency of the Council of Europe, the Turkish press referred to this election as a second victory "over the enemies of Turkey" and notably over "the Greeks." All the leaders of the legal parties, including those of the social-democrat ones, were pleased with the great success of Turkish diplomacy.

As for the European Parliament, its Committee on Budget Matters gave the green light on April 29, 1986, for the assigning of ten million dollars credit to Turkey. Although symbolic, this assignment opened the way to the freeing of another more significant credit, of 600 million ECU blocked since the 1980 military coup.

Encouraged by all these European concessions, the Turkish regime did not delay in launching test balloons with a view to Turkey's integration in the European Community as 13th member.

On April 30, 1986, the Turkish daily *Milliyet* announced that the Ozal government had the intention of presenting Turkish candidacy to the European Community before the next legislative elections. The preparations for these steps should have already begun, and the government is in the act of forming three files:

##### a) On the economic scale:

1. Turkey's economy has already been liberalized. The importation and exchange system are free. Several measures have been adopted to encourage foreign investment in Turkey. The State's economic enterprises are no longer subsidized.
2. The taxation system has improved. VAT application began well before Greece's.
3. Measures to lower the inflation rate have been put in action.

##### b) On the political scale:

1. Amnesty has been established by the adoption of law on the early release of certain prisoners.
2. Through the same law, capital punishment sen-

tences which are not yet ratified have been commuted to 36 years imprisonment. The carrying out of the death penalty has practically stopped.

3. The ban on political statements from former political leaders has been lifted. Moreover, political activities have been given more freedom.

4. A friendly settlement was concluded with five European countries which had lodged a complaint against Turkey with the European Commission on human rights. Significant progress has been made in the area of human rights. Complaints about torture are investigated.

5. Work has begun with a view to giving Turkish citizens rights of recourse to the European Commission on human rights.

6. Articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code (regarding crime of communist organization and propaganda) will be softened.

7. All bans on the importation and the sale of bibles have been completely lifted.

8. All the accused in the case against the Turkish Peace Committee have been freed.

#### c) On the international scale:

Turkey will form "a security bridge" between the European Community and the Arab world. Ozal's doctrine lays out this concept in these terms:

"Taking account of the geographic disposition of the Middle East, the latter is linked to Europe by way of Turkey. For that, cooperation with Turkey is absolutely necessary, notably in relations between Europe and the Middle East. Turkey is the country which assures peace and stability in the region. The EEC has many suppliers of energy sources in the Middle East. This last is also an important market for the EEC.

"Looking at all these points, the EEC cannot say that its frontiers stop at the East of the Aegean. It cannot exclude Turkey. The EEC needs Turkey because of its geo-political disposition between the Soviet Union to the north and a troubled Middle East to the south. The role played by Turkey to prevent the extension of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iraqi-Iranian war has proven the importance of this country in the point of view of European interests. A Turkey that is absolutely necessary for Western defense cannot remain outside economic integration."

Sources close to the Turkish government also indicate that the request for Turkey's accession to the EEC will be made before December 1st, 1986.

#### OVERTURES TOWARDS THE THIRD WORLD

The Turkish regime's overture towards foreign countries does not stop there. Recently two international meetings concerning the economic problems of the Third World were held successively in Istanbul. The first brought together representatives of 35 Islamic countries on the theme of food supply security and agricultural development. The second, under the aegis of the FAO, was dedicated to the specific problems of the Near East in the matter of food supply.

A Belgian journalist who followed both meetings made the following remarks on the Turkish regime's overture towards the Islamic world.

"Although a member of NATO, associate of the EEC and, since a short time, acting president of the OECD, Turkey has, by organizing these two meetings on its territory, if not discovered a new vocation, at least used the occasion to play a leading role on the international scene. Turkey, although strongly Muslim, is not itself an Islamic country. The 'father' of

the present republic, Kemal Atatürk, wanted expressly to create a secular State. But its political and geographical situation (between Europe and Asia) can allow it to fully play a linking role. 'Turkey has effectively discovered its Musulman brothers,' declared Prime Minister Ozal in an interview to the magazine *New Middle East*. During the years, he explained, 'our political and economic relations with Islamic countries have been below the desirable level. Among the reasons for this weakening, there was the fact that Turkey was wrapped up in itself and turned only towards the Western world.' (J.C. Mouvet, "Turkey between two worlds," *La Cité*, April 24, 1986, Brussels).

However, the same Ozal, in his relations with the West, still puts the focus on integration in the European Community and on the importance of Turkey in the Western military system.

This paradoxical behaviour of the Turkish prime minister elicits many reservations vis-à-vis Ankara's foreign policy in the West as well as in the Third World. Above all, submission to the United States' strategic requirements prevents Turkey from obtaining full friendship and solidarity from the Islamic countries on a series of issues regarding Turkish interests. As for the West, it neither is ready to accept Turkish presence as an effective member of the EC, because, despite all the Turkish propaganda to prove that Turkey is a truly European country, there is the systematic violation of human rights and the fear of a possible uprising of Islamic fundamentalism from the fact of consecutive concessions given to the Islamic world on the ideological scale. To that must be added as well the great gap between Turkey and Europe in social and economic areas. Although the annual gross national product per capita rises to more than \$ 10,000 in Europe, that of Turkey still plods along below \$ 1,000. Moreover, a possible influx of immigrant workers coming from this country which has a chronic unemployment rate of more than 20 percent causes reservations among all the industrialized countries which currently shelter more than 2 million Turkish nationals. It is already expected that, in virtue of a decision taken in 1976, the workers will be able to move freely in the EEC starting from December 1st 1986. But the Twelve in fact wish to go back on this engagement and request the suspension of this decision in order to be able to further Turco-European relations.

#### CHEYSSON'S VISIT TO ANKARA

However, the fact that Turkey constitutes a significant outlet for European economy and a frontpost for the Atlantic Alliance obliges the European governments to make steps to improve Turco-European relations in spite of all the preoccupations described above.

The visit by European Commissioner Claude Cheysson to Ankara, set for June 19-20, 1986, will doubtlessly accelerate the rapprochement between Ankara and Brussels. During his visit to Athens on May 9, Mr Cheysson was told by the Greek government that Greece will never give the green light for a resumption of these relations as long as Turkey does not revoke its decision forbidding the transfer of possessions of Greeks who left Turkey for Greece. Mr Cheysson will first have to persuade the Turkish authorities to accept this Greek requirement. More importantly, he will also have to tell the Evren-Ozal duo that Turkey has to conform to European criteria on human rights and accept the suspension of free movement of immigrant workers which is set for the end of this year.

/..

Whatever may be the Turkish authorities' response one thing is already very clear: Even if the Ankara regime does not follow these requirements, Europe will have to implement the association agreement in Autumn or in Spring at the latest, because it is already involved on the road to Turkey's integration to the European Community, by withdrawing

the complaint of the five countries form the European Commission on Human Rights, by giving the Turkish government the presidency of the Council of Europe and the OECD and by sitting with the "parliamentarians" of this regime in the hemicycle of Strasbourg.

Only a simple formality remains...

## GOVERNORS: MARTIAL LAW COMMANDERS WITHOUT UNIFORMS

A seminar whose theme was "national peace from the legal viewpoint," organized by the bar associations in the Marmara region, was canceled at the last moment under pressure from the governor of the province of Bursa. At this seminar set for April 5, two important political figures had been invited, Mr Aydın Güven Gürkan, president of the Populist Social-Democrat Party (SHP), and Mr Süleyman Demirel, former prime minister who has been forbidden by the military to take part in political activities for ten years.

Regarding the cancelation of this seminar, Mr Gürkan accused the government of abusing its powers. "In all the provinces where martial law has been lifted, the government has taken on exceptional powers and declared a state of emergency there. Today, governors have become martial law commanders without uniforms," he said.

## MILITARY TERRORISM IN THE EAST

While the governors enforce the state of emergency in the Turkish Kurdistan, it is the military which continues to repress, intimidate, deport and execute the population.

The Kurdistan Committee in Europe set forth the situation in this region in its press communiqué of April 20, 1986, in these terms:

"During the bombardments of villages and mountains in the Kurdistan, the Turkish army killed 11 children who were playing ball. The first bombardment was launched before the feast of Newroz against the village of Ormanlı (Eruh) which had been occupied previously by the Units of Kurdistan Liberation (HRK). On this occasion seven children between the ages of 5 and 11 lost their lives. The other bombardment was against the Ağrı region (Arafat) on the 24.3.1986, and there four other children were the victims of bombs.

"On his visit to the Kurdistan, the Minister of the Interior, Y. Akbulut, announced the setting up of new military units in the region. He added that the latter would not be involved only with the usual operations but that they would fight bandits with their own tactics. By that, they mean counter-guerilla activities such as are in force in Latin America. These military units will first of all concentrate their force in strategic areas, then air force units will carry out attacks, forbidding residents of the town to go out at night.

"The building of a new airport has just begun. There one will install Rapier rockets and it will allow the provisioning of the USA's military base of Piriçlik at Diyarbakır. Because of this construction, 175 decare of country, including 12 villages and 3 hamlets are going to be evacuated. We recall among other things that in the Kurdistan, there are already military bases, aerodromes, air radars of the USA and NATO."

During a press conference held in Brussels on March 21, 1986, the Kurdish new year Newroz, the Kurdistan Committee drew a quick picture of a year's development in the Kurdistan:

"In the year which just went by, a total of 200 people, among them women and children, were massacred during military operations and acts of torture. Practically none of the bodies of those killed was turned over to their families. They were buried haphazardly.

"A great number of Kurds have been torn from their lands and banished to exile far away. Eleven villages in Hakkari, half of the village of Nusaybin and a large number of people in Dersim and Bingöl have been deported individually. At the last census in October 1985 at Dersim, a 0.8 percent drop in the population was noted. During the forty-second session of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, an official declared that the Turkish State was trying to send certain peasants to Cyprus.

"According to the policy of letting Kurds massacre Kurds and the said law of village protectors, about 13,000 Kurdish peasants have been deprived of their properties. And it has been announced that the number would reach 25,000 in the near future.

"The Turkish state is trying to create strategic hamlets, organize military manoeuvres and lead psychological warfare by means of the mass media. All along the frontier, they are trying to bring about cushion regions."

In the same communiqué, the Kurdistan Committee announced that during the March-December 1985 period, 800 to 1,000 incidents have taken place... incidents such as ambush, attacks, resistance strikes. During these confrontations, about 900 Turkish soldiers, of whom 10 percent were officers or deputy officers, have died and some 400 have been wounded. Even a mayor and 16 policemen have been killed and 20 others wounded. "Beyond that, 100 traitors who took part in military operations beside the Turkish forces, who served them as informers and oppressed the people, have been killed," said the Committee.

The repression in the Kurdistan has been the subject of violent criticisms from the populist deputies in the Parliament. According to a report from two deputies, Erol Ağgil and Sururi Baykal, "Whoever declares himself to be democratic is considered a traitor and subjected to torture. Those who are acquitted after being charged are not readmitted to their posts. The organization of village protectors only serve to increase the violence, because they use their power and their arms to repress the population. Many people are deported or are forced to leave their village."

## MANHUNT

During April 1986, the security forces made several arrests, certain operations ended in murders:

9.4, at Adana, 11 left-wing militants arrested.

10.4, at Eruh, a lieutenant succumbs in an ambush

12.4, at Beytüşebap, a lieutenant and a Kurdish militant are killed in a skirmish. Two Kurdish militants are killed at Cukurca.

13.4, 10 people, including 2 Tunisians, are arrested on the accusation of fighting for the PKK.

17.4, in the region of Siirt-Hakkari, the security forces kill 4 Kurdish militants and arrest a large number of others.

18.4, at Sırnak, a Kurdish militant is killed in an ambush.

19.4, at Erüh, a village protector succumbs in an skirmish.

21.4, in Adana, 16 left-wing militants are arrested.

27.4, at Batman, 25 Kurds are arrested on the accusation of separatist activities. At Sırnak, a Kurdish militant is killed by a bomb explosion.

29.4, at Tunceli, a Kurdish militant is killed.

## CASES AND SENTENCES

On the first of April in Adana, a member of the TKP/ML is sentenced to death and nine others to prison terms going up to 20 years.

5.4, in Erzincan, 2 members of Dev-Yol are sentenced to death, 3 to life imprisonment and 18 others to prison terms of up to 24 years.

11.4, the trade unionist Muzaffer Saraç, also a member of the Administrative Committee of the SHP is tried before a tribunal for having made a political statement in Ireland. According to article 140 of the Turkish Penal Code, he faces a sentence of 5 years.

19.4, the mayor of the town of Samsun, Mr Kemal Vehbi Gül, is tried before the State Security Court for statements "not compatible with the principle of State secularity". He risks a prison sentence of up to 13 years.

20.4, in Istanbul, six members of DHY (the People's Revolutionary way) are sentenced to prison terms of up to 36 years.

23.4, at Adana, 5 members of the TKEP (Communist Workers' Party of Turkey) are sentenced to capital punishment, another to life imprisonment and 20 others to up to 16 years.

29.4, in Adana, 2 members of Dev-Yol are sentenced to capital punishment, five to "perpetuity" and 35 others to prison terms going up to 15 years. The same day, a member of the TKP/ML is sentenced to capital punishment, 2 to life imprisonment and 8 others to prison sentences of up to 15 years.

## INCITATION TO DENUNCIATION

The Director General of Security announced on April 4, 1986, that the State would reward with 2,240,000 Turkish Lira (\$3,200) whoever denounced someone being sought by the security forces. This sum will be increased in the future according to the index. In a country where gross national income per capita is still below \$1,000, such a reward will doubtlessly incite spying, wrote the Turkish Daily News.

## TORTURE AND MILITARY JUSTICE

The General Assembly of the Military Court of Cassation announced in one of its judgments that "all allegations of torture are aimed at discrediting Turkey in international organizations and to maintain the campaign of denunciation of the Turkish democratic regime as undemocratic before world opinion."

However, five supreme military judges are opposed to this majority opinion of the Court. Among the opponents is the President of the General Assembly of the Court of Cassation, General Hikmet Tavukçuoğlu.

This opinion was expressed while the Court ratified the acquittal of two policemen who had been charged with having practiced torture during the interrogation of a left-wing militant. The two policemen had been acquitted by a military tribunal through insufficient evidence.

The five military judges who oppose the ratification of this acquittal declared in their annotation that there was enough evidence and witnesses giving proof of the fact that the young activist Tülay Günday had been interrogated for 33 days with electric shock, beating, crucifixion, etc.

On the other hand, military tribunal No.1 of the Diyarbakır province judged, in the case against the PKK on April 12, 1986, that the admission from an accused can be considered as evidence even if it had been obtained by the use of illegal methods.

"Although the use of these methods is for punishment, this does not invalidate the quality of evidence in the statements obtained by this means if the judge is convinced they are correct," said the tribunal judgement.

## NEW FACTS ABOUT THE BILGIN AFFAIR

A young teacher, Sıddık Bilgin, had been killed under torture and buried by the military on July 31, 1985, and this fact was made public by populist deputies in January 1986 (See *Info-Türk* Bulletin of January 1986)

Under pressure from the opposition, the local authorities were obliged to exhume Bilgin's body for a judicial inquest. According to evidence from Mehmet Bilgin, the victim's uncle who was present at this operation, the body was completely mutilated, the head smashed and an arm amputated. Furthermore, his legs had been tied with a belt.

On recalling the military's affirmation about how Bilgin had been killed during an escape attempt, his uncle asks, "How can a person flee when his legs are tied like this?"

On the other hand, a witness, Fikret Birge, who was doing his military service when Bilgin was murdered in the district of Genç in the Bingöl province, declared on April 24 to the Prosecutor of the Republic of Eskisehir that Bilgin had been shot by the military after having been killed during torture.

## DOCTORS WHO PRACTICE TORTURE

Professional organizations of doctors have started a procedure against doctors accused of being present when political prisoners are being tortured. The number of doctors in question is already at 30.

The Istanbul Doctors' Order decided on April 11, 1986, after a complaint from a lawyer, to set up an inquiry commission to verify the implication of 25 doctors in torture. According to the lawyer, these 25 doctors might have produced false medical reports on torture victims to deceive justice.

## BEATEN TO DEATH IN PRISON

According to the daily *Cumhuriyet* of April 22, 1986, a detainee in the Prison of Bayrampasa at Istanbul might have been beaten to death by the guards. While prisoners testify that the guards are responsible for the death of Haydar Yagmur, the Prosecutor of Istanbul affirms that he had been the victim of a quarrel among prisoners.

On the other hand, political detainees in the prison of Buca at Izmir started a hunger strike on April 25, 1986, as a sign of protest against ill-treatment by the penal administration.

## SPREAD OF STATE TERROR

On April 18, 1986, the Turkish general staff announced that since the military intervention of Sep-

tember 12, 1980, to February 28, 1986, over a period of five years and a half, 1,014 people had been killed and 994 wounded in 8,183 incidents.

According to this same communiqué, since the martial law proclamation on December 26, 1978, up to February 28, 1986, military tribunals have tried 46,196 cases of which 45,383 have already led to judgements.

During this period, 47,988 people have been sentenced to various terms.

25,025 people from 0-1 year,  
11,472 people to 1-5 years,  
6,843 people to 5-10 years,  
2,507 people to 10-20 years,  
973 people to more than 20 years,  
693 people to life in prison,  
480 people to capital punishment.

On the first of March, 1986, there would be 813 cases to judge before the military tribunals as well as 10,128 political prisoners sentenced by these same tribunals. Moreover, 2,715 people would be arrested or placed in preventive detention.

Despite the lifting of martial law in many provinces of Turkey, military tribunals still go on to deal with the files of offenses committed during the military regime.

Defendants accused of having committed offenses against the State after the lifting of martial law are brought before the State Security Courts.

Elsewhere, the Turkish Daily News of April 1986, announced that at the present time, there might be 194,556 prisoners in Turkey. So, Turkey holds the record with 371.9 prisoners per 100,000 people while this proportion is 88.7 per 100,000 in Greece.

#### PETITION FROM 474 LAWYERS

Four hundred and seventy-four lawyers affiliated with different bars addressed on April 25, 1986, a common petition to the presidents of political parties, presidents of parliamentary groups of the same parties and the Presidency of the Union of Turkish Bars (TBB).

In this petition, the lawyers call for:

- the forming of an inquiry committee which will be responsible for verifying all torture allegations and publishing all the conclusions from its inquiry.
- equality of both accused and defence before justice.
- limitation of preventive detention to 24 hours.
- abandoning the mentality which considers all political offences as subversion or treason.

#### PRESSION ON INTELLECTUAL LIFE

12.4, in Istanbul, two record producers, Abdülkadir Demirtürk and Mehmet Isik, a song words writer, Giray Elmali, and two singers, Sema Sevinç and Aynur Tekin, are brought before a criminal court for having made a music record entitled "The Plum's Song". Accused of having insulted Premier Turgut Ozal, each of the defendants faces a 6-year prison term.

13.4, in Ankara, a video club was condemned to a fine of 2 million Turkish Liras (3,500 US \$) for having distributed an obscene video-cassette. This is the first application of the new censor law adopted on March 6 under the pretext of protecting minors from "harmful" publications. According to this law, publishers of such publications are obliged to pay a fine that will be five to fifteen times higher than their sales revenue. On the other hand, the Turkish edition of Playboy was declared "harmful" and ordered to be sold only in non-transparent bags with the indication of "harmful to minors" by Commission attached to the Prime Minister's office.

16.4, the responsible editor of the daily Serhat Kars, Mr Baki Karakol is arrested for having slandered the governor of Kars in an article. He faces a prison term up to 6 years.

17.4, a new film entitled "the vengeance of Snakes", directed by Serif Gören, is banned by the Censorship Board. A first film with the same title, shot 25 years ago by Metin Erksan, was also banned but freed on the intervention of the President of the Republic of the time. Both films treat the social injustice in the countryside.

19.4, the projection of an Argentine film, "Tangos or Gardel's Exile", produced by Fernando Solanas, is banned by the Censorship Board. This projection was to be made on the occasion of the closure of the film festival organised in Istanbul by the Turkish-German Cultural institute. Another foreign film participating in this festival, "Camada Negra" of Spanish film director Manuel Gutierrez was banned as well by the same board on March 18.

29.4, renown poet Can Yücel was brought before a criminal court in Istanbul for his recent book, "Rengahenk". He is accused of immoral propaganda.

30.4, in Usak, the principal of a village school, Mr Tahsin Cetin, is deprived of his functions by the governor, for having pronounced the words of "revolutionary martyrs" during a ceremony. He faces also a legal proceeding.