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TRIAL DISK

264 UNIONISTS CONDEMNED

The most important political trials organized since the September 12, 1980 coup d'état ended on December 23, 1986, concluded with the 264 officials of the Progressive Trade Unions Confederation of Turkey (DISK) to prison terms up to 15 years. Besides, Chairman Abdullah Bastürk and all members of the Executive Bureau of DISK were condemned to a 3-year house arrest after having served their 10-year prison term. The heaviest prison term, of 15 years, was pronounced against Cetin Uygur, chairman of the Miners' Union.

What is more, DISK and its 28 affiliated trade unions have been dissolved by the decision of the military tribunal. DISK had been founded in 1967 and had become the most combatant trade union confederation of the country with the affiliation of more than one million wage earners, especially in the private sector.

1,477 trade unionists have been judged by the 2nd Military Tribunal of Istanbul since the opening of this colossal trial on a Christmas Day in 1981. At the beginning, the military prosecutor had asked for death sentence against Chairman Bastürk and 77 other leading members of DISK. On the protests coming from all international trade union organisations, mainly the ETUC, the ICFTU, the WLC and the WFTU, all defendants of this trial were released in August 1984 and the military prosecutor was obliged to ask, in the final bill of indictment, to commute capital punishment demands to heavy prison terms.

If the Military Court of Cassation will not overrule the military tribunal's decision, many of the condemned will be incarcerated again for serving the rest of their prison terms.

While the present government of Özal always claims that military tribunals are independent and the political power does never interfere in judicial affairs, Minister of Employment Mükerrrem Tascioglu, during the debates on his ministry's budget at the National Assembly, on December 17, just a few days earlier than the tribunal's decision, qualified DISK as "a trade union to be decapitated." On this governmental declaration, the Populist Social-Democrat Party (SHP) accused the minister of having committed a constitutional crime. Moreover, the defense lawyer of DISK asked the National Assembly Speaker's Office to initiate legal proceedings against the author of these words.

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REACTIONS AGAINST THE SENTENCE

This condemnation unveiling once more the real face of the militarist "democracy" in Turkey was announced just on Christmas Eve, December 23, so as that international mass media hushed up one of the greatest injustices of the history of the trade union movement.

After a few days, a Belgian daily commented this sentence in the following terms:

"The path of the Turkish 'democracy' is a very tortuous one. In this country, which chairs at present the Council of Europe -in fact a seal of democracy-, 264 trade unionists have been condemned for 'subversive activities aiming at establishing the domination of a class over another.' As a matter of fact, this is a real political trial: all the accusations are based on the trade union activities organized by DISK prior to the military coup d'état of 1980. Whereas, all these activities were considered legal at that time... At present, only one trade union center is authorized in Turkey. Can this country be worthy of chairing the Council of Europe? And are not the 'meetings' between Ankara and the EEC a bit premature?" (*Le Soir*, 27.12.1986)

All the international trade union organizations have at one reacted against this sentence, by reminding international institutions that it is a new proof of the continuation of disrespect to human rights.

"Although the military authorities endeavour by all possible means to pass off DISK affiliates as terrorists before the Turkish population, they have failed to succeed in doing it. They have not stuck to this claim and had to pronounce the sentence on the basis of an extreme interpretation of Article 141, on subversive activities, of the Turkish Penal Code, modified after the coup of September 12, 1980. Accusing DISK of these crimes aims at burying the role of this trade union confederation. However, the new holders of political power are not so concerned about defending impartially the rights of workers and about constructing in a consequent way a socially and economically just society. The tribunal's decision takes no heed of democratic rules of law and is in contradiction with the internationally recognized trade union rights. Moreover, the tribunal's judgement only confirms that it is not at all question an economic democratization in Turkey: Henceforth, a big majority of workers will not be legally represented by an organization chosen by themselves, DISK," said the World Labour Confederation (WCL) in its press release.

Besides, the European Trade Unions Confederation (ETUC), the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) as well as other national trade union centers have energetically reacted against the DISK's condemnation.

At the moment of the pronouncement of the judgement, DISK Chairman Abdullah Bastürk was in Europe. While the pro-government Turkish press was trying to discredit Mr. Bastürk by claiming that he would not return to Turkey for escaping a new imprisonment, he energetically refuted this speculation and went back to his country after having concluded his talks with European trade union officials.

When he arrived at Istanbul airport, he said: "This judgement is not at all judicial, but entirely political. The ban on DISK is not an affair to be minimized, as the bourgeoisie and certain political circles at the service of the former endeavour to do so. In democracies there are *sine qua non* conditions and institutions. Trade unions are one of them. If there will be democracy, democratic rights, freedoms and rights to collective bargaining and to strike will be restored in Turkey, the existence of DISK will be indispensable. Even if the ban on DISK will be ratified, its options of trade union shall absolutely organize in Turkey and the working class of Turkey shall found new DISK. We are engaged in trade union movement until our death and with the determination of furthering it. When we die, new generations shall make it live. This is not only the struggle of the working class, but also an important component of the struggle for democracy."

Mr. Bastürk had left Turkey as a member of the Executive Committee of the ETUC, after a 6-year ban, thanks to the pressure by European parliamentarians on the Turkish Government. In fact, after the military coup, the ETUC had dealt with the DISK's demand of affiliation and accepted it as an effective member while its all trade union activities were suspended in Turkey by the military. Mr. Bastürk had automatically become a member of the ETUC's Executive Committee.

In Europe, Mr. Bastürk started his talks with trade union officials on December 10 at the seat of the ETUC in Brussels and declared to the press that if the trials ends with acquittal, DISK would be the most powerful trade union center of Turkey and would always remain attached to all European norms of trade unionism.

During two weeks he had talks with trade union and political circles in Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Italy, the FRG, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and the Great Britain. All European comrades confirmed him the full solidarity of European trade union movement with DISK.

USUAL HYPOCRICY IN ANKARA

While the spokesmen of the Populist Social-Democrat Party (SHP) were commenting the judgment as a grave blow to social rights, incompatible with the concept of State of law and the justice and estimating that it will deteriorate anew Turco-European relations, Prime Minister Ozal and the leaders of the other right wing parties have preferred to keep silence on the subject by claiming that they did not want to interfere in judicial affairs.

Since a minister of this regime has already qualified DISK as a "trade union to be decapitated", such a claim of the Right was only a new proof of the usual hypocrisy of the rulers in Ankara.

What is more noteworthy is the reaction of the leading officials of the pro-government trade union confederation, TURK-IS, who have enjoyed all benediction of the military while the DISK officials were being tried before military tribunal and who have formulated against the latter the calumnies as odious as those which took part in the bill of indictment read by the military prosecutor.

At the moment of the pronouncement of the judgement against DISK, the statutory convention of TURK-IS was being held in Ankara. The social-democrat delegates who were contesting the present direction of the confederation, when the judgement was heard in the convention hall, started to launch slogans of protest: "Freedom to DISK!" and "The Government! Resign!"

Panic-stricken, the confederation's chairman, Mr. Sevket Yilmaz, was obliged to say: "I am sad of and worry about this decision."

However, the social-democrat delegates of some affiliated trade unions displayed a more critical attitude against the judgement during the works of the convention.

Cevdet Selvi (*Chairman of Oil Workers' Union*): "It turns out that the judgement is political rather than judicial. This is a blow to the Turco-European relations."

Ali Ekber Güvenc (*Chairman of the Printers' Union*): "Whatsoever is said by political rulers, the decision related to DISK is a proof of the fact that the transition to democracy has not yet been achieved."

Kenan Durukan (*Chairman of the War Industry Workers' Union*): "This decision shows at what level the trade union movement, rights and freedoms have been restricted in Turkey."

Hasan Basri Babali (*Chairman of the Glass Workers' Union*): "This is a blow to the working class. Such a blow might be well sent also against Turk-Is. For this reason, Turk-Is must show solidarity with the comrades from DISK."

Turan Caglar (*Chairman of the Transport Workers' Union*): "The pronouncement of such a judgement while the Turk-Is' convention is going on constitutes a threat aiming at the intimidation of it as well."

Nevertheless, the convention could not display the courage of adopting a resolution of solidarity with DISK.

UNEASINESS WITHIN TURK-IS

While DISK was being dissolved by the military tribunal, the conciliatory direction of TURK-IS, which groups more than one million wage earners, became the subject of personal quarrels between its leading officials during the statutory convention opened on December 21, 1986. On the other hand, the social-democrat wing of the delegates, contesting the ensemble of the present direction, appeared for the first time as a considerable alternative.

Although all the members of the direction have shared the shame of collaborating with the military regime by lending, from 1980 to 1983, the Secretary General of to the confederation to the military government as minister of Social Security, panic-stricken of the rise of the dissatisfaction manifested by the grass roots, they were divided in several groups and accused each other with the hope of saving themselves from the responsibilities of the past irregularities.

The most spectacular of the accusations was without any doubt the one which was pronounced by Secretary General Sadik Side against Chairman Sevket Yilmaz. "He wishes not to see me any more within the direction, because I have refused to sign the payment or-

ders for the invoices of the diners of millions of Turkish Liras, given by Yilmaz in the honour of the US Ambassador. He and his band have embezzled \$26,000 attributed to Turk-Is by a US Foundation named ISAC. They have not stayed there. A US company, Pathfinder, had given us contraceptive sheaths worth \$75,000. They have embezzled as well a great part of \$50,000, profits coming from the sale of these sheaths."

In return, the former secretary for training, Kaya Ozdemir, accused Side of having sent his son to the United States for higher education by using the funds attributed by AAFLI (Asia-America Free Labour Institute), a body suspect of being subsidized by the CIA with the purpose of infiltrating into the trade unions of undeveloped countries. The trade union training program of Turk-Is has been applied since 1968 under the direction of AAFLI and, according to the daily Cumhuriyet of December 25, already 12 thousand Turkish trade unionists have followed this training program.

On the last day of the convention, three candidates were presented for the post of presidency: The present chairman, Sevket Yilmaz, the chairman of the Metal Workers' Union, Mustafa Ozbek, also a right-wing unionist, and the chairman of the Oil Workers' Union, Cevdet Selvi, the candidate of the social-democrat unionists. At the end of voting, while the votes of the Right were being shared by Yilmaz and Ozbek, respectively 152 and 104, the social-democrat candidate, Selvi, succeeded in obtaining 140 votes, yet too short for being elected chairman. So, Yilmaz could be re-elected chairman by the skin of one's teeth.

The main loser of the day was the former secretary general Sadik Side who got only 120 votes while Emin Kul was being elected secretary general with 138 votes and Kenan Durukan, candidate of the social-democrats, was losing the race with 136 votes.

The right-wing direction was once more confirmed at this convention, but the social-democrat wing came out more powerful than ever.

As for the other authorized trade union confederation, HAK-IS, having islamist leanings and grouping some 200 thousand wage earners, its convention also has given to the discontent grass roots the occasion to reveal many irregularities of the leading officials. While the latter were pretending to be "honest servants of God", many delegates accused them of having wasted the confederation's funds for personal purposes and of having slap-up meals at luxury hotels and restaurants with this money.

Nevertheless, the direction could make itself re-elected thanks to the active support of the islamist movement, represented at present in political field by the Welfare Party (RP).

ACTIONS OF MASS STRIKES

For 1986, the annual rate of inflation remains at the level of %30 and the unemployment rate pass over %20. The service of foreign debts (about \$27 billions) represents 34% of export incomes.

The fall of purchasing power and the deterioration of the living conditions have led wage earners, despite restrictive legislation on social rights, to different kinds of protest actions.

Facing the intransigence of the Union of Metal Industry Employers (MESS) -of which the chairman, before the coup, was the present premier Özal- during collective bargainings, 30 thousand members of the autonomous trade union (OTOMOBIL-IS) went on the action of refusing meals served at enterprises, a traditional form of pacific protest action in Turkey.

Following this action, 2,650 out of 3,307 workers of the NETAS, members of OTOMOBIL-IS, came out on strike on November 18, 1986, mainly for obtaining wage hikes corresponding to the inflation rate. This strike is considered the first mass strike since 1980. NETAS produces equipments for the Post, Telephone and Telegraph Corporation. 49 per cent of its shares belong to the PTT, %31 to the Canadian company Northern Telecon and %15 to the Foundation of Turkish Naval Forces.

On November 21, about 630 workers of PIRELLI,

members of the union LASPETKIM-IS, went on strike as well. So, Turkey enters in the year of 1987 with some 4 thousand workers on strike.

Moreover, the Oil Workers' Union (PETROL-IS) announced that 6,500 workers of the public enterprise PETKIM will go on strike at the beginning of the new year. The chairman of this union, Cevdet Selvi, was candidate for the presidency of TURK-IS, on the list of social-democrats, and lost the election by the skin of one's teeth.

On the other hand, in Adana, seven leading officials of a textile workers' union started a hunger-strike at the beginning of December 1986 for protesting against the coercive practices exerted on the workers of the Cukobirlik textile factories. On the promise of the Prime Minister to interfere in favour of workers, the hunger-strikers put an end to their action on December 11

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT REMAINS FIRM VIS-A-VIS THE ANKARA REGIME

The resumption of the EEC/Turkey Association Council's meetings, despite the continuing violation of human rights in this country, stirred up the European Parliament which has been critical since the coup of 1980 against the Ankara regime.

At the plenary session of the European Parliament of December 10, 1986, many questions were put to the Council of Ministers in relation with the EEC's attitude facing Turkey.

The questions illustrated two positions taken within the European Parliament: Although all members agree on the necessity that improvement should be carried out on the way of democracy and respect to human rights in Turkey, the Left estimated that some gestures accomplished until present by the Turkish Government do not justify at all the resumption of the association relations with this country and, in particular, neither the meeting of the association council nor the revival of joint parliamentary committee; as for the Right, it estimated that the European Parliament had to adopt, vis-à-vis Turkey, a constructive attitude.

Just before the session of the European Parliament, the Socialist Group had organized, on December 1st in Brussels, a "socialist summit" with the participation of the representatives of the two social-democrat parties of Turkey, SHP and DSP, as well as the delegates of the Council of Europe, the Assembly of the North Atlantic Alliance, the Union of Western Europe, the ICF-TU and the ETUC, with a view to making a general evaluation of the present situation in Turkey.

Though DISK President Abdullah Bastürk was invited to this summit, he could not left Turkey in time because of the delay of his passport's delivery.

Basing on the findings of this summit, Belgian parliamentarian Ernest Glinne declared, at the plenary session of the parliament, his group's point of view in the following terms:

"The resolution adopted by the Parliament on October 23, 1985, has not lost its pertinence. In fact, if some very limited steps have been taken on the way of parliamentarism, the unacceptable facts still exist in

Turkey. Political personalities of first plan are excluded from political activities. Amnesty International and the Helsinki Watch Committee still report cases of torture. Detention conditions do not seem ameliorated. The report drawn up by a committee of the Grand National Assembly on this subject remains without any effect. Legal proceedings are still anti-democratic. Right of association, especially in the trade union field, is severely restricted. Freedom of expression remains gagged.

"In reality, the regime's nature has not changed despite the amelioration of the decoration at the level of the Grand National Assembly which, however, does not have real power.

"Under these conditions, the Association Council should not have met on September 16. The following prerequisites should have been fulfilled: end to mass arrests and mass trials, abolition of capital punishment, amnesty for all prisoners of opinion, right for all Turkish citizens to address to the European Court for Human Rights, abolition of the restrictions which suppress the right to association and the freedom of expression, end to inhuman treatments, liberation of universities subjected at present to a military type discipline, end to the repression which hits ethnical and religious minorities and restoration of human rights.

"Since these prerequisites have not been fulfilled, the meeting of the Association Council, after a 6-year suspension, gave the impression that the Community has been engaged in the way of an unjustified normalisation and accepts the interior regime of Turkey as it stands.

"A certain dialogue is certainly unavoidable between Turkey and the Community in order to settle the contentious questions concerning the Association Agreement, but the political framework of any dialogue should be defined very clearly so as to avoid the appearance of a support to the regime, and the improvement of dialogue should depend on really significant findings of amelioration.

"In order to agree new advantages, notably finan-

GRAND SOCIO-ECONOMIC GAP BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE EEC

While the Ankara regime is carrying on its efforts in a view of adhering to the European Community, the pro-government Turkish regime itself exposes the great socio-economic gap between Turkey and the EEC countries which will prevent a real integration of this euro-asiatic country into the club of rich nations.

According to a study published by the daily *Hürriyet* of September 26, 1986, certain indications of living standards show that Turkey is still very far from catching the present level of prosperity of the poorest countries of the EEC:

	<u>TURKEY</u>	<u>GREECE</u>	<u>PORTUGAL</u>	<u>IRELAND</u>	<u>EEC AVERAGE</u>
GNP <i>per head</i>	1,000\$	4,600\$	2,000\$	4,750\$	10,000\$
CARS <i>per 100 inhab.</i>	1.48	9.50	13.00	22.00	32.00
TELEPHONE <i>per 100 inhab.</i>	3.50	15.00	16.00	23.00	56.00
TELEVISION <i>per 100 inhab.</i>	11.70	14.50	11.80	21.50	30.50

cial ones, to Turkey as an associate State, it is also indispensable that Ankara practice good neighbourhood policy towards Greece and Cyprus.

"Democratic qualification has been a *sine qua non* requirement since the idea of a future and hypothetical Turkish adhesion to the Community was evoked. We should maintain in this subject the categorically refusal that the Community and its member States had set against Spain and Portugal when they were under dictatorships.

"Since changes have not taken place, it seems to us unjustified to revive the EEC/Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee. This can be done only after a mutation, I say a mutation, in the Turkish regime. As the Commission and the Council, our parliament too cannot give satisfactions to a regime which has modified only some appearances and carried out some little gestures. It does not yet deserve the reactivation of the joint parliamentary committee."

As for the free movement of Turkish workers within the Community, Mr. Glinne estimates that one should not put the cart before the horse while the other workers from the countries of the Community (Spaniards and Portugueses) do not still benefit from this free movement. "What can be done is to facilitate the voyage and family grouping within the Community of the Turkish workers who have already been established in regular conditions within a member country," he said.

In the name of the Rainbow Group, Mrs. Brigitte Heinrich reminded that a Turkish minister had recently declared that Turkey would ask soon to enter into the European Community and, in the month of June, the European Commissioner Cheysson had reportedly said that this adhesion could be made in 1995. "As for the German Government, it is ready to give military material to Turkey in exchange of renunciation of the free movement of Turkish workers: a military material to be used by the Turkish authorities to bomb Kurdish villages beyond the frontiers. No! Really we cannot free 600 million ECU of the 4th protocol as long as we cannot notice a progress in the Turkish regime's attitude," she said.

While the spokesman of the Communist Group, Mr. Dimitrios Adamou was expressing their opposition against all kind of resumption of the relations with the Turkish regime, Mr. Nielsen, spokesman of the Liberal Group, asked for a constructive attitude of the European Parliament "which maintains relations with other countries where human rights are not at all respected." And he claimed: "Within European Parliament/Turkish National Assembly Joint Committee, European Parliament can make further democracy in Turkey."

In response to the parliamentarians' remarks, President-in-Office of the Council and of the Foreign Ministers, Mrs. Chalker said: "the holding of the Association Council meeting did not -I repeat not- in any way imply that the Council disassociates itself from those calling for full respect for human rights in Turkey. On the contrary, when the Twelve decided to embark on this policy of gradual normalization of relations, they emphasized at every meeting that they would continue to follow with close attention the situation with regard to human rights and fundamental freedoms in Turkey and they would consider carefully the progress being made towards the restoration of democracy there. Sir Geoffrey Howe himself speaking as President-in-Office left nobody in any doubt of the concern of the Community as a whole for respect for human rights in Turkey. In any case the question of Turkey's accession to the Community has not been raised in the Council. However, there can be no doubt that the existence of a democratic system is an essential prerequisite for any country which wishes to become a member of our Community. We all know that Spain and Portugal waited years until they had restored their democracies before they were in a position to apply and before we in the Community were in a position to entertain their application for membership. That will be true for each and every country which may apply in the future."

In fact, British Prime Minister Thatcher, a few days ago, during the European Summit of Dec. 7 in London, had declared that it would be too early for a possible demand of adhesion by the Turkish Government.

After the debates, European Parliament adopted, on December 11, the following resolution proposed by

the Socialist Group with 158 votes against 91 and 37 abstentions.

So, all attempts of the six members of Turkish National Assembly who had come to Strasbourg in order to persuade their European colleagues of the resumption of parliamentary relations fell through.

Turkish newspapers announced the position of the European Parliament with these titles: "Red light from the EEC!" (*Milliyet*), "Fog between us and Europe!" (*Hürriyet*), "Normalization of the relations with Europe? Perhaps in January!" (*Cumhuriyet*).

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S RESOLUTION

The European Parliament,

A. Recalling its resolution on the human rights situation in Turkey of 23 October, 1985,

B. Noting the progress which has taken place since then towards the restoration of parliamentary democracy,

C. Noting however that though the Turkish Grand National Assembly is now more widely representative of the political spectrum; leading political figures remain excluded from active political life;

D. Noting the fact that the death penalty has not been carried out in the last two years;

E. Noting however that reliable sources such as Amnesty International and the Helsinki Watch Committee continue to report widespread use of torture in prisons and particularly in police stations, and that the report of the Prisons Committee of the Turkish Grand National Assembly of November 1985 does not seem to have had much effect;

F. Noting the Amnesty International report of 3 Oct. 1986 on the continued lack of right to fair trials;

G. Deploring the continuation of the mass trials;

H. Regretting the continued restrictions on trade union rights;

I. Noting that though martial law is now confined to 5 provinces, 11 others, including all the main cities, remain under a State of Emergency, and that military courts continue to deal with trials in provinces where martial law has been lifted;

J. Noting that after a break of 6 years a meeting of the Association Council was held on 16 September, 1986, without any concrete result;

L. Concerned at the continuing occupation by Turkey of a full 36% of the national territory of the Republic of Cyprus, a country associated to the European Communities;

1. Calls for continued progress towards the full restoration of parliamentary democracy in Turkey;

2. Calls for action by the Turkish authorities to restore full human rights observance, notably as regards:

a) an amnesty for prisoners of conscience;

b) ending torture and inhuman prison conditions;

c) the right to a fair trial;

d) the discontinuance of the mass trials of the Turkish Peace Association, DISK and its affiliated unions, and various groups of intellectuals;

e) Removing the restrictions on freedom of politi-

cal activity, trade union rights and free expression of opinion;

f) Abolition of the death penalty;

3. Expects Turkey to pursue a good neighbour policy towards Greece and actively contribute to an objectively viable solution of the Cyprus conflict in the framework of the UN;

4. Feels that the European Community is not yet justified in fully normalising its relations with Turkey, and that holding a meeting of the Association Council was liable to give the false impression of a complete EC endorsement of the political and human rights situation in Turkey;

5. Accepts nevertheless that a dialogue is needed between the EEC and Turkey to settle certain contentious issues within the framework of the Association Agreement;

6. Understands that in a situation of massive unemployment within the EEC and at a time when Greek workers do not yet have full free movement within the Community, and Portuguese and Spanish workers will not until 1993, it was impossible for the Council of Ministers to make a more generous offer on the question of free movement of Turkish workers within the EEC;

7. Stresses, however, that the Community and its Member States should, at the very least, do everything possible to improve the social and legal situation of Turkish workers already in regular work within the Community, and their families; this means in particular:

- removing the visa obligation for journeys within the EC by Turkish workers, who work and reside in an EC country; and

- arrangements for reunification of the families of such workers;

8. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission and the Council, the Foreign Ministers meeting in Political Cooperation, the governments of the Member States, the Turkish Government and the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

TURKISH ATTEMPTS FOR ADHESION

The Turkish regime's riposte to this parliamentary position of December 11 has been contradictory. While the DISK Trial was being concluded with mass condemnation of 264 trade unionists without taking into consideration Article 2 this resolution, the new Turkish Minister in charge of Relations with the European Community, Mr. Ali Bozer made a series of visits in Europe in a view of making European leaders sensitive to a possible demand of Turkish accession to the EEC.

However, according to the *European Report* of December 22, "Bozer received a cooler welcome in London than in Brussels."

First of all, Mr. Bozer's meeting with Claude Cheysson, the EEC Commissioner in charge of North/South relations, was postponed from December 17 to December 19 under the pretext that the latter was very busy with another affair.

During their delayed interview, Mr. Cheysson ap-

parently did nothing more than listen to Bozer's (for the first time official) confirmation of Turkey's intention to apply for EEC membership. The United Kingdom's response to this same confirmation, given a few hours earlier to the current President of the EEC's Council of Ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, was that the application would not be considered as long as the EEC was still digesting its recent enlargement.

The Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Tindemans who will take over the presidency-in-office of the Council from January 1st, 1987, also suggested to Mr. Bozer during their talks, that Turkey should not hurry up for presenting Turkish candidacy to the EEC and added that the two parties should first of all seek a solution to certain urgent problems.

Although European leaders were coming out against the Turkish candidacy, the United States has already promised to its most loyal ally to support its attempts in this way. On November 18, during the visit to Ankara of Mr. Richard Perle, US Adjoint Minister for National Defense, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs Halefoglu asked him for US support to Turkish candidacy to the EEC. In exchange of the conclusion

of a new military agreement with Ankara, Mr. Perle declared that his country would make its best for persuading its European allies to welcome the Turkish demand.

Another objective of Mr. Bozer's talks was to put in concrete form the way of free movement of Turkish workers in the Community. However, the Community officials did not make any comment on this subject.

After this European tour without success, at the moment of his arrival at Ankara, Mr. Bozer announced that Turkey would go to the European Court of Justice, if any accord of free movement is not put in concrete form by diplomatic means.

On the other hand, on December 1st, date foreseen for putting in effect the accord on free movement of Turkish workers in the Community, a group of Turkish workers living in Holland attempted to cross the German frontier without getting a German visa on their passport, but all of them were turned back by the German police.

On this incident, many Turkish workers have declared that they would resort to the European Court of Justice with the purpose of making the right to free movement judicially recognized.

TURKEY ENTERS IN 1987 UNDER STATE TERRORISM

While the Ankara regime, enjoying from the title of "president-in-office" of the Council of Europe of 21 countries, is knocking the doors of all European capitals for a Turkish adhesion to the EEC, the citizens of the Turkish Republic, six years later than the military coup of September 12, 1980, prepare to welcome the New Year, one more time, under state terrorism. We are detailing below the recent condemnations, arrests and legal proceedings as well as the pressure on intellectuals which have been added to the mass condemnation in mass of DISK's leading officials.

RECENT CONDEMNATIONS

14.12, in Istanbul, the Dev-Yol Trial of 374 defendants ends with the condemnation of four people to life-prison and 127 others to prison terms up to 20 years.

17.12, in Istanbul, six leading officials of the Fatherland Party (VP), banned after the military coup, are condemned 8-year prison term each.

24.12, in Elazig, six alleged members of PKK are condemned to capital punishment, ten to life-prison and 149 others to prison terms up to 13 years and 4 months.

26.12, in Istanbul, two right-wing activists are condemned to life-prison and three others to 36-year prison each.

28.12, in Ankara, European Secretary of the religious movement *National Vision* (Milli Görüş), Hasan Damar is condemned to a prison term of 2 years and one month.

31.12, in Izmir, five alleged members of "Partisan's Path" are condemned to prison terms of 41 years and 8 months in total.

CHARGES AGAINST POLITICAL LEADERS

10.12, Mr. Necmeddin Erbakan, Chairman of the National Salvation Party (MSP), banned after the military coup, and 7 other leading members are brought before a tribunal in Konya for a rally organized prior to the coup.

12.12, Kamil Karavelioglu, life-member of the dissolved Senate, is charged with discrediting the "President of the Republic" in a speech he gave at a SHP meeting.

19.12, former member of parliament Aydin Menderes is interrogated by a public prosecutor for his participation in a debate organized by the Correct Way Party (DYP).

24.12, former premier Demirel and chairman of the banned MHP, Türkes are tried before tribunals for the speeches they gave respectively at the electoral meetings of DYP and MCP in September 1986.

OTHER NEW TRIALS

3.12, in Diyarbakir, the military prosecutor asked for capital punishment for three members of PKK.

21.12, twenty-nine alleged members of PKK are brought before a military tribunal. One defendant faces capital punishment.

22.12, Chairman of the Turkish Doctors' Union (TTB) and 20 other members are brought before a criminal court in Istanbul for the activities which took place prior to the 1980 coup. Each one risks prison terms up to 15 years.

23.12, four trade unionists who collected signatures for a petition against the new system of seniority allowance, are charged in Istanbul by prosecutor with collaborating with a political party, SHP.

26.12, a new trials starts in Diyarbakir against a group of PKK militants. Among them is also a 14-year boy who risks capital punishment. However, the military prosecutor asked to commute it to life-prison considering that he is minor.

RECENT KILLINGS AND ARRESTS

3.12, in Cizre (Mardin), three PKK militants are shot dead by security forces while they were attempting to cross the Turkish-Syrian border.

4.12, in Tunceli, security forces shoot dead four militants of TKP/ML of whom two are women. Another militant is detained after being gravely wounded.

12.12, in Eskisehir, twelve alleged members of the religious order "Süleymanci" are arrested for their anti-secular practices.

13.12, four people are arrested in Biga for contravening the secular principles of the State.

15.12, twenty people are detained in Balikesir for the propaganda of "Süleymanci".

26.12, in Adana, ten people are arrested for leftist activities.

30.12, in the O of Karaman of Konya province, journalists Medeni Yavuzarslan and Sihali Yalciner as well as 20 other people of whom three teachers, are arrested for sticking up poster which contain anti-establishment slogans.

ARRESTS AT UNIVERSITIES

The resistance continues in different forms against the arbitrary practices of the Higher Education Council (YÖK).

On December 20, in Edirne, a young university student committed suicide by shooting himself for protesting against the arbitrary disqualification and elimination of students of which he was also a victim. The tragical death of Yusuf Ziya Ünlü provoked a spontaneous protest action by his comrades of class. Police immediately intervened in for preventing the extension of this movement and detained six students.

On December 27, twenty-nine students of the Hacettepe University in Ankara launched an action of

"silence". Next day, this action was followed by the refusal of meal by students at the Istanbul University.

The end of the year of 1986 was marked by a series of hunger-strikes started by students at different universities of the country: 47 students were on hunger-strike in Ankara, 34 in Izmir, 34 in Istanbul and 29 in Bursa.

During the student actions in Ankara, on Dec. 24, police detained many students as well as the theatre critic Yilmaz Onay and the responsible editor of the youth review Yarin. All detainees are accused of acting under the incitement by a an underground political party.

After their release, Yilmaz Onay, during a press conference held by the Association of Human Rights on December 27 in Ankara, said that he was subjected to falaka (beating on the soles) and electroshock by police during his interrogation.

On the other hand, in Konya, two students of the Veterinary Faculty were arrested on November 29 for communist propaganda.

PRESSURE ON MASS-MEDIA

In their turn, the new year cards too have been the subject of repressive practices. Police made many raids to publication houses, printing houses and bookshops with the purpose of confiscating the cards containing the poems of anti-establishment poets like Nazim Hikmet and Ahmet Arif or white dove pictures symbolizing Peace.

On December 23, in Denizli, three booksellers were condemned each to 6-million TL fine for selling new year cards with the picture of a "topless" women.

During these raids, some twenty booksellers were arrested and about 30 thousand cards were confiscated by police.

Abusing their authorization for this seizing operation, police confiscated also 136-title socio-political books without court warrant.

On the other hand, on December 14, a fascicle of the Turkish edition of Encyclopedia Britannica was confiscated by police on the pretext that it contains some texts incompatible with the safeguard of national feelings. The prosecutor opened a legal proceeding at the State Security Court against the editors.

On December 26, a novel entitled "Unfinished Love" of Pinar Kür was confiscated for "obscene descriptions of making love". The author and her editor have been brought before a criminal court.

On the same day, the director of a musical show entitled "Harmful Show", Mr. Ferhan Sensoy was brought before tribunal for slandering religious values. He faces a prison term up to one year and a fine of up to 10 million TL.

At December, the responsible editors of two dailies, *Günes* and *Günaydin*, as well as of two magazines, *Playboy* and *Sürpriz*, were charged by prosecutors with "publication harmful to minors."