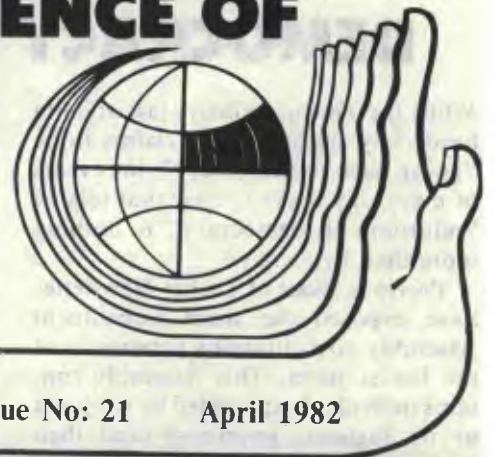


# COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENCE OF DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS IN

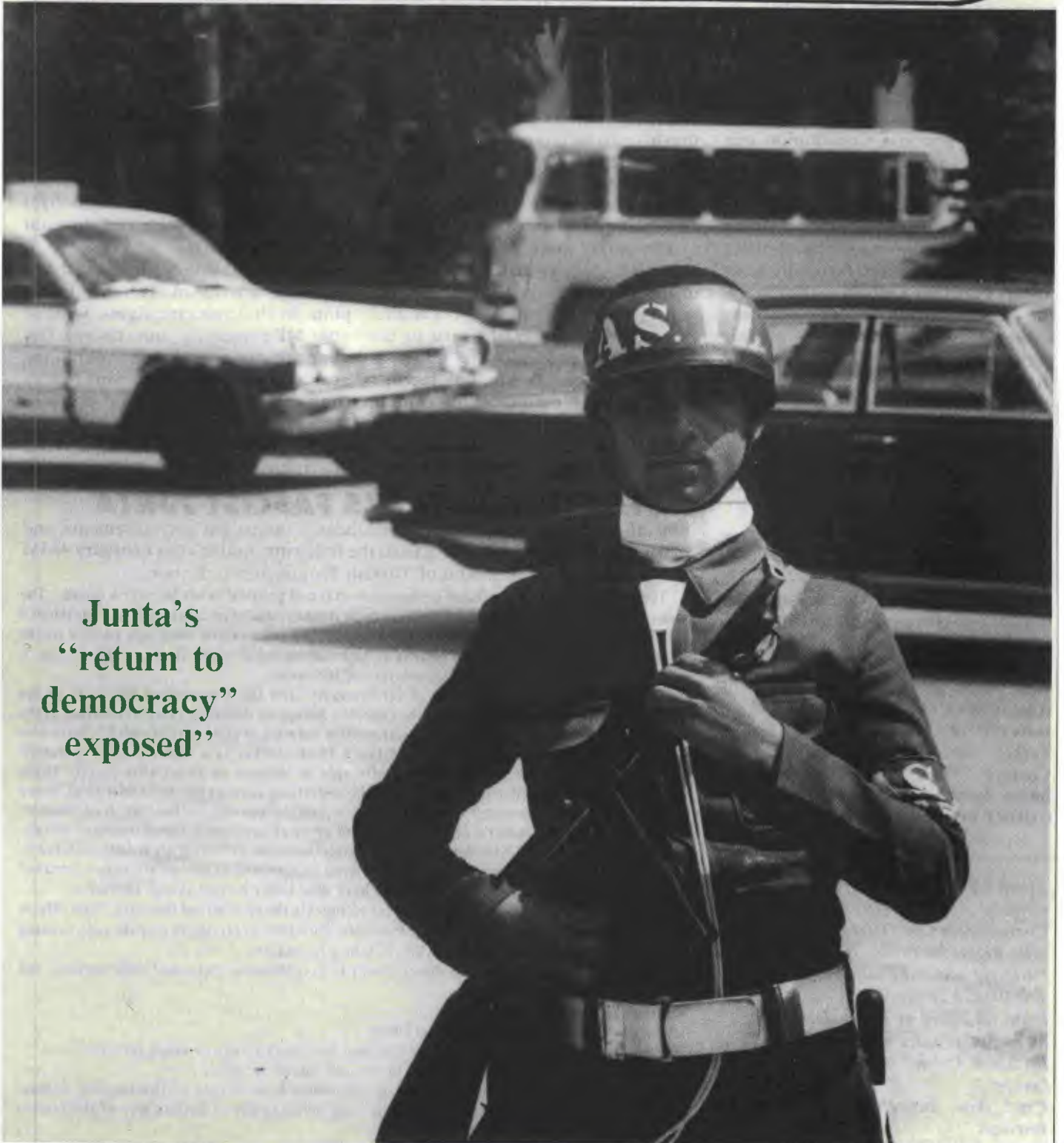
# TURKEY

# NEWSLETTER



Issue No: 21

April 1982



**Junta's  
"return to  
democracy"  
exposed"**

# DEMOCRACY ON THE HANGMAN'S ROPE

While the Turkish military fascist junta headed by Başbuğ Evren claims to be "going back to democracy", the events of every day make it clear that talk of "returning to democracy" is nothing more than hypocrisy.

Previous issues of Turkey Newsletter have exposed the sham Constituent Assembly now sitting by permission of the fascist junta. This Assembly contains individuals appointed by the junta or its regional governors (and then approved by the junta), and allows no parties. When the dust has settled from the junta's permanent abolition of the formerly legal parliamentary parties, the Assembly is to set up new ones artificially by means of a new Constitution. (The previous Constitution was abrogated immediately by the present junta on coming to power). Any party set up under such a fascist regime has the purpose of becoming another means of mass oppression. It will help the junta establish fascism more forcefully from above. Far from a return to democracy the junta intends to present some appearances of democracy — parties, parliament, President — to beguile those who are superficially concerned, or are concerned only with not isolating a loyal NATO ally.

Despite the junta's announcement of its "programme of returning to democ-

cracy", in the face of the growing opposition inside and outside the country, 52 trade union leaders are still on trial for their lives. 3 more people were hanged on 13 March 1982: hangings were of Ibrahim Ethem Coşkun (23 years old, a worker), Seyit Komik (24 years old, student), and Necati Vardar (22 years old, a worker). All three were alleged to be members of the Turkish Communist Labour Party (TKEP). The hanging procedure was carried out at 1.25pm in alphabetical order. Their families were not informed and therefore were not present. Only one defence lawyer was present. All three left letters to their families and Necati Vardar, as his last wish, asked that his coat be given to his friend in the third cell of the prison. Another hanging on 21 March 1982 brought the total number of hangings since the 12 September 1980 coup to 14.

Thousands more have been imprisoned including 44 leaders and activists of the Turkish Peace Council and 132 leaders of the Republican Peoples' Party (RPP), a party affiliated to the Socialist International. The leader of the RPP, Bülent Ecevit, was recently questioned by the military prosecutor in Ankara, on 11 March 1982. According to *The Guardian* the following day, "Mr. Ecevit appeared deeply shaken on

his return from the interview with the prosecutor. He indicated that the line of questioning was totally new and unexpected." It is clear that the junta's attack is now to include more leading sections of the RPP, a fact illustrated by the questioning of 15 former RPP MP's on 20 March 1982 and the arrest of 132 RPP leaders, including the Istanbul leadership.

Solidarity with the people of Turkey and campaigning against the crimes of the fascist junta is as necessary today as it has always been. Following pressure from both the European Parliament and the European Council, it is now the responsibility of all true democrats, including members of the European Parliament and European Council, to ensure that Turkey is excluded from democratic forums. We have either to see the bluffs of the junta and fight against it or accept them and close our eyes to their crimes.

Anti-fascists everywhere must expose the attacks of Turkey's fascist junta on all democratic rights. Write to your MP expressing your concern. Get your organisation to pass a resolution against the excesses of the junta (with a copy to CDDRT please), and send it to the Turkish Embassy, 43 Belgrave Square, London SW1. Liberty is indivisible.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

CDDRT can only function by means of its supporters. If you want to help raise solidarity with the people of Turkey you can do several things. Raise the issue at your trade union or party branch or student union, ask them to invite a speaker from CDDRT, affiliate to CDDRT, take Turkey Newsletters for distribution. Contact CDDRT with suggestions for future local work. Local Branches of CDDRT need your support: give it now.

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## LIBERATION ATTACKS FASCIST JUNTA

Liberation, Britain's co-ordinator of solidarity campaigns and movements, and to which CDDRT is affiliated, passed the following motion at its February AGM on the proposal of the Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain:

Turkey has been in a profound economic, social and political crisis for over a decade. The main cause of the crisis has been emergence of finance capital on a medium level developed basis, dependent on imperialism. The 12th September 1980 fascist coup was carried out to solve the crisis in a manner to the benefit of imperialism and domestic finance capital, it was a qualitative turning point in the fascistisation of the state.

The continuing downward trend of the economy after the coup showed the depth of the economic crisis on the one hand and the general's failure on the other hand. The failure of the generals has been most apparent in the automotive industry, a good part of which is owned by OYAK, the Armed Forces Mutual Assistance Fund. Turkey is a medium-level developed capitalist country with aspirations and attempts to become an imperialist power. These attempts, proving negative in general, were the underlying reasons for the fascist coup. Since the coup, the fascist generals have closed down political parties, parliament, trade unions, student and other democratic organisations, and arrested over one hundred thousand people. Prisons have been filled with democrats and revolutionaries. Prisoners are being subjected to continuous torture and repression. Ten have been hanged and hundreds are under threat of death sentences. The number of those who have died under torture is still unknown.

The fascist generals have made very many changes in the structure of the state. Their efforts have been directed to creating a monolithic state. Now they are trying to turn the only existing trade union confederation, yellow Türk-İş into a fascist one.

The fascist junta also poses a direct threat to neighbouring states and their peoples, and ultimately threatens world peace.

Liberation resolves to:

1. Support the political prisoners in Turkey
2. Support DISK leaders who are on trial and are under threat of death sentences
3. Give its full support and solidarity to the anti-fascist struggle.
4. Oppose the harassment by the junta of individuals from Turkey at risk because of their activities against the dictatorship, in order that they can live in Britain free of the fear of persecution and intimidation.



# “YES, WE TORTURE PEOPLE TO DEATH”

Turkey's junta tortures people, and that is official. In an astonishing admission by Dr. Ilhan Oztrak on behalf of the fascist junta made on 16 March 1982, he said that 15 persons out of 62 named by Amnesty International had been tortured to death.

Unfortunately, Dr. Oztrak forgot to name any of the 15 tortured to death by his junta. Most democratic observers suggest that at least 70 to 80 have died under torture in Turkey since the coup on 12 September 1980. Apart from denigrating attempts by Amnesty International at trying to get at the truth of the numerous torture allegations, the junta has merely confirmed what CDDRT has reported for so long. As Amnesty International has said, torture in Turkey is “systematic and widespread”. Its aims are to discover membership lists and other details of trade union, democratic and progressive organisations, and to completely demoralise all opposition. It is an integral part of the creation of a monolithic fascist state.

Metin Munir of *The Financial Times* reported recently previously unpublished (in Turkey), taped interviews with inmates of Mamak Concentration Camp. We reprint below the whole of Metin Munir's article as it appeared on 25 February 1982.

“Five prisoners squatted by the wall in the small prison yard at the Mamak military jail in Ankara. It was the first sunny day for months, but they did not seem to be enjoying it. About 60 other prisoners jogged round the yard in military formation.

The five prisoners — men in their twenties with shorn hair and pallid complexions — remained outside the formation so that the group of Turkish journalists invited to inspect the jail could take their photographs.

The invitation, not extended to foreign correspondents, was part of the military's campaign to refute allegations made by the London-based human rights group Amnesty International that torture was common in Turkish jails and that more than 70 had died under torture since the coup 17 months ago.

The five men seemed to the correspondents to have been selected from among several thousand held in the prison — one of Turkey's biggest — on the grounds that they would give evidence against Amnesty. The correspondents, and the prison authorities, who probably shared the same assumption, could not be more wrong.

‘There is torture in Turkey,’ said Mr



*Prisoners in Mamak Concentration Camp paraded before the Press*

Nasuh Mitap, according to a tape recording of the interview heard by the *Financial Times*. ‘There is a lot of torture. Torture has made me lame. They broke my back. For a long time I could not walk. I have seen a lot of my friends being tortured. There are reports, medical reports.’

Mr Mitap is alleged to be a leading member of Dev Sol, one of the most active and violent terror groups which plagued Turkey before the military takeover.

Mr Melih Pakdemir, also allegedly a senior member of Dev Sol, said: ‘What we want is to be treated like human beings and to be given an opportunity to prepare our defence. Torture is something relative. It is true that there is repression in jail. We are grilled for between 12 and 14 hours every day. Everything here is done by command. If anybody disobeys a command — moves even slightly — he is clubbed by the nearest soldier. One can also be taken to the cage and beaten there.’

A journalist asked Mr Pakdemir whether he had been subjected to such treatment.

‘There is no one who hasn't,’ he replied. ‘I too.’

Had he a message for Amnesty International?

‘Yes. There is moral and physical repression. At this moment.’

Mr. Oguzhan Muftuoglu and Mr Ali Baspinar, also alleged members of Dev Sol, refused to speak on torture allegations.

The fifth detainee collapsed and started whimpering before the interview, which took place on Tuesday. He was Mr Ulvi Oguz, an alleged member of the outlawed Communist Party of Turkey.

Colonel Raci Tetik, the prison director, who accompanied the journalists, said: ‘He is putting on a show’. A correspondent said he wanted a doctor's opinion. The Colonel had the prison doctor fetched who said that Mr Oguz was suffering from ‘nervous collapse’. He said this was common in Mamak.

Talking to correspondents afterwards, Col Tetik said: ‘This is a prison run by the army of Mustafa Kemal, (Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey). Absolutely nothing is done here to hurt rights.’ ”

## Work discipline

According to *Cumhuriyet* on 7 March 1982, a collective bargaining agreement signed by the Arbitrator will prohibit health workers from:

1. Singing songs in workplaces,
2. Speaking in a loud voice,
3. Being late without reason for a total of 45 minutes in any month,
4. Sleeping on duty,
5. Delaying others' work,

6. Misbehaving towards other workers or the employer,

7. Showing a divisive attitude among employees,

8. Directly or indirectly accepting a “present”,

9. Discriminating for political, religious or sexual reasons, on penalty of a wage or transfer to another workplace.





# DISK: A CLASS ON TRIAL

That again is remarkable in such a serious trial. Why should each be entitled to only one defence lawyer? The defence itself is obviously going to be an enormous task because the indictment (that is, the document setting out the basic charges against the 52) — the indictment, quite apart from any of the other written material before the court, is 855 pages long. It is important also to know that not one of those 52 defendants has had prior notice of, or has had a copy of, the indictment itself.

## Chief defence lawyer jailed

The indictment was given to 4 of the leading lawyers in the defence team 3 days before the trial opened on the 24 December last year, and that was the first opportunity that those 855 pages had of being presented to those who were accused. I should add that I am talking about the defence team, that the lawyer leading the defence team, a man named Orhan Apaydın, is the President of the İstanbul Bar Association.

*The Times* (I have the cutting here), on the 27 February 1982 reports that the previous day he was arrested and taken into custody in a group of 44 other persons who had publicly spoken out in favour of the development of a world movement for peace. And *The Times* reported that over the course of 1981 Mr. Orhan Apaydın had been several times warned that if he was instructed to defend any of the 52 DISK trade union leaders he should not accept the brief for the defence because it would be contrary to the dignity of his position as President of the İstanbul Bar Association. To his very great credit the President replied that he would conduct that defence, giving the same attention to it as he would to the defence of any other person for whom he might be instructed.

And incidentally, the prosecutor in the case of the 44 who have been arrested for their peace activities has presented to another military court a 1319-page indictment and has asked for several hundred years in terms of imprisonment for all those 44 defendants. So you have a situation in which the President of the İstanbul Bar Association himself is facing trial on a massive indictment for the most nebulous and strangely unspecified offence of campaigning for peace, with vast penalties being held above.

The DISK trials, I indicated earlier, opened on the 24 December 1981, which

was Christmas Eve. Now, it had been previously indicated that a number of lawyers from Western countries would very much like to attend in order to observe that trial. Of course it is well known that Christmas Eve is a holiday period.

## Atmosphere of military emergency

In his opening to this trial the prosecution quite clearly and without any embarrassment at all set out to colour the trial with politics and to create an atmosphere of military emergency in the court. And the prosecutor several times stopped his reading of the indictment in order to appeal to the judge, the senior judge, to ensure that there was sufficient security because he understood that large numbers of persons might appear at any moment to destroy the peaceful atmosphere of the trial.

Now, when I tell you that in the courtroom there were over 30 armed men who had carbines with fixed bayonets, it is very difficult to understand how, first of all, there was a peaceful atmosphere at all, and secondly, how anyone could have disturbed whatever atmosphere there was, and thirdly, why any prosecutor should have had these apparent fears for the safety of what was going on.

As I say, there was this deliberate attempt to create an atmosphere of military emergency within the court. And, so far as we can gather, although I have not yet personally seen a copy of the indictment — very few people have — it consists almost entirely of political accusations. Now, I say that — not having seen it — with some confidence, because I am quite sure that if there had been accusations of breaches of the law of any substance they would have been read out, and they would have been widely reported. But in fact what has been reported in the officially — approved press in Turkey is far from anything resembling a series of legal accusations.

## The accusations

Let me give you the main accusations that were given publicly in the official press. The first is that the 52 trade union leaders had relations with trade union organisations outside Turkey. This is true. They did have relations with 2 organisations, one of which, the World Federation of Trade Unions, is usually condemned by people like right-wing leaders in America, and right-wing

Friends, the first thing that has to be said about the trial of the 52 DISK trade union leaders is how little is known about it.

It is being, first of all, conducted by a military court. That's the first dreadful fact. It's a trial being conducted by a military court. Military trials are comparatively rare in modern times. I say comparatively rare because in modern times non-military trials proliferate. There are many, many thousands of non-military trials, and military trials occur for very, very special reasons. The trial is officially being conducted under what are being described by the Turkish government, and by the President of the Military Court as "war conditions".

## Civilians in a military court

The next important fact is that the 52 defendants are all civilians. Not one of them is a member of the military forces nor are they open to military court under war conditions by a military prosecutor. The military prosecutor has asked for the death penalty for all of the 52 trade union leaders. If one just were to stop there and think for a moment, if one knows nothing else, one might say, well, war conditions, a military trial, 52 people, the death penalty being demanded for them — what have they done? They must have done something absolutely dreadful. The indictment must at the very least be for treason, the indictment must at the very least be for killing other people or something of that kind. But when one examines it the facts, so far as we are told, are very threadbare and very thin in that respect.

The military court has declared that each of the 52 defendants shall be entitled to only one defence lawyer.



leaders in Britain, as being communist-dominated. But there was another organisation named: It is called ICFTU, The International Confederation of Free Trades Unions. And the 52 admit to having correspondence and discussion also with the ICFTU which is described by people in America and people in Britain as being a democratic international centre of trade unions. So here are the 52 quite happily willing to admit to having had communications with both these world centres of trade unions.

Let me say straight away that I have been through the Turkish Penal Code — I first went through it in connection with the Ahmet Taştan case — and there is absolutely nothing in it to forbid having relations with trade union organisations outside Turkey. Secondly, the indictment accused the 52 of being involved in campaigning for peace.

Again, there is nothing in the Turkish Penal Code defining this as a crime, and indeed I would say — and this is of course a personal view, not a legal opinion — but I would say that any trade union leader who failed to campaign for peace would not be properly looking after the interests of his members.

#### **Junta declares itself fascist.**

Thirdly, the 52 are accused of being against fascism. With all we know, with all that our history tells us about fascism, how can any trade union leader hold up his head as a trade union leader and say "I am not against fascism". To campaign and be against fascism is, of course, something that is fundamental to all democratic organisations wherever they may be. Fourthly, it is said that the 52 were against the invasion of Cyprus. Well, perhaps it's hardly necessary to comment on that, but I know of nothing in the Turkish Penal Code that says that being the invasion of other countries is wrong. Of course we know that politically a certain attitude is adopted by the Turkish government if any of its citizens say anything against the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

And then perhaps the most amazing accusation of all in this indictment — indeed it is the most amazing accusation of all — is of being a workers' organisation! That is the accusation that is put against these wicked people. 52 trade union leaders accused of being leaders of an organisation that is a

workers' organisation. How do they explain that amazing section of the indictment? They explain it by saying that as a workers' organisation it is divisive. It is therefore a class organisation. And therefore it divides the Turkish nation. It is hardly likely that a trade union organisation is going to set out to say that "we represent the workers but also the employers".

So this section of the indictment is, to my way of thinking, in a case involving 52 trade union leaders, most astonishing of all, and perhaps the most revealing of all. Why, these are all political accusations. They are all political allegations. And they are far removed from what we would regard as an indictment forming the basis of a fair trial, or showing that any trial that should be campaigned for, but we should question whether any trial is required. We should start at the very root and say why should there be a trial at all.

#### **Unfair trial**

I want to say just a few more words about what is fundamental. It is fundamental in any criminal trial that a defendant should have a number of protections. Incidentally, Turkey is a signatory to the section of that part of the European Convention on Human Rights which is concerned with giving people a fair trial. Let us have no misunderstanding about that. Turkey subscribes to these particular standards. What are they? The first is that a defendant in a criminal trial should have advance written notice of the charges he or she faces and should know their foundation in law. None of these defendants had that.

Secondly, that defendants should have access to their lawyers. These defendants were kept in a sort of concentration camp behind barbed wire in somewhat primitive conditions without access to their defence lawyers.

Thirdly, that they should have a free choice of defence lawyers, and there is growing the body of evidence that that free choice was not given and was certainly interfered with, to say the very least.

Fourthly, not to be limited to only one defence lawyer especially, incidentally, in a trial which involves a demanding of the death penalty.

And fifth, to have access to family and friends, and again, to be allowed to communicate with his or her lawyer in court in the course of the trial. What's

very significant in that regard is that in this particular case there was a barrier of armed men between the accused and their own defence lawyers.

And lastly, it is of course fundamental that accused persons in these cases should be kept and maintained in good health. And there is a growing and substantial volume of evidence that this right has been very seriously breached in this particular case. There is evidence of ill-treatment.

#### **Attempt at judicial murder**

The court, as I have indicated, is occupied by this large force of armed military personnel, the atmosphere is intimidating and oppressive, but when all those matters that I've spoken about, when all those matters have been declared and have been criticised, we come back to the fundamental fact with which I started. The basic fact is that 52 trade union leaders are on trial for their lives. How can it be possible that as many as 52 — if it was 5 it would be remarkable — that as many as 52 people can all be appearing in the same trial, on the same indictment to face trial in this way, with the death penalty at the end of it? And how can it be possible when we add the factor that every single one of those persons is a trade union leader?

I think the relative silence about this this matter in the Western world is absolutely astonishing. If there were 5 trade union leaders on trial somewhere else we know that there would be an absolute barrage about it in the television and in the newspapers coming from the West. But here we have got 52 trade union leaders on trial in Turkey — a country which Mrs. Thatcher, herself a lawyer, has recently declared to be a fine upstanding example of democracy, and one which she supports as a fundamental part of the Western alliance and so on — this is a trial which has received hardly any attention in the Western press, and I would say that for those who profess to be democratic and for those who profess to have a high regard for civil liberties and so on, that factor alone is the most remarkable condemnation of that Western news media. Indeed, I have said enough to indicate that there are some very serious defects of law with this trial."

*John Bowden is a practising solicitor and a member of the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers. This article is based on his speech at CDDRT's DISK Rally held in Friends' House, London on Friday 12 March 1982.*



# CDDRT RALLY ON 12 MARCH

*CDDRT's Week of Solidarity at the beginning of March saw meetings in various cities outside London, including Manchester and Leicester. The main event in London was at the end of the week.*

Over 100 crammed into a room in Friends' House, London on 12 March 1982 for a Rally organised by CDDRT, mainly concerned with the DISK trial. Ernie Roberts, MP for Hackney North & Stoke Newington and CDDRT's Chairperson, chaired the Rally.

Motions had been placed on the House and Commons Order paper "drawing attention to the military dictatorship in Turkey, protesting against the visit of the military dictatorship's representatives to this country... protesting at the trial of trade union leaders in Turkey."

The Rally was fortunate in having an array of complementary speakers. John Bowden, a solicitor and member of the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers, gave a wide-ranging exposure of the DISK trial of 52 leading trade unionists (*we print John Bowden's speech as this month's centrefold*).

Jean Pavett, Secretary of the British Peace Assembly, spoke of the important contribution to the struggle for world peace that has been made by the Turkish Peace Council. She said, "The British Peace Assembly... will stand in solidarity with the people who are struggling for their very lives in Turkey and utter their condemnation of the fascist regime under which they are living at the present time, and I should tell you also that I am Secretary of the World Peace Council an international body comprising people all over the world who also stand in solidarity with the people of Turkey... There are people all over the world who are struggling against oppressive regimes in so many forms: in Turkey, in Chile, El Salvador, Bolivia, Southern Africa, countries of the Middle East and also the Cypriot people, part of whose island is occupied

now after all these years — is still occupied by Turkish troops.

Shocking repression also, of course, is the news of the arrests of many of the leading members of the Peace Council of Turkey... Their crime, the indictment against the 44 under Articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code and that accuses them of setting up and administering a secret organisation and making propaganda for communism and separatism...

What is happening in Turkey is our problem, too. And the financial aid that is going to the Turkish junta must be stopped... no arms should be sent to Turkey, no help at all. They must be isolated... We have to save our friends and comrades in Turkey and we have to do it now."



At the end of her remarks Jean Pavett made a presentation to the Turkish Peace Council, accepted on its behalf by Dr Bedir Aydemir, who has been associated with it for several years.

Richard Balfe MEP gave a rundown of the continuing and ever more successful efforts in the forums of Europe, efforts aimed at isolating Turkey's fascist junta. He declared that Socialist and Communist MEP's had been trying to "put pressure on the different governments, to coordinate information, to try and isolate Turkey in the way that Greece was isolated

... We have persuaded the 5 Socialist Commissioners out of the European Commission of 14 to act together within the Commission to block the forwarding of what is known as the *Dossier on*

*the Fourth Financial Protocol* and also to act together as a Group to push for human rights." Richard Balfe expanded on the points made in the European Parliament Resolution on Turkey passed on 22 January 1982.

He concluded by saying that, "In a socialist value-system we must all be interested in campaigning for each other. That is why I pledge to you, quite sincerely, that we will carry on the fight... we are all actually fighting together to build the sort of world many people have worked for many years and which in the end we are going to succeed in doing."

Faik Sinkil, a member of DISK, was the final speaker. Speaking in Turkish with an interpreter translating, he gave many examples to illustrate the developments leading to the present fascist junta.

In 1980, "After the strikes were taken up again, the President of Turkey's Metal Workers' Union, Kemal Turkler, was assassinated by fascists. The 12 September 1980 fascist coup followed. The first thing which the fascist generals announced was that while the Constitution of 1961 was to continue being effective, any decree published by the junta would be able to override any point of the Constitution. Strikes were outlawed, trade unions closed down and the trial of DISK started. Today DISK is being tried but in the name of DISK the democratic struggle and the struggle for peace in Turkey are being tried.

In the name of the working class of Turkey, the working class of the world is being tried. The trying of the members of the Turkish Peace Council is an attack on the international peace movement. The international forces for democracy and peace cannot afford to lose a single moment. In a very urgent way we have to raise our solidarity with the struggle for democracy in Turkey. This is our duty as democrats and peace-loving persons."

## CDDRT PICKET

A well-attended picket of the Turkish Embassy in London was accompanied by banners from NALGO and others on 13 March 1982. Chanting slogans such as "Free DISK Now", "End the Tortures in Turkey", and "Release the 52 DISK leaders", the picket was a lively affair. The petition which CDDRT had circulated was delivered to the Embassy

in the course of the picket by Eric Cohen of London District Communist Party accompanied by another supporter of CDDRT.

Nearly 2000 had signed the petition in the short time it had circulated, and completed petition forms are still coming in. The text of the petition was as follows:

*We the undersigned protest at the continuing detention and trials of opponents of Turkey's military fascist junta, and especially the persecution of DISK trade union confederation members, 52 of*

*whose leaders are on trial for their lives. We demand and end to torture and murder by junta forces, and call for the immediate lifting of martial law.*

The petition has been signed by several MP's, the Executive of the Scottish and Yorkshire NUM's, as well as members of the Labour Party, NUPE, CPSA, NATFHE, NALGO, ACTSS, UCATT, TGWU, POEU, SCPS, APEX, ASTMS, NUPB, NUJ, AUEW, Liberation, AAM, CND, NAS/UWT, NGA, NUT, AUEW-TASS, NU Students, COHSE, GMWU.



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 City of London Polytechnic Students' Union  
 Leeds University Union  
 UMIST — Students' Union  
 Manchester Poly Students' Union  
 Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation  
 London Co-op Political Committee  
 Lord Fenner Brockway  
 Alan Bush  
 Lord Jenkins of Putney  
 Mgr. Bruce Kent  
 Arthur Latham  
 Robert J. Longueur  
 William Pomeroy  
 Maroon Safari  
 Gordon Schaller  
 E.P. Thompson

## CONSTITUTION

- The name of the organisation shall be the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT).
- The aims of CDDRT are as follows:  
 End military rule, martial law, torture and executions.  
 Release of political prisoners.  
 Freedom for all democratic organisations.  
 End national oppression of the Kurds and national minorities.  
 Stop expansionism; end the occupation of Cyprus.  
 Withdraw Turkey from NATO and close all NATO bases.  
 No military, political or economic support for the fascist junta.  
 Totally oppose junta harassment of overseas opponents.  
 Organise solidarity on the basis of the foregoing utilising every means at our disposal.
- Organisations and individuals accepting the aims of CDDRT can apply to affiliate. Such applications are subject to the approval of the General Council. Affiliation fees shall be set by the General Council and become payable from 1 January each year.
- Congress is the highest body of the CDDRT and shall meet every two years. It shall consist of delegates from Branches and affiliated organisations, and individual affiliates. Congress shall elect the General Council and consider reports and motions. The conduct of business shall be on the basis of Standing Orders approved by Congress. Pre-Congress arrangements are the responsibility of the retiring General Council. Each Congress shall decide the size of the General Council.
- The General Council is the continuing body of Congress and shall meet quarterly. It shall appoint the Executive Committee which is responsible to it. The General Council shall have the right to co-opt.
- The Executive Committee shall consist of the General Secretary and such other members as the General Council may decide. The Executive Committee shall meet weekly and be responsible for the day to day work of CDDRT.
- Local Branches of CDDRT are formed with the approval of the General Council.
- This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority at a Congress.
- The General Council may call, or upon request by two-thirds of affiliated national organisations shall call, a Special Congress.

## General Council of CDDRT

Richard Balfe MEP, John Bowden, Alf Lomas MEP, Stan Newens MP (President), Gerry Pocock, Reg Race MP (Treasurer), Ernie Roberts MP (Chairperson), Alan Sapper, Marion Sarafi, Bob Wright, Jim Moody (General Secretary), and one representative each from the Turkish Students' Federation of the UK, Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain and the Union of Turkish Workers.

## Affiliation to CDDRT

All organisations and individuals accepting the aims of CDDRT (see Constitution above) are eligible for affiliation. From 1 January 1982 the cost of affiliation for the year is: National organisation £25.00, local organisation £10.00, individual £5.00

I/we apply for affiliation to CDDRT and enclose a cheque/PO for £

Name: .....

Address: .....

Return to CDDRT, 29 Parkfield St., London N1. Tel: 01-226 2668

# THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY IN TURKEY

## FIRST

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

## 12 JUNE 1982

### LONDON

There will be an International Conference on Turkey in London in June convened by the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey. It will discuss international and national aspects of the struggle against the junta and will be held in Conway Hall on Saturday 12 June 1982. Delegates have been invited from organisations worldwide.

The Conference will centre on the future work of the world solidarity movement with the people of Turkey, and include discussion of active co-operation between organisations in different countries. Important elements will be discussion of the shared experiences of organising and the difficulties still to be overcome.

Conference will bring together leading figures in the world movement of solidarity with Turkey's working people. Ensure that your party, trade union, democratic organisation or student union is represented at this important Conference.

All organisations interested in hastening the end of Turkey's fascist junta are invited to appoint delegates to attend. Delegate fee is £5.00. CDDRT will assist with accommodation arrangements if need be. Please complete this form and return it with the Delegates fee(s) to CDDRT, 29 Parkfield St., London N1, England. Tel: 01-226 2668.

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**This organisation** .....  
**Address** .....  
.....  
**Secretary** .....

wishes to send delegate(s) to the International Conference on 12 June 1982, and applies for Conference credentials and documents.

We enclose £ delegates fee(s).

We do/do not\* require assistance in arranging accommodation for the nights of 11/12 June.

Delegates' names / address .....  
.....  
.....  
.....

\*Delete as applicable.