

ITA

INFO-TÜRK AJANSI
AGENCE INFO-TÜRK
INFO-TÜRK AGENCY

BÜLTEN BULLETIN

EDITION ET DIFFUSION EN BELGIQUE: CODIFF
561, CHAUSSEE DE NINOVE - 1080 BRUXELLES
TELEPHONE: (32-2) 523 22 26 et 522 98 12

Reprints of our articles
authorized with the mention
of reference INFO-TÜRK or ITA

MONTHLY PERIODICAL
Year 2 - December 1977
Gen.43 - English 14
Price 10 FB
Annual Subscription
Belgium 100 FB
Abroad 200 FB

LOCAL ELECTIONS LEAD TO A GOVERNMENTAL CHANGE IN TURKEY

ANKARA (ITA) - The returns of 11th December local elections in Turkey, manifesting a further shift to the left, have been a blow on the "National Front" Government which has ruled Turkey since 31 months. As Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Bulent Ecevit said, these results will affect Turkey's general political atmosphere and Turkish democracy, creating important political consequences.

Republican People's Party which entered the polls controlling the municipalities in 33 provincial centers emerged with 42 mayorships in its portfolio. CHP won over the mayorships of Bursa and Aydin, traditional bastions of Justice Party (AP). Although CHP lost Malatya and Diyarbakir to independents and Izmit (Kocaeli) to AP, the reason of these paradoxical losses is the fact that in the said provinces the left-wing candidates of CHP had been vetoed by the party administration and therefore many progressive electors, protesting against this attitude, did not participate in elections and caused the CHP votes to fall.

Justice Party (AP), principal partner of the "Nationalist Front" Government, entering the polls with 22 mayorships in cities, emerged with only 15. National Salvation Party (MSP), pro-islamic partner of the government, could obtain only 3 mayorships in cities.

Nevertheless, of the three government parties, Nationalist Action Party (MHP), neo-fascist partner of the government, emerged with increasing gains from the local elections. MHP which entered the polls without any municipalities won mayorships of five provincial centers, three of them previously controlled by AP and two by CHP. And so, MHP turned the third biggest party by having left behind MSP.

Totally, of the 1712 settlement centers of Turkey, CHP won 715 mayorships, AP 710, MHP 58, MSP 46, three minor parties 12 and Independents 172.

On the other hand, the counting of votes cast for provincial assemblies shows that the center-left continues to increase the percentage of votes.

COMPARATIVE RESULTS OF THE LOCAL ELECTIONS OF 1973 AND 1977

Parties	Votes for local Elections 1973	Mayors 1973	Votes for local elections 1977	Mayors 1977
Republican People's Party	3.708.687 (%37.1)	533	5.065.753 (%42.09)	715
Justice Party	3.232.365 (%32.3)	658	4.477.018 (%37.19)	710
Nationalist Action Party	133.089 (% 1.3)	4	811.757 (% 6.74)	58
National Salvation Party	620.140 (% 6.2)	25	819.638 (% 6.81)	46
Democratic Party	1.075.304 (%10.8)	100	121.557 (% 1.--)	4
Republican Reliance Party	289.683 (% 2.9)	37	64.042 (% 0.53)	7
Workers' Party of Turkey	---	---	58.683 (% 0.49)	-
Union Party of Turkey	41.092 (% 0.4)	---	29.748 (% 0.24)	1
Soc. Workers' Party of Turkey	---	---	28.850 (% 0.24)	-
Socialist Revolution Party	---	---	2.982 (% 0.02)	-
Independents	890.878 (% 8.9)	287	555.663 (% 4.61)	172

Rising of the neo-fascist party

The table shows that the votes of Justice Party too increased, but the new votes came from other rightist parties such as Democratic Party and Republican Reliance Party which had once won over a certain part of traditional electors of Justice Party. Those parties are now practically eliminated from political scene of Turkey. It means that AP did not increase its votes, but recuperated those which had temporarily shifted to other rightist parties.

But the origin of the new votes of neo-fascist party is still controversial. Analysing the results, Ecevit said the returns confirmed that AP is rapidly losing its votes to the MHP. "A shift of votes from AP to CHP is the natural outcome of change in the society. But AP's votes loss to MHP is caused only by the concessions AP leader Demirel makes to MHP, just for the sake of remaining in power," he said.

Nevertheless, it is a fact that MHP got a certain part of its new coming votes from CHP. Fascist leader ex-colonel Alparslan Türkeş said in a press conference that, contrary to what CHP leader claimed, MHP had won over mayorships from CHP in Erzurum, Yozgat and Elazığ.

As a matter of fact, this shift of votes from CHP to MHP also is a natural outcome of the concessions Ecevit made to MHP during the election of the Speaker of Parliament.

While this election was at deadlock, MHP said that it would support a candidate from CHP for National Assembly Speaker as long as the nominee is an "anti-communist". Surprising all his left-wing supporters, Ecevit accepted this proposal and presented the names of 15 deputies whom he considered "anti-communist". From this list, Mr. Cahit Karakas was picked up by Türkeş and then, with the votes of CHP and MHP parliamentary groups, this "anti-communist" was elected the Speaker of National Assembly.

Ecevit's this new conciliatory attitude caused criticisms by the left-wing of the party. For example, Izmir Deputy Süleyman Gonç, criticized the "cooperation" between CHP and MHP, saying "we formerly legitimized the MSP, now is it the MHP's turn?"

The answer has been positive and, in addition to other reasons, thanks to the credit granted by Ecevit, MHP succeeded to obtain 58 mayorships all over Turkey and increased its votes to 811.757 (%6.74) from 133.089 (%1.3).

Towards A Governmental Change

Anyhow, the fact that CHP emerged with increasing gains from the local elections and that MHP won over certain votes of AP had an impact on the arithmetic of Parliament, with successive resignations of some AP deputies from this party. Seeing the rising influence of MHP over the state apparatus, they had already decided to resign from AP for destroying the absolute majority of the "Nationalist Front" and so creating a chance to form a new government without participation of that neo-fascist party.

Hence, AP's seats in National Assembly dropped to 178 from 190. All together, with MSP's 24 and MHP's 16 deputies, Prime Minister Süleyman Demirel's "Nationalist Front Government" has barely 218 votes, below the 226-vote absolute majority.

These resignation have encouraged Ecevit to move for overthrowing the "Nationalist Front" Government and establishing a new CHP government in any form. As explained in our earlier bulletins, the business circles of Turkey are favoring a CHP-AP coalition instead of 3-party "NF" coalition.

Recently, Mr. Nurullah Gezgin, Chairman of Istanbul Industrialists' Chamber, said: "The only way out for the economic, social and political problems of Turkey is a coalition to be formed by the two principal parties (AP and CHP -od.)." Mr. Feyyaz Berker, Chairman of Association of Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen, too called on the leaders of these two parties to make common efforts in order to free the country from actual grave situation.

If he can succeed to overthrow the "NF" Government by making it failed to get vote of confidence at Parliament, Ecevit will try first to form a one-party government with the support of the independent deputies who resigned from AP. If this attempt fails, the second alternative is to realize a CHP-AP coalition. In the case of failure of this second alternative, Ecevit will try lastly to make a coalition with Nationalist Action Party or National Salvation Party. Although it seems very contradictory to talk on a possibility of a coalition between a center-left party and a neo-fascist party, Ecevit already proved during the election of the Speaker of National Assembly that, if there is not any other solution, he can easily make collaboration with anybody, even if he is Türkeş.
(C-V-M-DG- 20/12)

A BLOODY ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN: 46 ASSASSINATIONS IN 41 DAYS

ANKARA (ITA) - In the course of the local elections campaign, number of violence acts reached a record level and within only 41 days 46 persons were assassinated for political motives. As always, the big majority of murderers are "Gray Wolves", that is to say the para-military commandos of Nationalist Action Party (MHP), neo-fascist partner of the "Nationalist Front" Government.

According to the daily newspaper Vatan of 20 November 1977, the number of political assassinations committed within 4-month period of 2nd "NF" Government reached 90 and 680 persons too have been wounded. Taking into consideration the victims of the incidents from 20 November to 11 December, this number rises to 116. Hence, the total number of the victims of violence acts within 31-month period of 1st and 2nd "Nationalist Front" governments is 414.

Chronological List of Assassinations of 41 Days

- 1 Nov: In the district of Batman of Siirt province, unidentified persons shoot dead policeman Hasan Eregli.
- 2 Nov: The private car of Naci Kinacıoğlu, professor at the Academy of Economic Sciences in Ankara, is destroyed with explosion. "Gray Wolves" provoke bloody incidents in Ankara and wound two persons at the quarter of Keçiören and four at the Faculty of Veterinary. At the Istanbul University, "Gray Wolves" occupy some faculties and student dormitories.
- 3 Nov: "Gray Wolves" provoke bloody incidents at the Faculty of Economics in Istanbul.
- 4 Nov: "Gray Wolves" destroy the private car of Professor Erden Aksoy, Rector of the Black Sea Technical University in Trabzon.
- 5 Nov: Lawyer Mehmet Çapar, local leader of Nationalist Action Party (MHP) is volleyed dead in Gaziantep by unidentified persons. In Ankara, Mustafa Başoğlu, student at the Faculty of Letters, is shot dead by unidentified persons. In İzmit, 4-year old Erdiñç Dalyan is shot dead during an armed conflict between two rival political groups. ./.

- In Ankara, the residence of Prof. Nuri Sayral, Vice-Rector of Middle East Technical University (ODTÜ), is destroyed with bomb explosion.
- 7 Nov: In the district of Çermik of Diyarbakır province, student Fadlı Alp-arıslan is shot dead by a Justice Party member. Mehmet Özden, member of a cultural organization, is shot dead by unidentified persons in Ankara. Again in Ankara, residences of Aybar Gürpınar and Bahattin Baysal, professors at ODTÜ, are destroyed with explosions. Local offices of Socialist Revolution Party (SDP) and Wood Workers Union (ASIS) are destroyed with bomb explosion in Ankara.
- 10 Nov: In Ankara, Abdurrahman Topçu, Ugur Yelçe and Tamer Akin are gravely wounded by unidentified persons passing by in a car. In Diyarbakır, during an armed internal conflict at the local center of Republican People's Party (CHP), party member Hasan Yiçekli is killed.
- 11 Nov: In Karadeniz Ereğlisi, "Gray Wolves" wound three persons.
- 12 Nov: In İstanbul, student Yaşar Topçu is found dead. In Sakarya, primary school teacher İlhan Kullukçu is shot dead by unidentified persons. In Balıkesir, three progressive students are gravely wounded by "Gray Wolves". In Adapazarı, ten persons are wounded in the course of armed conflicts between two rival political groups. At Buca prison of İzmir province, a prisoner dies during a political conflict between detainees.
- 13 Nov: Residences of Metin Ger and Ziya Aktas, assistant professors at ODTÜ, are destroyed with explosives in Ankara.
- 14 Nov: In İstanbul, during the funeral of Yaşar Topçu who was found dead earlier, "Gray Wolves" attack on progressive people and harassed them. In Adapazarı, "Warriors" of National Salvation Party (MSP), other rightist partner of the "NF" government, attack on "Gray Wolves" of MHP.
- 15 Nov: In Uşak, Yahya Aktas, Chairman of a peasants association, is shot dead at the garden of the city hospital. In Ankara, student Can Karacasmanoglu is shot dead in the course of an armed conflict between two rival political groups.
- 16 Nov: In Antalya, 22 persons are wounded during a conflict between supporters of the two partners of "NF" Government, AP and MHP.
- 17 Nov: In the district of Dogu Beyazit of Agri province, student Mustafa Yardıncı is shot dead by unidentified persons.
- 18 Nov: In Urfa, student Kenal Yıldız is stabbed dead by a "Warrior". In İstanbul, worker Bekir Erdal is shot dead during an armed conflict.
- 19 Nov: In Samsun, "Gray Wolves" assassinate student Nurettin Altaylı by beating with a bar on the head. In İstanbul Hikmet Ay is murdered by his political opponents. In Amasya, during an explosion in a theatre where a meeting of MHP is being held, high-school student Gültekin Erksan is killed.
- 21 Nov: The center of Fatherland Party (VP) is destroyed with explosion in İstanbul.
- 22 Nov: In the district of Torballı of İzmir province, a butcher suspected of a political murder is shot dead by the brother of the victim. In Malatya, a political conflict ended with the death of Kaya Can.
- 25 Nov: Zeki Şerit, member of a clandestine organization who was wounded during an armed clash with police dies in a İstanbul hospital.
- 27 Nov: In the district of Hadım of Konya province, Ahmet Bahadır, a candidate for local elections, is shot dead by his political opponents.
- 30 Nov: In Ankara, Murat Üzal, son of the Interior Minister Korkut Üzal, is beaten by "Gray Wolves" for some internal conflicts between two parties of the coalition. Mr. Üzal is the member of MSP.
- 1 Dec: In İskenderun, "Gray Wolves" shoot dead progressive student Süleyman Şengül.
- 2 Dec: "Gray Wolves" who were placed at Middle East Technical University (ODTÜ) under the guise of "employee" attack on progressive students, shoot dead İbrahim Baloglu and wound about hundred of them. Earlier, res-

idences and private cars of the progressive professors of this university were destroyed with explosions, and the leaders of Republican People's Party had warned the government that the "Gray Wolves" were in preparation of this assault and asked to take necessary measures. But the government took no heed of this warning and so encouraged the "Gray Wolves".

- 2 Dec: In Istanbul, student Nevzat Bulut putting CHP posters on walls is shot dead by "Gray Wolves".
In Izmir, two members of Workers' Party of Turkey (TIP) putting party posters on walls are wounded by "Gray Wolves".
- 3 Dec: Republican People's Party leader Ecevit's campaign tour to the south-eastern provinces of Gaziantep and Urfa is marked with attacks on the rallyists with stones, clubs and fire-arms from right-wing militants. The bloody incidents result with one dead, Ramazan Çiçek, and several wounded, including CHP's deputy secretary general Ali Topuz, who is hit on the head by a stone in the Nizip township of Gaziantep.
- 4 Dec: In Çekerek town of Yozgat province, a secondary school student, Ramazan Dogan, is found dead reportedly killed from a gun wound.
In Ankara, Altındag local center of TIP is destroyed with bomb explosion.
In Istanbul, the office of General Workers' Union (Genel İş) is destroyed in the same way.
In Ankara, Hamza Gündoğmuş, student of a theological school, is found dead reportedly stabbed in the throat.
In Kayseri, rightist groups attack on the electoral rally of CHP and some deputies too are harassed.
- 5 Dec: In Eskişehir, student Murat Denli, waiting at a bus stop, is stabbed dead by "Gray Wolves".
- 6 Dec: The car driving Vice-President of CHP Parliamentary Group Altan Öymen and other deputies accompanying him hardly escape the explosion of bomb.
- 7 Dec: In Istanbul, "Gray Wolves" kidnap a progressive Cypriot student, Muharrem Özdemir, and execute him by shooting in a field.
- 9 Dec: In the district of Ünye of Ordu province, during searching arms, the police shoot dead Hüseyin Korkmaz.
In Istanbul, "Gray Wolves" raid on the State Academy of Architecture and Engineering and shoot dead student Abdülkadir Adanir.
- 11 Dec: In the course of polling, at least 15 persons are assassinated by their political opponents. In the district of Savur of Mardin province, a rightist terrorist shoots dead with machine-gun three peasant women who are waiting for their turns at the polling-booth. Other victims of bloody election day: Güzel Koç in Kars, Bozan Kılıç and Halit Aslan in Urfa, Mehmet Yılmaz in Kütahya, Yusuf Ekinci in Izmir, Emin Asteğin and Mustafa Balçım in Antalya, Asım Yengel and Lütfü Çiçekçi in Manisa, Emin Katabulut in Siirt, Güldane Aksu in Çorum and Ali Berk in Yozgat.

(C-M-V-DN-DC-15/12)

A TORTURE VICTIM PRESENTED AT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ANKARA (ITA) - During the month of november, new torture allegations have been brought before the public in Turkey. The most striking of them was the one made at Parliament.

On November 11, 1977, Republican People's Party (CHP) Senator Niyazi Ünsal held a press conference at National Assembly on torture practice at the police and presented a torturo-victim as a concrete proof.

Mr. Saffet Tombul is a friend of Bahattin Aslandoğan's who was assassinated on October 17 by four armed persons in Ankara. In the course of investigation, Saffet Tombul too was interrogated at Ankara Police Headquarters.

Senator Ünsal said: "Tombul's family and friends told me that he had been tortured at the police center. Thereupon, I telephoned to the police. I was

told that there was not there anybody by the name of Saffet Tombul. Later I telephoned to the Councillor of Interior Ministry. He told me that Tombul would be released after his interrogation. Realizing that he was at the police center, I went there and asked Criminal Police Chief to permit me to see physical condition of Tombul, but my demand was rejected. Again I called the Councillor. He suggested me to see the Governor of Ankara. On my intervention, the Governor ordered to free Tombul. But before releasing him, they forced him to sign a statement saying that he had never been subjected to torture. Nevertheless, when I visited his house, I found him exhausted in his bed."

Tombul himself, showing the traces of torture, said at the press conference: "They applied electrodes on my body and beat me on the soles. Later, they applied once more electrodes. Due to electro-shock, my muscles have been contracted and hardened." He added that he had witnessed also to the tortures applied to his comrades, Ramazan Güngör, Adnan Çelik and Erhan Özkaraca.

Besides, CHP Deputy Azinet Köylüoğlu gave the National Assembly a notion asking the relations between the CIA and the Turkish Armed Forces' Counter-guerilla Center where most brutal tortures had been applied by army officers to political prisoners.

At the congress of Association of Contemporary Age's Jurists held on November 14 in Ankara, Chairman Halit Çelenk said that the counter-guerilla centers were formed with the purpose of organizing the torture practice in Turkey.

In Istanbul, Lawyers' Bar Chairman Orhan Apaydın held a press conference on November 14 and affirmed that there was no security to life in prisons of big cities and added: "Beating and torturing turned daily practices in prisons."

Mr. Kamil Gönert, correspondent of daily newspaper Vatan, was taken into custody on November 11 in Herson and tortured by the police for intimidating him.

On November 19, a group of progressive youth and their families were tortured at Ankara police center. Of them, Mrs. Dilber Erdogan, 50, and Mr. Haydar Aydın, 50, gave affidavits describing the torture.

In Istanbul, two students, Burhanettin Durmuşoğlu and Ömer Canduran, alleged on November 19 that they, along with other students, had been tortured by the "Guards Team" of Istanbul police.

On November 20, in Ankara, Mr. Selin Oguz alleged that three policemen in plainclothes kidnapped and tortured him for obtaining some information. Applying to the Office of Public Prosecutor, Mr. Oguz asked to show him the photo-album of police agents in order to identify those who had tortured him.

On the other hand, practice of torture is affirmed by a legal report. Studying the death of trade union leader İsmail Gökhan Edge, reportedly killed as a result of being tortured on November 27, 1976 (See: Bulletin: October 1977, p.2), the Council of Legal Medicine established in its report that Edge had died because of a kidney-disorder caused by beating." (O-V-M-DN-DG-30/11)

AGAIN AN EDITOR ARRESTED

ANKARA (ITA) - In addition to six editor who had been arrested until the end of October, recently another editor was arrested for his opinions which he had published in his review.

Mr. Tuncer Özdemir, Editor of the review "Progressive Teacher" is accused by the public prosecutor of "having propagated communism" in the article which he published.

On the other hand, Mr. Tektas Agaoglu, Editor of weekly review Kitle, who is still in prison for one year imprisonment on the charge of "having insulted the Turkish Armed Forces" in an article which he had published in the review, was nominated for mayor of Istanbul by the Socialist Workers' Party of Turkey (TSIP). Despite his demand, the judicial authorities did not free him even temporarily for carrying out his electoral campaign. (O-V-DG-12/12)

TURKISH WAR INDUSTRY AND AIRCRAFT CONTROVERSY

ANKARA (ITA)-A 13-year militarist campaign for creating a war industry in Turkey faced a deadlock because of a new scandal of contract.

The campaign for a "national war industry" was firstly launched in 1964, when President Johnson intervened in Turkish air and naval operation against Cyprus. The President of the USA prevented to use the military equipments and arms in this operation, reminding Article 4 of US Aid Agreement dated July 12, 1947. That article reads: "The Turkish Government, without obtaining the approval of the US Government, is not authorized to use the material and information provided by the USA for any aim other than those the US Government accepted."

The first step of the campaign for creating a "national war industry" was the formation of a "Fund of Strengthening Turkish Air Forces". From time to time, exploiting the nationalist feelings of the masses, especially during the tension of Cyprus, this fund succeeded to collect a considerable sum. Later, on the pressure of Turkish industrialists and commanders of Air Force, this fund turned a joint-stock company under the name of TUSAS (Turkish Aircraft Industry Comp.)

This corporation announced this year that they had reached agreement with Italian Aer Macchi Company for manufacture of MB-339 operational trainer and close-support plane in Turkey.

The agreement was to be signed on October 30, 1977 with a ceremony in Ankara, but at the last moment this ceremony was postponed for an undetermined date.

Reports said that the Turkish General Staff had made known to Prime Minister Demirel their objection to the choice of the Italian plane, on technical grounds, and indicated preference for the jet plane by the British firm instead.

Mr. Erbakan, Vice-Premier and the leader of National Salvation Party (MSP), which sponsored this agreement, claimed that some unidentified "outside forces were trying to undermine the development of a national aircraft industry." On the other hand, the sources close to Turkish General Staff suggested that the American aircraft manufacturer Lockheed might have been behind the Italian firm to impose their own version of the trainer on the Turkish air force.

Now, the alleged elimination of Aer Macchi left three other contenders in the race: Alpha Jet of Germany, F-5F of USA and Hawker Siddeley of the United Kingdom.

(OL-DN-C-M-DG-7/12)

TURKEY'S FOREIGN RESERVES AT A RECORD LOW

ANKARA (ITA) - Turkey's gold and foreign currency reserves hit the lowest level in the past six years as of October 28, according to the weekly statement of the Turkish Central Bank. Foreign currency reserves fell to 363.3 million dollars, while it was 739 million dollars in July.

Imports awaiting clearance from the Central Bank amounted to 2.1 billion dollars by the end of last month and Turkey will have to repay about 2 billion dollars in short term credits in the next couple years.

Iraq has stopped crude oil exports to Turkey temporarily because of the latter's failure to meet a deadline for the payment of a 150 million dollar bill for previous purchases.

Despite the crisis, due to political considerations, the government, even taking no heed of cholera danger, gave 65,000 Turkish citizens visas and foreign currency for making the annual Moslem pilgrimage to Mecca this year. 600 dollar per person foreign currency allowance to go on the pilgrimage costs a total 390,000,000 dollars.

(G-V-M-DG-18/11)

CASSETTE BANDS OF POEMS OF NAZIM HIKMET RECITED BY HIMSELF

BRUSSELS (ITA) - On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the birth of Nazim Hikmet, great Turkish poet, Goodiff s.c. produced a cassette band which contains his 44 poems recited by himself.

This documentary cassette band of 60 minutes can be ordered through:
Goodiff s.c. - 561, chaussée de Ninove - 1080 Brussels - Belgium