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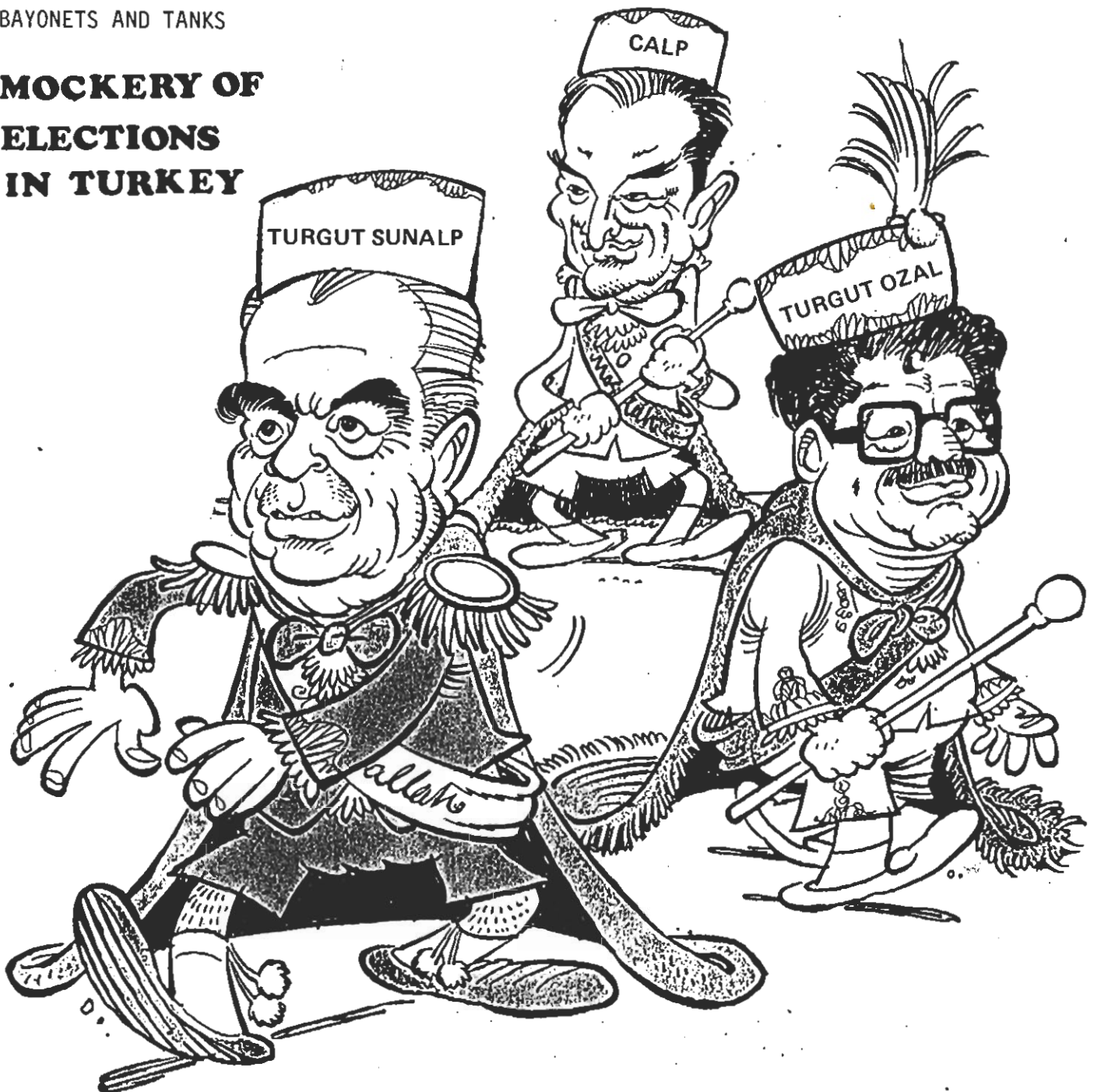
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UNDER THE MENACE OF  
BAYONETS AND TANKS

## MOCKERY OF ELECTIONS IN TURKEY



## MOCKERY OF ELECTION IN TURKEY

After a one-year interval, Europe's south-eastern flank will be again the scene of a mockery of election.

On November 7, 1982, in Turkey, 21,132,682 voters had been forced to go to the polling stations in order to vote for an anti-democratic constitution drawn up by the military junta and to approve the dictatorship of Junta Chief Evren for a 7 year period as President of the Republic. At that time, 1,461,949 voters had refused to cast their votes.

This time, on November 6, 1983, the military junta calls on 19,670,934 voters to vote for choosing "the civilian team" which will rule Turkey on behalf of Evren's dictatorship for the coming five years. There are fewer voters than for the referendum, because those who had not gone to the polling stations for voting on the constitution have, according to the same constitution, been denied the right to vote in the first elections.

As pointed out by many foreign observers as well as democratic organizations of Turkey, the poll of November 6 will not be a free election as stipulated by the European Convention on Human Rights; it will be merely a secondary election designed to elect 400 members of Parliament among 1,230 candidates who have repeatedly been tested by the military junta and have gained their full confidence.

Since the military coup of September 12, 1983, the National Security Council has carried out a very well devised plan aiming at depriving of the right to eligibility all those who are considered unacceptable.

On the very first day of the military intervention, all political parties were suspended and many of their leaders were prosecuted by the military. One year later, the NSC decreed that all suspended political parties should be dissolved.

The first victims of the military junta were mainly: the Justice Party (AP), the Republican People's Party (CHP), the National Salvation Party (MSP), the Democratic Party (DP), the Republican Reliance Party (CGP), the Nationalist Action Party (MHP), the Workers' Party of Turkey (TIP), the Socialist Workers' Party of Turkey (TSIP) and the Union Party of Turkey (TBP). Some other parties which had never participated in parliamentary elections were also banned and later on dissolved.

The second crack down on the former politicians came with the adoption of the new Constitution and the laws on Political Parties. These new laws make provision for that the leaders of the dissolved parties will be forbidden to re-engage in politics for the next 10 years, while the members of the last legislative assembly will be excluded for 5 years.

But for all that, the interdictions did not stop there. According to the new electoral law adopted on June 13, 1983, beside the former party leaders and deputies, are also forbidden to stand for Parliament:

- State officials, teachers, lecturers, professors, engineers etc. who have been dismissed or would be dismissed by the martial law commanders;

- Those who have no school diploma, those who have been banned from public services, those who have disclosed State secrets and those who have been condemned for political or ideological offences.

According to a survey conducted by *Demokrat Türkiye*, a Turkish opposition newspaper edited in FRG, the number of Turkish citizens banned from politics amounts to half a million.

Besides, the NSC can veto not only founders and officials of the new parties but candidates as well, until the first meeting of the National Assembly and the election of its presidency.

But the main point are the restrictions on the formation of new political parties. According to the Constitution and the Law on Political Parties, "Political parties are not allowed to advocate a doctrine other than Atatürk's". That is to say, the foundation of political parties on an ideological basis other than that of the junta is not permitted.

Within the framework of all these restrictions, fifteen new political parties have been founded in Turkey by brand-new politicians from May 16 until August 25, 1983.

Using its powers, the NSC vetoed 453 out of 750 party founders.

A new political party, the *Great Turkey Party* (ETP) who claimed to have inherited the legacy of the defunct Justice Party, was "unlawfully" dissolved by a decree of the NSC. It was unlawful, because the legislation enacted by the NSC itself stipulated that a political party could be dissolved only by decision of the Constitutional Court.

Ten other parties have been denied the right to participate in the forthcoming legislative elections, because they did not succeed to complete the compulsory list of 30 founders by August 25 due to the vetoes of the NSC. The *Correct Way Party* (DYP) and *Social Democracy Party* (SODEP) which are being supported respectively by the leaders of the defunct Justice Party and Republican People's Party, have been the main victims of the practising of veto. Other eight parties which have been denied the right to participate in elections are: *New Birth Party* (YDP), *Virtue Party* (FP), *Conservative Party* (TMP), *Our Party* (BP), *Welfare Party* (RP), *Flag Party* (BP), *New Order Party* (YDP), *Supreme Duty Party* (YGP).

Thus, only three political parties have been allowed to register for the poll: the *Nationalist Democracy Party* (MHP) headed by the Retired Army General Turgut Sunalp, the *Motherland Party* (Ana-P) headed by the former Vice-Premier of the ruling military government, Turgut Özal, and the *Populist Party* (HP) headed by the former under-secretary of the same government, Necdet Calp.

All of these three parties share the same programme, the main lines of which were laid down by the military junta. All of them are led by the representatives of the privileged strata of Turkish society. According to a survey, out of 1,200 candidates of three parties, 231 are businessmen, 206 lawyers, 198 architects and engineers, 190 military and civilian bureaucrats, 54 doctors and pharmacists, 31 journalists. There are also 30 trade union officials in the candidates lists of the three parties, but up to now they have been supporting the military regime, whereas thousands of trade union officials and representatives were suffering in military prisons.

But the Generals obviously did not trust completely even the candidates announced by these puppet parties and vetoed also 89 candidates of the FP, 81 of the Ana-P and 74 of the MDP. Besides, independent candidates -of whom there was a record number- were virtually eliminated. Some 483 came forward, but only 55 were approved. All candidates linked with the pre-coup Justice Party and Republican People's Party were rejected.

These three parties immediately replaced the victims of veto by new candidates, but 21 of them have also been vetoed. Now, for 400-seat Parliament, MDP comes forward with 394 candidates, the Ana-P with 389 and the HP with 378.

But the process of elimination did not stop yet. According to the new legislation, the National Secu-

riety Council can also veto any candidate until the first meeting of the National Assembly. It means that any elected deputy can be removed from the National Assembly, if he failed to speak or act within the limits imposed by the military.

Despite the fact that they are denied the right to participate in the forthcoming legislative elections, the Correct Way Party and the Social-Democracy Party seem to enjoy more popular support than the three puppet parties. It is estimated that if they are allowed to take part in the coming regional elections to be held in 1984, they will get under their control all local administrations, while the three other parties are monopolizing the National Assembly. In the fear of being faced with a dual power in the country, the military junta drew up a new draft bill providing that the political parties which were not allowed to come forward in the November 6 elections, would likewise not be allowed to take part in the forthcoming regional elections.

This bill was first tabled in the Consultative Assembly. Due to some obstruction at the sub-committees, this assembly could not complete the process of enacting the bill until the end of its legislative term. Thereupon, the NSC has decided to adopt it without any previous debate in the Consultative Assembly.

Under these circumstances, the opposition has only one means left: To call the population not to go to the polling stations or, if they are forced to go, not to cast a valid ballot.

The Correct Way Party and the Social-Democracy Party have already announced that they would not support any of the three parties being allowed to stand in the elections. It was an indirect way of calling the people to boycott the elections.

Thereupon, the military junta has launched a new campaign of threat and intimidation with the aim of forcing the citizens to go to the polling stations and to cast a valid vote.

First, on October 16, 1983, the Interior Ministry

issued a communiqué announcing that all propaganda and activity aiming at inciting the people to stay away from the election, would be considered a crime and that those who commit this crime will be prosecuted.

Five days later, the Turkish presse reported that "the security forces arrested 17 presumed members of the Communist party on the charge that they carried out a propaganda campaign for inciting the people to boycott the election."

Finally, instead of his "one-man show" organized during the propaganda campaign for the Constitutional referendum, this time, General Evren has launched a "four-men" show, staged by himself and by his three puppet party leaders.

In a speech delivered on October 20, General Evren threatened all those who intend to boycott the elections: "The illegal Communist party is secretly distributing leaflets urging the nation not to vote and not to believe in the present Turkish administration. The nation should not tolerate such propaganda. Don't believe them. Don't be tricked... I expect a minimum 90 percent turnout at polling places on election day."

On the next day he announced an other threat: "It is rumoured that martial law would be lifted after the election. Don't believe them. It is indispensable to maintain martial law for a certain period, because the organizations have not yet been completely crushed. Unless they are exterminated, martial law will never be lifted."

This intimidation campaign has been accompanied by a 2-week color TV program in order to popularize the new party "leaders" and to push the people to vote for any of them.

Anyhow, on November 6 a certain number of Turkish voters will take part in the poll either for avoiding being vilified as "subversive elements" or for avoiding the danger the "transition to democracy" might be postponed.

### New Pamphlets of Info-Türk

#### MILITARIST "DEMOCRACY" IN TURKEY

(An assessment of 3 years of military dictatorship)

Military coup of September 12th - A well planned trap: OYAK - Behind the political violence: The Army - Program of monopolistic capitalism - A despotic presidential system - New State structure - ...And the Assembly and the political parties - State terror - Trials and death sentences - Torture - Press under censorship - Clamp down on the universities - Repression of nationalities - Reinforcement of the monopolies - The military-industrial complex - Economic recession - Oppression of the working class - State terror abroad - New terror institutions - Foreign relations - The military regime and Europe - Turkey in figures

54 pages, 100 FF

#### APPEL DES ANCIENS DIRIGEANTS POLITIQUES DE TURQUIE

The British daily "The Times" of August 9, 1983 pointed out that the elections due to be held in Turkey this autumn, had been denounced as a fraud in a memorandum drawn up by 16 former political leaders of both right and left, held in an internment camp. This pamphlet comprises the complete text, translated into french, of this memorandum.

24 pages, 60 BF

## EUROPE: NO CERTIFICATE OF DEMOCRACY FOR THE COMING TURKISH PARLIAMENT

Shortly before the legislative elections due to be held on November 6, several European institutions have examined the latest developments in Turkey, denying the future Turkish Parliament all democratic content.

### Council of Europe

The Parliamentary Assembly of the 21 member countries of the Council of Europe has declared in a resolution adopted on September 30, 1983, that "the parliament which will be elected in Turkey on November 6 will not be able to be considered as representing the Turkish people in a democratic manner, and could not therefore validly constitute a delegation to participate in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe".

The Assembly has nevertheless rejected an amendment submitted by Belgian socialist MP Claude Dejardin demanding Turkey's exclusion from the Council of Europe, where her representative is still allowed to sit on the Committee of Ministers. The Assembly prefers to wait until the next session in January for raising this question.

On the other hand, the Parliamentary Assembly has opposed an appeal -submitted by some socialist MP's following the suicide in the Federal Republic of Germany of the Turkish refugee Cemal Altun- requesting from the European governments "to refrain from extraditing Turkish citizens seeking asylum."

### European Parliament

On October 13, in Strasbourg, the European Parliament has this time condemned the Turkish military regime, insisting that Turkey should respect human rights and rejecting in advance the results of the coming elections on November 6, which have been called straight off a "farce" by certain MP's.

Denouncing the continued practice of torture, the arbitrary politically motivated arrests, the pressure put on the Press, the European Parliament has adopted by 124 votes, against 4 "no" votes and 11 abstentions, a resolution regretting mainly "that the rules under which the elections of 6 November will be held prevent them from being a true expression of democracy."

The MP's of the Ten EEC countries also urged the military authorities to refrain from enforcing the death penalty for political offences and to stop practising torture.

### Atlantic Assembly MP's

And yet, the North-Atlantic Assembly -consisting of some 200 MP's from the member countries of the Alliance- rejected at its meeting in The Hague, on October 6, a draft resolution that had the "audacity" to regret the restrictions imposed on political life and Press freedom, and requesting from the Turkish military authorities to make sure that "the elections of November 6 will be as free, as open and as democratic as possible." This draft resolution has been rejected due to the particular insistence of US and British delegates, regarding this initiative as inopportune.

### European Human Rights Commission

The European Human Rights Commission is still waiting for the Turkish government's answer to the complaints relating to human rights violations in Tur-

key, lodged by five European countries, Denmark, France, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden.

The hearing which had been scheduled at the October session, has been adjourned on request of the Turkish government, on the grounds that one of its advisers, whose presence at the hearing is considered indispensable, fell gravely ill.

### European Trade Unions Confederation

The Executive Committee of the European Trade Unions Confederation decided at its meeting in Brussels, on October 13-14, that maximum pressure should be brought to bear on the Turkish government, in order "to have the trial against DISK and its leaders stopped; to have the trade unionists released from prison; to restore normal trade union rights in Turkey; to achieve rapid progress towards democracy".

At a press conference, Chairman Georges Debunne declared that "the ETUC can no longer accept a dictator regime who denies their people human rights and democracy, and is a member of the Council of Europe."

On this occasion, the ETUC has informed the general public that "the so-called elections in Turkey on November 6 is in no way an election that will lead Turkey back to democracy".

The Executive Committee has also decided to carry on with its humanitarian aid on behalf of the families of the imprisoned trade-unionists.

### International Trade Union Confederations

On September 8, 1983, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions along with the ETUC have organized a joint round table on Turkey at the Brussels-based International Press Center with trade union leaders and journalists taking part, along with DISK representative Yücel Top.

At this occasion, Mr. John Vanderveken, secretary general of the ICFTU, made the following statement: "In view of the fact that participation in the forthcoming elections has been restricted to only three parties, those which were kindly permitted by the military to take part so as to prevent the new social democrat party from standing for election, the polls due to be held in November are no longer being taken seriously. The ICFTU once more appeals to the governments of the democratic countries that they should make their economic and financial aid to Turkey dependent on the restoration of both democratic and trade union rights."

During the round table, the ICFTU leaders revealed that the AFL-CIO, the US trade unions confederation which is now again a member of ICFTU, has also decided to contribute to the humanitarian aid granted by the ICFTU to trade-unionists imprisoned in Turkey and to their families.

On the other hand, the Brussels-based World Labor Confederation has condemned on the 3d anniversary of the coup the military regime in Turkey.

As far as the World Trade Union Federation is concerned, which has its headquarters in Prague, it has published a pamphlet called "Stop Fascism in Turkey!" with a foreword by its secretary general Ibrahim Zakaria, stating: "the WTUF is convinced that the admirable solidarity actions with the workers and the people of Turkey which are being achieved at the present time, will grow more and more stronger, until the day democracy will be restored in Turkey and trade unions will be allowed to function freely."

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 STATE TERROR
 

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## RESISTANCE IN DIYARBAKIR PRISON

Protesting against the inhuman detention conditions in the military prison of Diyarbakır, about 2,000 political prisoners went on hunger-strike. Amnesty International reported that the hunger-strike had been started on September 2, 1983 by one group of prisoners with most other inmates joining afterwards.

At the trials of members of political organizations such as PKK, DDKD, Kurtulus, KIP, TKSP, Partizan, KUK and ZAWA, the defendants announced that they were joining the hunger-strike. AI has received reports that after the announcements, the defendants were beaten and removed from the court room. Agence France Press reported the death of two hunger-strikers in Diyarbakır prison.

On September 28, a defendant announced at a military court that they had ended the hunger-strike on the written guarantee given by the commander of the military prison to satisfy their demands.

## DEATH SENTENCES

In the months of August and September, military courts condemned 14 persons to death and 319 to various prison terms.

- 12.8: Izmir: a member of TDKP
- 21.8: Diyarbakır: a member of PKK
- 2.9: Adana: 4 members of TDKP
- 8.9: Adana: 3 members of TDKP
- 15.9: Adana: 5 members of Dev-Yol

## PRISON TERMS

- 5.8: Izmir: 11 members of Dev-Yol
- 11.8: Ankara: 9 members of TDKP
- 12.8: Izmir: a member of TKP
- 14.8: Izmir: 7 members of TKP
- 16.8: Adana: a member of TDKP
- 18.8: Adana: 3 rightists
- 21.8: Diyarbakır: 30 members of PKK; in Eskişehir: 3 rightists; in Gölcük: 3 members of Dev-Yol.
- 24.8: Izmir: 14 members of the Progressive Youth Association (IGD)
- 26.8: Ankara: 10 members of Kurtulus
- 28.8: Izmir: a member of TDKP
- 30.8: Istanbul: 75 members of THKP/C
- 31.8: Izmir: 2 leftists and one rightist
- 2.9: Izmir: 3 members of Dev-Yol; in Adana: 11 members of TDKP
- 4.9: Ankara: 2 members of Dev-Yol
- 7.9: Gölcük: 4 members of Dev-Yol
- 14.9: Ankara: 5 members of Partizan Yolu; in Antalya: 2 members of Dev-Yol
- 15.9: Adana: 62 members of Dev-Yol
- 16.9: Malatya: 9 members of Dev-Yol
- 26.9: Adana: 17 members of Dev-Yol
- 29.9: Izmir: 11 members of Dev-Yol
- 30.9: Gölcük: 8 members of Kurtulus; in Izmir: 9 members of Dev-Yol; in Malatya: 5 members of TDKP

It was reported on September 7 that a special martial law court in Ankara has condemned at different trials 250 persons for arms traffic; about 2,000 persons were still being tried on the same charge.

## NEW TRIALS

10.8: Istanbul: 5 officials of the National Union of Turkish Students (MTTB)

11.8: Istanbul: 10 members of Tümüka-Is and 49 members of Limter-Is, unions affiliated to DISK

14.8: Izmir: 9 members of Dev-Yol (3 risk death sentence)

16.8: Adana: 76 members of PKK; in Ankara: 77 members of Dev-Yol (41 risk death sentence)

24.8: Ankara: 28 persons accused of arms traffic (22 risk death sentence)

31.8: Istanbul: 27 members of Fındık-Is, affiliated to DISK

6.9: Istanbul: 254 members of Dev-Sol (61 risk death sentence)

7.9: Istanbul: 18 members of ASIS, affiliated to DISK

8.9: Istanbul: 7 persons having been involved in DISK actions (6 risk death sentence)

15.9: Istanbul: 4 members of Yeni Haber Is, affiliated to DISK

17.9: Izmir: 12 members of TKP(B)

24.9: Istanbul: 23 persons, presumed members of Töb-Der and of the Progressive High School Students Association (Dev-Lis)

29.9: Ankara: 11 members of TKP

Beside these new trials, the military prosecutor filed a new lawsuit on August 7 against 182 defendants, tried at a Dev-Yol trial in Izmir, for having torn in pieces their prison uniforms in the court room.

In these cases, 134 death sentences have been demanded by the military prosecutors, while the total number of death sentences called for since September 1980, amounts to 6,353.

## MAN-HUNTINGS

Within the space of two months, the security forces have arrested 415 persons for their political views or activities. On August 18, 1983, in Istanbul, a person named Metin Arslan was shot dead by the police on the pretext that he did not obey to the order of "halt!".

List of the arrests:

4.8: in Istanbul: 46 members of Dev-Yol

8.8: in Istanbul: 214 persons of various opinions

19.8: in Izmir: 41 members of the religious order "Naksibendi"

25.8: in Izmir: 14 members of TKP(B)

9.9: in Adana: 81 members of the religious order "Kadiri"

11.9: in Gölcük: 19 members of THKP/C

16.9: in Ankara: Ibrahim Yetkin, Secretary General of the Association of Turkish Agriculturists.

## INTELLECTUAL LIFE

12.8: The Higher Education Council (YOK) dismissed 617 lecturers from their posts in universities and transferred them to secondary education institutions.

17.8: The Law on the foundation of the "Atatürk High Institute of Culture, Language and History" was

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ratified by the National Security Council. Under the President of the Republic's supervision, this institute will reshape the country's scientific and cultural life in accordance with the principles of Atatürkism.

23.8: A new case against Mrs. Nazlı Ilıcak and Mr. Aydogdu İltis, editors of the daily *Tercüman*, on the charge of inciting the people to disobey the laws. A 8-year prison term has been demanded.

27.8: Mr. Oktay Akbal, columnist of the daily *Cumhuriyet* was incarcerated for serving a 3-month prison term because of an article.

30.8: By order of the military authorities, several hundreds of video-cassettes were seized by the security forces. Among them is also the cassette of the prizewinner film *Gandhi*.

31.8: The responsible editor of the weekly *Nokta*, Mr. Yazgüdü Aldogan was interrogated by the military prosecutor for an interview with the leader of the Correct Way Party (DYP).

7.9: The military prosecutor filed a lawsuit against Klayati Aslyazıcı, editor of the review *Somut*, for having published some essays of Thomas More.

11.9: Idris Celik, responsible editor of the daily *Politika* which had been banned prior to the coup d'Etat, was sentenced to a 18-month prison term.

16.9: In Muğla, the daily newspaper *İlk Adım* was closed down for an indefinite time by the martial law.

17.9: Two editors of the daily *Milliyet*, Metin Toker and Dogan Heper were sentenced to 3 months prison each for an article.

19.9: The Council of Ministers issued an updated list of the publications printed abroad, of which the introduction into Turkey has been forbidden.

25.9: The Court of Cassation overruled the condemnation of Nadir Nadi, chief editor of the daily *Cumhuriyet*.

29.9: Ali Kocatepe, responsible editor of the review *Erkekçe*, was condemned to 3 months in prison for having mentioned the name of an artist who had been stripped of his Turkish citizenship.

## NEW PRESS LAW ADOPTED

The Consultative Assembly adopted on September 30, 1983 the new Press Law. According to this law, prison terms for press offences will be much heavier than before, the prosecutor will be allowed to call for the ban or the seizure of any publication as well as of all printing facilities owned by the editor. Besides, the Press Courts are dissolved. Journalists will be tried for press offences by criminal courts.

## OPPRESSION OF NATIONALITIES

Despite the fact that the Turkish authorities deny the very existence of the Kurdish people and the Kurdish language in Turkey, a military court in Diyarbakır was forced on August 26, 1983, to yield to the reality.

28 persons, mainly Kurds, were brought before the military tribunal on the accusation of having been involved in an arms traffic. During their interrogation, most of them were unable to answer the questions in Turkish, because they know only the Kurdish language. Thereupon, the judge was forced to interrogate them with the help of a Kurdish interpreter.

## MOTION ON ARMENIAN QUESTION

On behalf of the Socialist Group of the European Parliament Chairman Ernest Glinne and Mrs Duport tabled on September 20, a motion for a resolution on a political solution to the Armenian question.

"Having regard to the upsurge in terrorist attacks organized by groups of Armenians, who claim responsibility for them,

"whereas the necessary suppression of terrorism will not eliminate the injustices on which these groups base their actions,

"whereas violence is not the principal means of expression of the Armenian communities, their major political organizations having proposed other solutions which have so far been rejected,

"whereas the right of cultural and linguistic ethnic minorities to recognition of their identity presupposes recognition of their history,

"whereas the Armenian people have been deprived of their history by the Turkish Government, which, by refusing to admit to the genocide of 1915, is obliterating the historical reality of Armenia,"

The Socialist Group proposes:

"To protest strongly at the attacks which discredit the cause they claim to support;

"To express solidarity with the victims of these attacks;

"To call on the Council of Ministers of the EEC

a) to declare its recognition of the genocide,

b) to obtain recognition by the Turkish Government of the historical fact of the 1915 genocide,

c) to convince the Government of Turkey that a just and lasting solution to the Turkish-Armenian problem can only be found by establishing a political dialogue, and

d) to obtain an identical declaration from the UN"

## ALTUN'S TRAGIC DEATH

One of the Turkish candidate political refugees threatened with extradition, Cemal Kemal Altun committed suicide in Berlin on August 30, 1983. This tragic death has filled with dismay public opinion in West-Germany, including some conservative circles. Just before this suicide, we had exposed Cemal Altun's painful situation in the *Info-Türk Bulletin's* issue of July-August 1983.

Following this suicide, the Social-democrat Party's spokesman in Berlin, Peter Ulrich, declared that the West-German government had "given more credence to the assertions of Turkey's military dictators than to the statements of democrat Altun." Altun, he added, has been the "victim of the new line, enforced with ruthless stubbornness, of Zimmermann's policy with respect to the foreigners' question."

Thereupon, the Greens' Party along with plenty of organizations insisted that the Interior Minister should resign. For, in any case, it was up to the Interior Minister to take the final decision: was the West-German government, which in March of this year went *in extremis* back over its previous decision to hand over Altun to the Turkish Junta, to persist - or not - in its initial attitude? Recently, the Foreign Affairs Minister Censcher had raised serious objections with respect to this matter, being fully aware that the FRG was in danger of breaking the "international law on judicial assistance", which came into force by July 1. For, article 6 of this law provides that: "extradition is inadmissible, when there are valid grounds for assuming that in case he should be extradited, the accused might be persecuted or punished because of its political views."

In answer to some questions about the possible effects the 13 months' detention might have had on the prisoner's physical and psychic state, the Berlin Justice authorities were satisfied with referring to the officials in Bonn.

Anyhow, it seems obvious that Altun's physical

and psychic state, in view of the fact that he was permanently kept isolated in a one-man cell, has been worsening month after month, as the Interior Minister's stubbornness became more and more obvious.

Does it follow that he had some propensity to suicide? Not at all. Proof of this are the statements he made in last April, shortly after his extradition procedure had been suspended on the very last moment (Vrij Nederland, 23.4.1983): "I was given the choice between two possibilities: Committing suicide or returning to Turkey. Since the first possibility was out of the question, as being contrary to my convictions, I had only the second left. At least, it was to be a dignified death. And suddenly the decision fell that I would not be deported yet to Ankara."

Nevertheless, five months later Altun committed suicide. A few minutes after his death, his lawyer, Wolfgang Wieland, described in these words the martyrdom this young refugee had lived through: "Imagine, whenever the door of his cell was unlocked, Altun was wondering whether this meant that he would be taken away to the airport, in order to board the plane bound for Ankara."

The suicide of Altun was followed by a UN report highly critical of the treatment of political refugees in West-Germany.

The Office of the UN High Commission for Refugees says, in its report, that, over the years, governments in Bonn have taken a series of "unique deterrent measures" which have sharply reduced the flow of political refugees, at least from countries outside the Warsaw Pact.

The report, which enraged the Interior Minister Zimmermann and led him to embarrass the coalition government by forcing the cancellation of an official visit to Bonn by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Poul Hartling, speaks of the total isolation of those seeking asylum in the camps where they are held. It describes squalid conditions, racial bias by camp authorities, insufficient nourishment for children, and a general lethargy and depression gripping many inmates.

## EXTRADITION OF TURKS

The German Justice Ministry announced on August 14 that the FRG would deport around 1,000 Turkish citizens to Turkey in the near future. On the same day, 39 persons were extradited and they were put in detention when their plane landed at Istanbul airport. And yet, a West-German Interior Ministry spokesman, Albrecht Krieger said German investigators had found out that none of those deported to Turkey faced stringent punishment there.

On September 4, 1983, the FRG extradited another group of 25 Turkish natives to Turkey.

Thereupon, on September 7, 1983, the Greek Foreign Ministry expressed its anxiety in the face of the extradition of Turkish democrats abroad and transmitted a protest to the German Government.

On the other hand, the Austrian authorities extradited on August 1st, 1983, 7 Turks who had clandestinely entered the country, and put under arrest three other Turkish citizens.

Canada also deported on August 21, three Turkish citizens who had come to this country from Iraq.

The British authorities announced on September 29, that, within the first 6 months of this year, 14 Turkish citizens were granted asylum, whereas the applications made by 6 others were rejected.

According to the Dutch newspaper *Volkskrant* of September 9, 2,700 out of 3,000 Christians of Turkey who sought refuge in Holland were given permission to stay in this country, but 125 persons have been

sent back by force to Turkey. The Council of Churches and "Actie 41" Committee claim that some of the deported persons have been imprisoned in Turkey and that many live in bad conditions in Istanbul.

## STATE TERROR ABROAD

The Interior Ministry of Turkey issued on September 1st, 1983, a new communiqué ordering 13 Turkish citizens abroad to return and surrender to the military authorities. Among them are also Mr Yücel Top, representative of the DİSK in Europe and Mr Umran Zafer Eran, a Turkish journalist in Australia. They are accused of anti-State activities abroad.

On the other hand, 123 Turkish citizens, mostly of Jewish origin, have also been ordered to return to Turkey for fulfilling their military service. In case they disobey this order, they will be stripped of Turkish citizenship.

## DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE REGIME

On the 3rd anniversary of the coup of September 12, Turkish citizens opposed to the military regime have organized mass demonstrations in the main cities throughout Europe.

The biggest demonstration was held in Köln with over 15,000 people taking part. For the first time, all left-wing opposition tendencies were gathered in the same demonstration, along with German democratic-minded people.

## MILITARY

After a long period of bargaining, the Turkish government decided on September 7, 1983 to select the F-16 Flying Falcon as the fighter it will co-manufacture with General Dynamics.

The contract covers assembling and co-manufacturing 160 planes at an estimated cost of \$4.2 billion.

The selection of this aircraft ends a long race between three US plane manufacturers. The F-18 co-manufactured by McDonnell Douglas and Northrop had put up a tough fight against the F-16. Northrop also tried to edge into the race with the F-20 Tiger-shark, but this attempt failed.

Turkey will first receive 10 F-16 fighters, manufactured at the Fort Worth plant in the US. These planes will be used to train pilots and technicians.

In the second phase the component parts of the planes will be shipped to Turkey and assembled in Turkish plants. Third, over the next years there will be a phased increase in the number of sub-assembly parts to be manufactured in Turkey.

Turkey plans to receive \$2.5 billion of Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credits from the US over a ten year period. About half a billion dollars will come from offset trade, when General Dynamics will market Turkish export goods abroad. The rest will have to be financed by the Turkish Finance Ministry.

According to the daily *Cumhuriyet*, a F-16 fighter is composed of 120,000 elements, of which only 5,000 are to be manufactured by the Turkish aviation industry, the rest will be imported from abroad. For the co-production of these parts, General Dynamics will be a partner of the Turkish Aviation Industry (TUSAS) with a 49 per cent share.

On the other hand, the FRG will build four frigates for Turkey. The keel laying ceremony of the first two Meke 200 frigates was held in Hamburg dockyards on September 28. Besides, another frigate bought from the FRG arrived at Gölcük military port on September 21.

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 IMMIGRATION
 

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**Sending Back Home the Turks:** Following the West-German government, the French and Dutch authorities have announced that new steps will be taken with respect to the immigrants.

President Mitterrand declared on August 30: "With respect to the clandestine immigrants, the law is to be strictly enforced, in a relentless and rigid way, since, if the immigrants were permitted to enter without any control, France might be in danger of losing its balance."

During the past two months, two thousand clandestine immigrants have already been sent back, two thousand of them are in prison and about three thousand have more or less been "registered" by the police. Thirty thousand foreigners who stayed temporarily in the country, were denied certificates of registration.

In addition to the reinforcement of control measures at the frontiers, a number of practical steps will be taken in order to deter false "tourists" intending to settle down as immigrants.

On the other hand, the Dutch government has tabled a bill in Parliament, providing that immigrant workers from no-BEC countries, who are willing to return to their home country, will be granted a 'return bonus' of 1.000 florin per family member.

In view of the fact that an immigrant will need at least 30.000 florin for journey expenses and for building up a new existence in his home country, the proposed amount has been called ridiculous by the immigrants organizations as well as by the Dutch trade unions.

**Elections and Immigrants:** In Norway the immigrants have participated for the first time in a local election held on September 12. At present, 80 thousand immigrants live in this country of 4 millions inhabitants. The Turkish community consists of 5,000 people.

On the other hand, a commission set up by the Swedish social-democrat government is carrying on its preparations for drawing up a bill enabling immigrant workers to take part in the legislative elections.

**Hansens Decree:** The restrictions on the granting of labour permits, which are being discussed for a long time, have become a fact following the Royal Decree of July 27, 1983. In pursuance of those new measures, the children of immigrant workers who did not arrive at the same time as their parents, or within a six months' period, will not be in a position to lay claim to a labour permit.

**Slavery in West-Germany:** According to a report tabled on August 15, 1983 at the UN Sub-commission on Human Rights at Geneva, tens of thousands of Turkish children are working clandestinely for German employers. These children, aged from 12 to 14 years, are reported starting on their work at 4.30 a.m. and earning 15 to 30 DM a day. Those beneath 12 years, are said to be forced to work au pair. In the report drawn up by the Anti-Slavery Society it is stated that the same system, based on slavery, is being practised in the clandestine textile workshops in France. Moreover a large number of young Turkish girls are being hired as prostitutes in Europe's big cities such as Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Berlin and Paris.

At the present time, the number of Turkish child-

ren in Europe amounts to 520,000. Last year, 52,286 Turkish children were born in the European countries: 36,067 in the FRG, 5,437 in France, 4,535 in the Netherlands, 2,604 in Belgium, 1,483 in Austria, 980 in Switzerland, 598 in Denmark and 582 in Sweden.

## SUICIDES AND AGGRESSIONS

12.8: In Brussels, a young Turkish girl, Sengül Koca, committed suicide due to the pressure exerted on her by her family.

15.8: A Turkish worker, Ali Rıza Coban, father of 7 children, committed suicide in Hamburg as a result of psychological depression.

18.8: According to the Turkish daily *Tercüman*, in Frankfurt (FRG), the dwelling of Turkish worker İbrahim Gök was set on fire by a German group. On the same day, someone pinned on the door of Turkish doctor Zeki Gürsesli a bit of paper written "Barbarous Turks, Be off!"

20.8: In Ghent (Belgium), the shop of a Turkish immigrant, Adnan Kerman, was volleyed by non identified armed persons. Last year, in the same city, a Turkish coffee-house had been volleyed by two Eclgian youths and a Turkish immigrant was shot paralyzed. Afterwards, the Court of Appeal in this city reduced the term of imprisonment called for by a lower court against the two authors of this attack, Dirk and Mark Vanderstock.

21.8: In Hamburg, a just married Turkish worker, Ahmet Cay, committed suicide by hanging himself. He was jobless.

22.8: In Frankfurt, the grocer's shop of a Turkish immigrant, Sabri Livgökmen, was set on fire.

26.8: The Turkish Islamic Center in Siegen (FRG) was destroyed by a bomb placed by non-identified persons.

27.8: In Berlin, a Turkish restaurant, Didim, was set fire by unidentified persons. On the same day, in Hoozegand (Holland), the dwelling of the Turkish worker Cavit Ates was destroyed by arson. Ates, his wife and their two children were saved, though wounded.

3.9: The NPD distributed leaflets in the streets of Stuttgart, threatening Turks.

4.9: In Solingen (FRG), a 47 years old Turkish woman, Ayse Yılmaz, committed suicide by hanging herself, as the German authorities refused her a work permit.

5.9: In Osnabrück, the walls of the houses inhabited by Turkish families were daubed with slogans such as "Be off, otherwise we shall exterminate you all!"

6.9: In Amsterdam, a racist Dutch group kidnapped two Turkish workers, 33 years old J.P. and 37 years old E.A., and brutally tortured them.

10.9: In Amsterdam, racist groups attacked the shops of foreigners in Wijtenbachstraat.

21.9: In Köln, a 13-year old Turkish girl, Selvinaz, committed suicide by throwing herself from a 21st floor.

26.9: In Wellrod-Gemünden (Taunus-FRG), the dwelling of a Turkish worker, Osman Karaca, was destroyed by a fire-bomb. Two days later, in Plettenberg, another Turkish house was set on fire.