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A CRUCIAL TEST FOR THE REGIME'S PARTIES

Electors of 11 provinces in Turkey will go to the ballot boxes on September 28, 1986, to elect 11 deputies (from among the candidates of 12 political parties) for the vacant seats in the National Assembly.

Although less important than the general elections, set for 1988, these partial elections are considered as a crucial test for the Motherland Party (ANAP) of Prime Minister Ozal as well as for the 11 other political opposition parties:

The large number of political parties entering the lists does not at all signify a true return to parliamentary democracy since the Constitution of generals as well as the Political Parties Code forbid the legalisation of political parties of the working class or of the Kurdish people. Consequently, these elections, like the preceding ones, are only a race which does not conform to the regulation adopted by all the countries of Western Europe.

However, the stake in these elections is to test the level of the government's credibility. Aware of this fact, the ANAP again went through a series of political manoeuvres at the last moment, notably by modifying the Codes on political parties and elections. According to legislation in effect since 1983, only four political parties could enter the lists and the ANAP was threatened by the Social-Democrat Populist Party (SHP) on the left and the Correct Way Party (DYP) on the right. In temporarily lifting certain conditions for participation in the elections, the ANAP also allowed other insignificant parties to enter the lists so as to divide the potential votes of the SHP and the DYP, the heirs of two main parties of the period before the coup d'état.

On the left, the SHP, led by Erdal İnönü, sees itself threatened by the Democratic Left Party (DSP), led by the wife of former Prime Minister Ecevit.

On the Right, nine political parties fought among themselves so as to nibble away votes from the ANAP.

The DYP (Correct Way Party): supported by former Premier Demirel.

The RP (Well-Being Party): heir of the MSP, defunct Islamist party.

The MCP (Nationalist Labour Party): heir of the MHP, defunct neo-fascist party of the Grey Wolves.

The HDP (Free Democratic Party): supported by a party of businessmen.

The VAP (Citizens Party): a scission of the ANAP.

The IDP (Reformist Democracy Party): an Islamist faction.

And the three insignificant right-wing parties: 8VP (Party of the Great Fatherland), BAP (Party of Great Anatolie) and BP (Flag Party).

The polls already show that the two stars of these elections are the ANAP on the Right and the SHP on the Left. Their own parties being absent from this campaign, the Marxist left and the Kurdish movement already declared themselves in favour of the SHP. The DSP's participation in these elections and especially the virulent accusations of former Premier Ecevit against the SHP were considered "a divisionist act in the interests of the ANAP."

THE EUROPEAN MINI-SESSION IN ISTANBUL

The controversial mini-session of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly was held from June 30 to July 3, 1986, in Istanbul, a city where military prisons are still stuffed with thousands of political prisoners and where military tribunals still try thousands of democrats, including the leaders of DISK and the Peace Committee.

Except for certain European socialist and communist deputies, who refused to visit this country which suffers under a militarist regime, the majority were present when the mini-session was opened: some, to show their unconditional support to the leaders in Ankara, and the others to take advantage of the opportunity to speak on spot with victims of the repression.

The Socialist Group of the Parliamentary Assembly justified its participation in this mini-session with its press release of June 12:

"This decision (to hold the mini-session in Istanbul), taken despite the reservations of European Socialists, is the latest in a series of acts (admission of a Turkish parliamentary delegation to the Assembly, ending of the petition lodged with European Commission on Human Rights, Turkish presidency of the Council of Ministers) which constitute the appreciation of the political situation in Turkey on the part of statutory bodies of the Council of Europe.

"The Socialist Group of the Parliamentary Assembly recognizes that there are encouraging signs of a democratic evolution in Turkey and consequently has decided to participate in the session in Istanbul.

"However, the Socialist Group has decided to organize a public seminar in Istanbul on June 30, to which will be invited representatives of prisoners' families, lawyers, academicians, the Turkish Peace Association as well as representatives of other interested Turkish organizations. The seminar's objective is to express the Socialist Group's continued interest in subsequent progress towards full respect for human rights and the achieving of democracy in Turkey, and to allow the European Socialists to form an opinion, one as objective as is possible, on the problems linked to democratic life in the country."

In fact, despite the wide-spread publicity organized by the Turkish government with a view to portraying the mini-session as a diplomatic victory on its part, what attracted public attention was not the mini-session itself, but rather the Socialist Group's seminar, held at the Sheraton Hotel.

Before the arrival of the European Parliamentarians in Turkey, the pro-government press referred to this Socialist initiative as a "new plot" and "new blackmail" from the Left.

Certain Turkish politicians even declared that such a seminar would be quite illegal and asked that it be prevented from taking place. However, afraid to upset Turco-European relations "being developed," the Ozal government preferred not to intervene.

Guests of the Socialist Group, DISK president Abdullah Bastürk, Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) leaders Erdal İnönü and Aydın Güven Gürkan, Turkish Peace Association president Mahmut Dikerdem, former Istanbul mayor Ahmet İsvan and Turkish Writers Union (TYS) president Aziz Nesin participated in this seminar and expressed their evaluation of the repression of which most of them were victims.

Another person invited, former prime minister Bülent Ecevit, refused to participate in the seminar, stressing that "if I had participated I would have had to reveal all the pressures to which I was subjected. I did not want to influence the work of the Council of

Europe in our country by this kind of intervention and I preferred their impressions to be favourable regarding our country and not to become worse."

However, the other guests participating in the seminar did not hesitate to express their criticisms of the regime. The renowned humourist Aziz Nesin recalled that over the past years he had been charged four times. He said, "After this intervention, I may be tried a fifth time before the judge. The situation of intellectuals in Turkey is very similar to that of habitual robbers. The latter, in order to pass winter in a shelter, do all they can to reenter prison. As for us, since September 12, 1980, the only little corner where we can speak freely is in tribunals. That is why we always wait to be indicted so that we can express ourselves."

DISK President Abdullah Bastürk said he was against those who thought Turkey deserved a democracy different from that in the European countries. "Democracy can have different characteristics according to different countries but that should never mean sacrificing the fundamental principles of democracy. There is no other alternative."

Representatives from three international trade union centrals, the ICFTU, ETUC and WCL, also participated in the Socialists' seminar. Mr Hinterscheid, Secretary-General of the European Trade Union Confederation, to which DISK is affiliated, expressed its position on the Turkish regime in these terms:

"The ETUC is very disappointed by the attitude of the Council of Europe toward Turkey which continues to violate human rights and trade union rights. Before normalizing economic, political and social relations with Turkey, European institutions and governments of Western Europe should have formal proof that Turkey has finally refound the road to democracy.

"For six years, the Turkish government has remained unresponsive to international pressure and particularly trade union pressure. The Turkish government is incapable of providing proof that members of DISK were involved in illegal or antidemocratic activities. But in spite of that 78 members of DISK might face capital punishment and 1,477 members are threatened now with long prison sentences, and there are many restrictions on their civil, human, political and trade union rights.

"Persecution of trade unionists in Turkey is a flagrant violation of the Council of Europe's Convention on Human Rights and the guidelines of the ILO.

"If the Council of Europe does not contribute to the restoration of trade union rights in Turkey, that will considerably harm the confidence the member unions of the ETUC have in the Council of Europe."

During the mini-session, the Political Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly debated the situation of human rights in Turkey, and on this occasion, Bastürk and the other trade union leaders explained their viewpoint once more to the European parliamentarians.

At the end of the affair, the socialist leaders spoke reservedly, although the President of the Parliamentary Assembly said he was in favour of the Turkish regime, stressing that they had noticed absolute progress toward democracy in Turkey. Louis Pignion, president of the Socialist Group, said:

"We do not regret coming to Turkey. We have witnessed a general evolution, but it is still not perfect. There are still delicate problems and progress to be made."

The British Labour deputy Peter Hardy recalled that without meeting these three conditions, Turkey

can not be considered a democratic country: general amnesty, restoration of all political rights, including the right to form political parties, and the lifting of all restrictions on trade union rights.

As for the president of the Christian Democrat Group, Wolfgang Blenk, he said he was satisfied with all he had seen in Turkey and stressed that "Turkish membership to the EEC serve Europe's interests."

After the mini-session, the European parliamentarians were invited on a tourist excursion by the Turkish government to Turkey's "paradises" while thousands of political prisoners suffered in military jails these long hot days of summer. The Turkish daily *Hürriyet* titled this "blue excursion" thus: "Carte blanche for Turkey, a great distraction for the Europeans guests."

TURKEY ON THE ROAD TO ACCESSION

The visit by the European commissioner in charge of the Mediterranean policy, Claude Cheysson, to Ankara marked a forward step in Turco-european relations.

At a press conference at the end of his visit to Turkish capital, on June 21, 1986, Mr Cheysson said he was pleased with Turkey's "unquestionable progress" towards a "European-type democracy," while stressing the necessity for this country, which "fully belongs to Europe," to make new efforts to reach this stage.

Mr Cheysson stressed that the Council of Association at the ministerial level on September 16, 1986 in Brussels, will be "the final point of the normalisation" in relations between Ankara and the Twelve. These relations had been frozen after the military coup of 1980 in Turkey, the EEC member states denouncing violations of democracy and human rights by the Turkish generals.

"After this long and regrettable interruption, close friendship and frequency in relations must be restored between Turkey and the Community," said the former French Minister of external relations.

According to rumours circulating in Turkish diplomatic circles, the Turkish government would seize this opportunity to present Turkey's candidacy as 13th member of the European Community. The motives for this possible request have been outlined in the April 1986 issue of our bulletin.

The daily *Cumhuriyet* of June 25 indicated that, for some tactical reasons, this request could be made in November 1986 instead of in September.

The first meeting of the Council in September 1986 rather will be on the guidelines which will regulate "free movement" of Turkish workers in the European Community after December 1, 1986. To this effect, the European Commission has already sent the Community Council a decisional pre-project which, in accordance with the guidelines that the Commission itself had laid out last March, aims at the following objectives:

1) Consolidation and improvement of the status of Turkish workers and their families residing regularly in the Community, namely by and end to the discrimination still existing in the area of living and working conditions.

2) Fixation of the conditions of access for Turkish workers to a Member State's labour market, in the measure where a job is effectively offered, with respect to job priority for nationals of Member States;

3) Organizing the bringing together of families in respect for family life and parental obligations in the area of education;

4) Respect of the principle which excludes Tur-

kish workers from treatment more favourable to that reserved for workers of the Member States (particularly Greek, Spanish and Portuguese workers who still do not benefit from total right to free movement).

Regarding entry into the EEC of new Turkish workers, the principle which inspires the Commission's proposal is that of "second priority," that is to say, priority to Turkish workers in relation to those from other third countries after "first priority" has functioned normally, that is, in favour of Community workers. The proposed guideline indicates that, after member states have used the procedures in force to assure respect of Community job priority, "the Community will communicate to the competent Turkish authority: non-satisfactory offers, at the Community level, before bringing them to the attention of other third countries."

In concrete terms, this proposal envisages the pure and simple suspension of a right already acquired by virtue of the bilateral agreement completed in 1963 between Turkey and the EEC and foreseen as beginning from December 1, 1986. For Turkish public opinion, such a proposal is not acceptable. However; the Ozal government does not hide its intention to make this proposal the object of political bargaining. The Turkish press affirms that Ankara, in exchange for its concession, will propose linking this suspension to the starting of procedures for Turkish accession to the European Community. In this procedure, free accession to the European Community. In this procedure free movement of Turkish workers would be suspended from the date of the introduction of Turkish candidacy up to definitive accession.

At the meeting of the Council of Association, the Turkish delegation will request also the reopening of credit of 600 million ECU, suspended since the 1980 coup.

To overcome the last obstacles in front of such a request, Ankara launched a great propaganda campaign in European capitals. The visit by FRG President Richard Von Weizsaecker to Turkey at the end of May 1986 was also a great occasion for Ozal. As it's the country with the largest number of Turkish Workers in Europe, the FRG is worried about implementing free movement. During Weizsaecker's visit, the Turkish government succeeded quite well in making him talk in favour of economic and political progress in Turkey, which would allow its accession to the European Community. In exchange for the suspension of Turkish workers' free movement, the main partners of the EEC seem to be in favour of possible Turkish accession. However, differences on the date the accession request would be introduced and the duration of the transition period have still not be resolved. Mr Von Weizsaecker himself has advised the Turkish leaders not to press things, even while saying he was in favour of accession in the long term.

During his visit to Ankara on May 24, 1986, the French Defense Minister André Giraud also expressed his government's entire support for Turkish accession to the EEC. As for Mr Raymond Barre, he declared, during a meeting at the University of Istanbul on June 22, 1986, that one could picture Turkey as the 13th member of the EEC in 10 years-that is to say, before the start of the 21st century. One must recall that, since the Right came to power in France, bargaining on the sale of Mirage jets has increased and Paris seems ready to give every concession to the Turkish regime in exchange for "growth in the volume" of its economic relations with Turkey.

As for Belgium, it's no longer sparing in its rapprochement with Turkey. The secretary of State for external commercial affairs, Etienne Knoops, declar-

ed during his visit to Ankara on June 25, 1986, that his country would completely support Turkish accession. It should be noted that this promise was made after a series of talks on the building of nuclear plants, by Belgians, in Turkey.

Taking into account all these aspects, the September 6, 1986, meeting of the Council of Association figures as an important turning point in Turco-European relations.

REACTIONS IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

While several European institutions were lauding the Turkish regime, the new indictment of former Prime Minister Ecevit —for his speech at a meeting of the Democratic Left Party (DSP)— gave rise to strong reactions in the European Parliament. Sixteen European deputies immediately filed a motion of resolution denouncing this new legal case and requesting the suspension of the Turco-European meeting of the Council of Association set for September 16.

AI: TORTURE IS STILL TAKING PLACE

The Secretary General of Amnesty International, Thomas Hammarberg, indicated in an interview to the Turkish agency UBA that his organization was not of the opinion that torture had ceased in Turkey. "Several revelations to tribunals show that torture is still continuing in Turkey. Perhaps certain allegations are not fair. But what is important is not the number of torture cases, but the existence of torture practices."

SWEDISH DEPUTIES' PROTEST

In Sweden, 15 deputies from different political families addressed a joint letter to Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and, protesting against the violation of human rights in Turkey, made the following requests to:

- Restore Turkish citizenship to Turkish nationals who have been stripped of it,
- End capital punishment,
- End martial law and the State of emergency,
- Stop all political trials,
- Proclaim a general amnesty,
- Stop torture,
- Annul the anti-democratic articles of the Turkish Penal Code,
- Lift all restrictions on political and trade union rights.

PERSONA NON GRATA

Reaction against the Turkish Republic being represented in Switzerland by a former putschist continues to elicit reaction. It concerns former general Haydar Saltık, the brain behind the coup of September 12, 1980. After his retirement, he was named ambassador to Bern. (See: *Info-Türk*, March 1986)

On June 26, 1986, a petition signed by 7,071 people requesting that General Saltık be returned to Turkey was presented to the Swiss government.

The receiving of this petition by the Swiss government gave rise to anger on the part of the Ankara leaders. The chargé d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy in Ankara was called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to express the Turkish government's regret.

ILO CONCESSIONS

Following the concession from European institutions in the face of blackmail by the Turkish regime, the Administration Council of the International La-

bour Organization (ILO), decided during its meeting on June 1986 to close all complaints about the violation of trade union rights in Turkey.

Since the military coup of September 12, 1980, all international trade union organizations had lodged several complaints against the Turkish regime. What is surprising is that during the ILO meeting, the closing was not proposed by an employers or government delegate, but by the president of the Confederation of Christian Unions (CSC) in Belgium, Mr Jef Houthuys. He is also one of the prestigious leaders of the World Confederation of Labour (WCL).

According to the Administration Council, "martial law has been lifted in all the regions of the country, but the state of emergency continues to be in effect in five Turkish provinces; however, this situation does not touch the exercise of trade union rights in these provinces."

Regarding the case against DISK, its affiliated organizations and the union leaders of these organizations, the Administration Council expressed the "firm hope that the case will end soon," while noting that it had entered its final phase already and the prosecutor had withdrawn the request for the death penalty.

As for the legislative aspects, the Council affirmed that according to the Turkish government declaration, officials would be fully conscious of the importance of creating a situation in which trade union rights, as defined by the ILO would be fully respected and that they were convinced that the "employer and employee" would take active part, together with the government, to reach a "consensus" aimed at achieving this objective.

Then, some weeks later, on July 2, 1980, during a meeting taking place between, on one hand, three international trade union organizations including the WCL, and, on the other hand, the Juridical Council of Europe, the trade union delegation has indicated that the case against DISK is still going on and that if prison sentences are handed out against its leaders, DISK could be dissolved by virtue of the 1983 trade union laws. These 1983 trade union regulations, like the laws on collective work conventions, are as contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights as they are to Conventions No.87 and 89 of the ILO.

The WCL, the ICFTU and the ETUC have pointed out the main contradictions thus:

"Hardly half of the workers who fall under social security application have the right to be organized in trade unions; this applies particularly to civil servants, who therefore can not benefit from this basic freedom.

"The right to collective negotiation is severely limited; one of the consequences of this is that, since 1984, employees' buying power had decreased by 15 pc (and this during the period in which trade union freedoms are so-called restored).

"Numerous administrative measures limit the freedom of trade unions to elect their leaders and to carry out their own financial policy (financial administration of unions is submitted to three ministers' control).

"Under these conditions, democratisation seems to be political fiction."

Further, the WCL requested that the Council of Europe and the different Member States be extremely cautious in normalizing relations with Turkey and to keep watch on the situation of trade union freedom in this country.

So, what is the meaning of Mr Houthuys' attitude which resulted in the closing of complaints against the Turkish regime?

Lack of information?

One of the executive advisors of DISK, a refugee in Belgium since the coup, is still in the employ of the CSC of which Mr Houthuys is president. He should be in the position to inform Mr Houthuys of the fate of his comrades and of the unbearable position of the workers of Turkey. Moreover, the CSC has within it a Turkish section which is in charge of outlining the facts about the country of origin of these members coming from Turkey.

If the president of the CSC reacts in this way despite the critical stand taken by the WCL to which his confederation is affiliated, two possibilities present themselves: either Mr Houthuys does not take account of the information coming from the specialized services of his organization, or the information he has been given by these services are erroneous about the situation in Turkey.

Whatever the reason is, the Turkish regime, thanks to the surprising attitude of Mr Houthuys, was able to obtain a new "victory" in the international arena, and the ILO has joined the ranks of those organizations which have capitulated in face of Ankara blackmail.

TERROR ON THE FIRST OF MAY

Although the Turkish government deceived world opinion in affirming that it respects trade union rights the First of May was marked by state terrorism in Turkey, just as in the seven preceding years.

In fact, the celebration of Labour Day has been forbidden since 1979 by the martial law authorities. Furthermore, the military government had decreed that the First of May would no longer be an observed day. Thus even the Spring day of the First of May has been rendered illegal by the military.

Since the constitution of a "civil" government, nothing has changed. The day before the First of May, April 30, 1986, the security forces mounted a raking operation across the country to prevent any attempt to celebrate Labour Day. In Istanbul alone, more than 90 people were arrested as "suspects."

However, on the First of May, a clandestine group succeeded in making an illegal broadcast for 15 minutes on the Turkish TV channel. In several towns, resistance groups distributed tracts and put up posters against the regime. More than 400 resisters were arrested for these actions.

What is most important is that for the first time since the military coup, the Social-Democrat Populist Party (SHP) celebrated the First May with a modest ceremony attended by DISK President Abdullah Bastürk and his comrades. Recalling that the First of May is a celebration for all the workers in the world, Mr Bastürk said in his speech: "If democracy is one day reestablished in Turkey, recognition of the First of May is the sine qua non condition."

On the other hand, SHP President Aydın Güven Gürkan, spoke to the National Assembly on May 2 and asked that Labour Day be reconstituted in Turkey. This speech was contested by the Rightist majority of the Assembly. Certain deputies of the party in power, the ANAP, accused Gürkan of being in the employ of communists and shouted, "Go to Moscow!" Because of the disturbance of the debates, the session was suspended for 20 minutes.

In spite of this attempt to intimidate, a populist deputy, Ali İhsan Elgin, lodged a motion with the National Assembly to restore the First of May in Turkey.

May Day has been celebrated in Europe by many Turkish migrant workers together with European trade unions. The Turkish Government's ban could not prevent them from marking the May Day.

2nd WORKERS' DEMONSTRATION

The second workers' demonstration organized by the Confederation of Turkish Unions (TURK-IS) took place on June 22, 1986, in Eskisehir with the participation of more than 40 thousand workers.

Before and during the demonstration, the security forces took several measures to intimidate and prevent the workers from taking part. While helicopters flew over the town, any worker arriving at the demonstration place was searched, and a television team was also jostled by the police.

The demonstrators hurled slogans against the government, "Government, resign!" "Ozal, resign!" "General strike!" "Bread, peace and freedom!"

Addressing the demonstrators, Türk-İs President Sevkettin Yılmaz said, "This is the first time in the history of Turkey that the exploitation of workers has become so systematic... This situation cannot continue like this. Ozal is working for the interest of a small minority of rich people. Democracy exists only for this minority. We have to change this situation."

INDICTMENT OF TRADE UNIONISTS

A new legal motion aimed at ending old age indemnity has provoked strong reaction among workers and a group of trade unionists have lodged a joint petition with the National Assembly, a petition signed by 66,000 workers asking it to reject this motion.

After this quite peaceful step, the police arrested four trade union leaders on June 13, 1986, and the Istanbul prosecutor has started legal proceedings, accusing them of exercising external pressure on the Parliament and discrediting the government.

On the other hand, the Istanbul governor forbade an evening of solidarity organized on May 11, 1986, by the Union of Knitting and Clothing Workers (TOBGİS).

REPRESSION OF INTELLECTUALS

On the 6.5, writer Kemal Sulker, who is also former secretary general of DISK, was tried before the Ankara State Security Court for a conference he gave on the 13.9.1985 to members of a union.

On the 7.5, a painting by the famous Polish artist Dubkowski was taken from the open Exhibition in Turkey, part of the Asia-Europe biennial. This scandalous decision was made by the Ministry of Culture following a remark by President-General Evren on his visit to the exhibition. According to him, the painting in question was erotic and devoid of artistic value. Another painting, by artist Bogdan Krisc, received the same treatment some days later, under the same pretext.

On the 15.5, in Istanbul, Mr Hüseyin Kıvanç, publisher of the publishing house Eylem-Hasat was arrested for having published translations of Lenin's and Mao Tse-Tung's works. Tried before a criminal tribunal, he faces a prison sentence which may go up to 75 years.

On the 9.5, in Aydın, philosophy professor Adnan Feyzioğlu was the object of an administrative inquiry for having given his students an assignment on peace.

On the 3.6, in Ordu, the director of a primary school, Mr Yeman Celebi, was also the object of an administrative inquiry by the Ministry of National Education for having mounted an exhibition in the school on the Year of Peace.

On the 3.6, the international Congress of the International Federation of Journalists IFJ, held in

Denmark, declared that pressures on the Turkish press was continuing despite the government's declarations to the contrary.

On the 8.6, in Elazığ, Mr Hasan Görül, a functionary who has been in government service for 31 years, was arrested for having said the words "my dear" while he was speaking on the telephone with the state prosecutor.

On the 10.6, in İzmir, two theatre actors, Kemal Kocatürk and Can Dogan, were arrested for having done an improvisation during the representation of a piece.

On the 18.6, in Istanbul, two journalists of the daily Cumhuriyet, Erhan Akyıldız and Okay Gönen-sin, were fined for having published a survey on the drug problem.

On the 18.6, 11 functionaries of the National Statistics Institute were tried before the State Security Court on the charge of "separatism." They were held responsible for having introduced the Kurdish language among languages under the heading of "What languages do you speak?" on the forms which had been used during the 1980 and 1985 censuses. The state prosecutor accused them of listing "a dialect of the Turkish language" as a distinct language of itself. In Turkey, the authorities deny the existence of a Kurdish people or language.

On the 24.6, Professor Abdülmecit Dogru, president of the Alpinism Federation, was forced to resign from his post for having given guide certificates to militant Kurds and for having assigned them to the Ararat Mountain.

On the 25.6, the 8-year prison sentence given to the journalist Oral Çalışlar was ratified by the Military Court of Cassation.

On the 26.6, in İzmir, 23 people who were attested on May 1 for having distributed tracts were tried before the State Security Court.

On the 26.6, in Ankara, four renowned intellectuals, Aziz Nesin, Cevat Geray, Yalçın Küçük and Mehmet Ozsucu, were tried before the State Security Court. They were accused, as leaders of the Ekin-Bilar society, of having organized "cultural evenings" without authorization. This company was formed by several intellectuals with the aim of organizing cultural actions, but the Ministry of Commerce had refused to approve the statutes for months.

On the 27.6, all the films of anti-establishment filmmakers such as Yılmaz Guney, Atif Yılmaz and Lutfi Akad were excluded from cinematography archives by order of martial law, according to the daily Cumhuriyet.

On the 30.6, two university professors, Fevzi Sahlanan and Fazıl Sağlam were indicted for courses that they had given to members of a union of bank employees.

INDICTMENT OF FORMER LEADERS

In spite of the affirmation of a return to normalcy in political life, judiciary proceedings against former political leaders are continuing endlessly.

Former social-democrat Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit was charged by the State Prosecutor on May 22, 1986 after a speech he gave at a meeting of the Democratic Left Party (DSP), formed and directed by his wife.

Ecevit, banned from political life for a period of 10 years by the Constitution of generals, is accused of breaking this ban.

Some days later, on May 26, former vice-premier

and leader of the defunct MSP, Necmeddin Erbakan, was also the object of a judiciary inquest for a speech he had made on his recent visit to Federal Germany. In his speech, he had accused the present government of exercising pressure on Islam.

HUNT FOR "HARMFUL" PUBLICATION

The new special commission, attached to the Prime Minister's cabinet and in charge of protecting minors against "harmful" publications, has launched a veritable hunt for all the publications which do not conform to the official concept of morality.

The new censor law, adopted on March 6, 1986, authorises this commission to fine publishers of "obscene" publications with an amount equivalent to 5-15 times their sales revenue.

On the 22.5, a book entitled "Taoist Love and Sex" was declared "obscene". From henceforth it is sold in a package.

On the 13.6, the popular work by Dr Haydar Dümen entitled "Sexual life" was declared "harmful" and confiscated by the police. This book had been reprinted three times since 1979.

On the 15.6, a book titled "Best Jokes About Sex" was declared obscene.

On the 20.6, it was announced that within three months, since the entry into effect of the law on "harmful" publications, seven cases had been started against three publications and 27 judiciary inquests against 10 journals and revues. The Turkish edition of Playboy was fined 7.7 million dollars for its issues of May and April 1986, and Playman was fined 3.85 million dollars.

On the 28.6, the Special Commission declared seven books published by Dr Emin Deger harmful. They were sold henceforth in a package. Following this decision Dr Deger said he would burn all his books and close down his doctor's office. As for the Union of Turkish Doctors (TDB), it interpreted the Commission's decision as a mortal blow to science.

MALAISE IN THE UNIVERSITIES

While the Superior Council of Education (YOK) continues its obscurantist practices in the universities, hundreds of thousands of young students are deprived of the right of access to higher learning.

This year, 496,490 young holders of diplomas of secondary studies presented themselves for entry examination to university. Among them, only 140,153 were authorized to register; 356,337 others were refused entry. Taking account of the very high unemployment rate in Turkey (20 percent of the Work force) and the non-existence of unemployment benefits, these 356,337 young students have to endure life in tough and, for the most part, miserable conditions.

Those accepted to university are not happy either because the militarist discipline and chauvinistic conditioning have already transformed universities into Barracks. As we have indicated in previous Bulletins, some 1,000 professors have been fired from the universities because they are opposed to these practices.

University students are often prevented from forming their own associations to express their demands and to defend their interests. Those who have obtained authorization to form an association consequently are submitted to preventive measures.

On the 11.5, in Ankara, 16 university students were arrested for having tried to form student associations.

In Izmir, on May 21, 1986, the leaders of 8 student associations were indicted for having published a communiqué criticising the higher education policy and the shocking situation of the dormitories in the university.

A group of students who made a long march from Izmir to Ankara to protest against the teaching policy were arrested on May 23, 1986, in Polatlı.

On June 6, still in Izmir, a young university student, Deniz Nencan, was beaten by a policeman at the entrance at his faculty for having a low-necked robe. A group of students protested the police brutality, but they were immediately tried before the disciplinary Council.

Following these repressive practices, on June 27, more than two thousand university students addressed a common petition to the political leaders and demanded the removal from office of YOK President İhsan Doğramacı.

The unbearable conditions of the university dormitories led to the death of a student at the end of June. Accusing the university leaders of not having taken the necessary hygienic measures, the students organized a protest demonstration in Izmir on June 30, 1986. In retaliation, eight of them were barred from the dormitories.

RECENT CONDEMNATIONS

3.5, in Adana, 25 alleged members of the TKP were sentenced to prison terms of up to 14 years.

10.5, in Diyarbakır, 23 alleged members of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) received sentences of up to 24 years.

14.5, in Ankara, a right-wing activist was sentenced to life while 15 others received prison terms of up to 36 years.

15.5, in Adana, four alleged members of the Union of Revolutionary Communists of Turkey (TIKB) was sentenced to capital punishment, six to life imprisonment and 74 others to up to 18 years.

21.5, in Adana, four alleged members of the Communist Work Party of Turkey (TKEP) were sentenced to perpetuity and another was sentenced to six years and eight months.

28.5, in Diyarbakır, 29 members of the PKK received sentences of up to 20 years.

31.5, in Izmir, four alleged members of Dev-Yol were sentenced to up to 20 years. In Diyarbakır, a PKK sympathiser, aged 60, was sentenced to 9 years in prison.

3.6, in Adana, at the end of two legal cases against left-wing organizations, THKO and TDY, three accused were sentenced to life in prison and 28 others to 15 years.

5.6, in Adana, 15 alleged members of "Liberation" were sentenced to up to 13 years in prison.

7.6, in Erzincan, two alleged members of "Liberation" were sentenced to the death penalty, four to perpetuity and 105 others to up to 15 years.

8.6, in Ankara, two Libyan nationals were each sentenced to 5 years in prison.

17.6, in Adana, two alleged members of the People's Revolutionary Union (DHB) were sentenced to capital punishment and two others to 20 years.

18.6, in Adana, 19 members of Dev-Yol were sentenced to capital punishment and 156 others to up to 24 years.

20.6, in Izmir, two workers who had taken part in the Türk-İs demonstration were sentenced to one year in prison.

26.6, in Adana, 23 alleged members of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Turkey (TDKP) were

sentenced to up to 12 years. In Erzurum, five members of the PKK to capital punishment, three TKP/ML members to life in prison and 10 others to up to 16 years.

27.6, in Istanbul, at the end of the cases against the Partisan Way (PY) and the TDKP, 10 people were sentenced to up to 13 years and four months.

28.6, in Diyarbakır, four alleged members of the PKK were sentenced to up to 13 years. In Erzurum, a member of the Freedom Way (OY) was sentenced to capital punishment. The same day, 4 right-wing activists and 43 left-wing ones were sentenced to prison terms of up to 20 years. During these cases, four charged died in prison.

30.6, in Ankara, five teachers were sentenced to six years and four months each. They were accused of adhering to the TKP.

MANHUNTS

1.5, more than 400 people were arrested in Istanbul and more than a hundred in Izmir and accused of having tried to celebrate Labour Day.

3.5, in Hakkari and Tunceli, two Kurdish militants were killed and eight others arrested.

4.5, in Bingöl, Kurdish militants retaliated by killing two persons in the regime's employ.

13.5, in Istanbul, five people were arrested for having organized a clandestine group.

14.5, in Hakkari, an armed conflict between the armed forces and the Kurdish militants ended in the deaths of two soldiers.

15.5, in Adıyaman, a policeman and two Kurdish militants were killed during a confrontation.

22.5, in Ankara, 11 left-wing militants were arrested by the security forces.

24.5, in Siirt, three Kurdish militants were killed by the security forces.

25.5, at a Kurdish retaliatory strike, militants killed four soldiers and wounded seven others in Tunceli.

26.5, five militants presumed to belong to Dev-Yol were arrested in Istanbul.

27.5, a soldier was killed by Kurdish militants.

29.5, a soldier was killed in Tunceli.

1.6, five alleged members of Dev-Yol were arrested in Istanbul.

5.6, the security forces arrested 26 Kurdish militants in Adıyaman.

6.6, 10 tradesmen were arrested in Istanbul after a protest demonstration against the municipality's new restrictive measures.

17.6, in Hakkari, security forces killed six Kurdish militants and arrested six others.

26.6, in Adana, 12 left-wing militants were arrested

28.6, Kurdish militants in retaliation killed six people in the regime's employ in Siirt.

REPRESSION ABROAD

The practice of depriving the regime's opponents in exile of Turkish nationality continues in the same manner that some 250 thousand Turkish citizens are still forbidden from leaving the country.

According to the daily Hürriyet of May 15, 1986, among those who have been refused a passport to travel abroad are the renowned writer Aziz Nesin, the actor Tarık Akan, the trade union leader Abdullah Bastürk, singer Rahmi Saltuk and thousands of intellectual opponents.

Singer Ruhi Su and Istanbul Bar President Orhan Apyadın have been victims of this practice. Although their doctors advised them to seek medical care abroad where medicine is more advanced, they could not leave because of this ban and have died in Turkey.

Aziz Nesin himself suffers from heart disease but he is still refused a passport.

On June 18, 1986, the Council of Ministers announced that 20 Turkish nationals abroad had been stripped of Turkish nationality for their activities against Turkey's interests. Among those affected are the poet Nihat Behram, Kurdish writer Mahmut Bakci, journalists Kamil Taylan and Latife Fegan and one of the former leaders of the Order of Turkish architects Sait Kozacioglu.

The Ministry of the Interior, for its part, published several lists including the name of Turkish nationals who were summoned to Turkey to do their military service. Most of the persons referred to belong to Christian or semitic communities of the country. If they do not go there they will be stripped of Turkish nationality.

POLITICAL RIGHTS TO IMMIGRANTS

Since June 11, 1986, the European Community has its own declaration against racism and xenophobia which was specially signed by presidents of three EEC institutions: the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Council of Ministers.

The "special and binding" EEC engagement strongly condemns all demonstrations of intolerance, hostility and the use of force against an individual, or a group, on the basis of racial, religious, cultural, social or national origins.

The same day, the European Parliament, alone, adopted a resolution providing for political rights for immigrants living in EEC Member States.

These historic acts of the European institutions followed another event of great importance: On March 19, 1986 for the first time, foreigners residing in the Netherlands for at least five years, took part in the voting for municipal elections; a good number of them were candidates, and 17 (including 12 Turkish nationals) were elected.

After these elections, MRAX (Movement Against Racism, Anti-semitism and Xenophobia), in collaboration with the European Committee on Immigrants, the National Committee of Aid for Peace and Devel-

opment, Justice and Peace, Stremrecht 88 and VCCOM, launched a campaign so that voting rights and eligibility might be recognized in Belgium. This campaign got support and participation from many Belgian and immigrants organizations.

CURFEW IN SCHAERBEEK

The mayor of Schaerbeek Roger Nols, known for his xenophobic ideas and acts, put into force in June 86 a police order forbidding the gathering of more than five people, from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., in his commune. The target of this measure was mainly young Morrocans and Turks who often gather in the streets during the month of Ramadan. The curfew, whose end was set for June 10, was prolonged to June 30. Nols justified this extension by asserting that "the troublemakers will then leave for holidays to Morocco and Turkey..."

This repressive measure putting Schaerbeek on par with Johannesburg was strongly denounced by democratic and immigrant associations. According to the Schaerbeek Anti-racist Front, Nols with this regulation was suppressing a fundamental freedom, written in Article 19 of the Constitution. The regulation could also be applied to evening prayer in the mosques as well as strike picketing.

RACISM DURING THE STRIKE

Faced with the threat of mines shutting down in Limbourg, Belgium, miners —of whom the majority are immigrants— launched a general strike in April 1986. To crush the movement, mobile units of the gendarmerie attacked the strike pickets and surrounded the pits to the point that the whole quarter was ringed. At the charge against the picket the gendarmes pursued miners for more than a kilometre, entering cafés or stores of immigrants especially, and breaking windows and holding people without making too much distinction between miners, pensioners, women or even children. According to witness, the gendarmes shouted racist insults at the striking immigrants. During the incident, several Turkish miners were wounded or arrested by the gendarmes.

BLACK BOOK ON THE MILITARIST "DEMOCRACY" IN TURKEY

While European institutions recoiled one after the other before the blackmail from the Ankara regime, INFO-TURK, with the aim of drawing attention once more to the hard realities of this country, has 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-Guerrilla Organisation and the United States; the IMF monetarist diktat; the creation of the military-industrial complex; relations with the United States, socialist countries, the Third World and particularly Europe.

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