

TURKEY NEWSLETTER



Monthly publication of the Committee for
Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey

Issue 31

February 1983

Fatsa Trial Starts

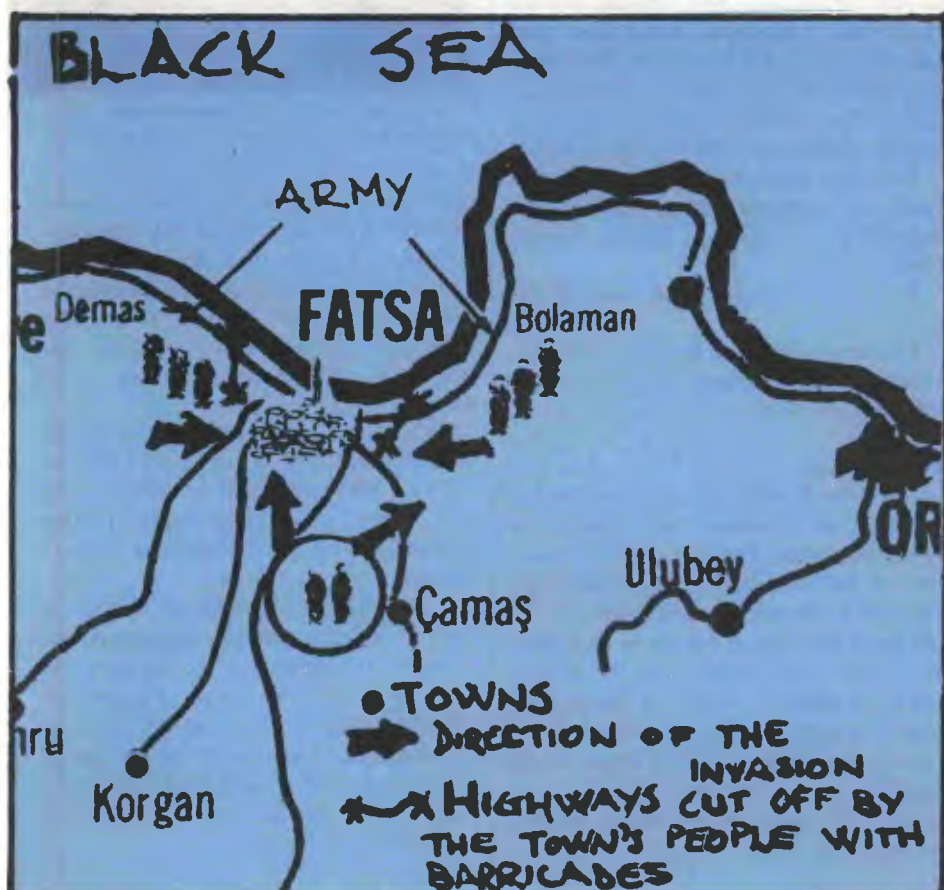
TORTURED CONFRONT COURT

56 tortured defendants at the start of the Fatsa trial were removed from court on 12 January in Amasya. The suppression of their protest was in turn objected to by the remaining 703 defendants, who scuffled with military guards whilst trying to leave the court in sympathy.

These courageous political prisoners — knowing that further torture was likely to follow such a protest — nevertheless have exposed the junta as torturers and indeed that the military courts are extensions of itself.

The military prosecutor has demanded death sentences against 261 of the 759 defendants in the Fatsa trial. The main weight of his evidence is based on the existence of an anti-fascist and popular independent local government in Fatsa, a Black Sea town of 30,000 persons, from the end of 1979 until July 1980 (only 2 months before the fascist military junta staged its coup).

Local government head in Fatsa, Fikri Sonmez, now one of these defendants, said at the time of his administration's efforts in the town: "We have established a situation in which the people are governing themselves. ...Previously the municipality had an income of 12 million Turkish Lira (TL) in 8 months. We have increased this to 23 million TL in 3



months. ...We have established a municipality of the people. The monies required are collected by the people. There is no compulsion. Everything we do is done collectively. We completed the work of paving the town's streets in the space of 6-7 days as a result of a campaign to which thousands of people contributed. Normally the work would have taken 4 years. ...The people are really administering themselves. ...Here there is room only for those who work, who sweat." (*Hürriyet*, 10 July 1980).

The Fatsa municipality had rid the town of the fascist commandos (who were active throughout Turkey before the fascist junta took over from them). However, fascists carried out attacks against Fatsa from the start of Fikri Sönmez's term of office. They were joined in this later by gendarme and other state security forces. These attacks grew to such an extent that strict security had to be enforced by the municipal authority, which authorised barricades to be erected at the town approaches. From June 1980 there were several clashes with state security forces, each lasting several hours.

Early on 13 July 1980 troops and security forces entered Fatsa from two directions (see map on front page) and searched all buildings. The town was thereafter under enemy occupation. Masked fascists, in some cases convicted criminals, were brought in to identify culprits for the security forces. It was the beginning of all round cooperation between the state and fascists.

Looking back, even right wing politicians could find little to criticise in the actions of the progressive municipality. A local Justice Party member was even quoted as saying: " 'Peoples Committees' began to hold meetings every night. Soon they were organised well enough to be able to gather 10,000 people in ten minutes. Fifteen organised men could gather 2500 people. They were no longer a minority." (*Yankı*, 21 July 1980).

This is how Fikri Sönmez described the situation that summer:

"There is no passport control in Fatsa. However, there is strict control. We are obliged to do this. Barricades, night watches and training behind the barricades are all for our security. *The gendarme who says he has come for our security is causing nothing but torture and repression.* We are not responsible for what the state security causes. Apart from these I am responsible for everything. The Governor is trying to present a false picture, putting the people full of fear on the one side,

Belstead's Brief

Lord Belstead, State Minister at the Foreign Office, visited Turkey from 13-15 January to mark the 400th anniversary of established diplomatic relations between Britain and Turkey. A reader from outside London, R. Davies, sent us a copy of his letter to Lord Belstead from which we give excerpts:

...Turkey is a member of NATO, of the Council of Europe, and has formalised links with the EEC. In all of these organisations Britain has a prominent role and a voice which is listened to.

...The recent referendum in Turkey should be viewed with considerable suspicion both in terms of the manner in which it was conducted (eg no campaigning allowed for a NO vote!) and in terms of the limited choices it offered the Turkish electorate (different degrees

terrorists (as he calls them) on the other side. And then he talks of the security forces trying to protect the people! There is no such thing. If we were divided, the huge barricades covering the streets could not be constructed in 7 minutes."

All elected, civilian local authorities and mayors were deposed throughout Turkey on the day of the fascist coup, 12 September 1980. Their replacements were military men, answerable only to the fascist junta. Now Fatsa's former mayor, councillors and citizens are on trial for their attempts to run their own town in their own way with the active support of the population. How about it? Are you a local councillor? Will you protest at this trial? Will your council?

Any and all protests at the Fatsa Trial in Amasya from individuals, councillors or councils would be valuable.

Protests, resolutions etc. should go to:

President General Evren, Çankaya, Ankara, Turkey. (Send us a copy as we can then publicise it.)

Adopt Fatsa!

Latest news in Britain is that the London Borough of Hackney will adopt the outlawed Fatsa Council. ('Town twinning' is between official representatives, which in Fatsa are now the military.) We call upon other local authorities in Britain to do the same. This form of protest brings solidarity with an immediate impact to those imprisoned and on trial in Turkey. Please let CDDRT know of any possible moves in this direction; or contact us anyway if you require further information.

of repression).

I would like to draw your attention to...

i) The trial of members of the Turkish Peace Association. These individuals were arrested in February 1982. The trial began in June and shows no sign of being resolved.

ii) The continued detention and trial of members of the trade union confederation DİSK ... seized shortly after the military takeover ... behind bars for nearly 2½ years. There have been allegations of the use of torture (for example DİSK leader, Mr Abdullah Baştürk, alleges he was given up to 100 beatings by police interrogators during the early part of his detention).

iii) The proposed trial of 18 of Turkey's writers on charges of spreading communist propaganda (based upon a party which the writers attended at which the works of a communist poet* were read out).



*The late Nazım Hikmet, Turkey's foremost poet. His birth anniversary was celebrated in January.

In addition to these specific cases there is overwhelming evidence that violations of basic freedoms are widespread in Turkey, including censorship of the press and closure of newspapers, the silencing of former politicians, arbitrary arrest and torture, and wholesale repression of the trade unions.

It is to be regretted that the British Government has taken a soft line on Turkey, for example within the Council of Europe. ... we may expect further abuses of power by President Evren's regime.

... Turkey is an ally of Britain in NATO, an organisation whose avowed aims are the defence of democracy and western values. A charge of hypocrisy could be validly levelled at us if we condemn martial law in Poland whilst remaining totally silent about a country whose policies we are in a better position to influence.

ARMY FIGHTS KURDS



Turkey's army is stepping up its attack on the Kurds (24% of the population). Recent reports, officially un denied, accuse Turkey's fascist junta of transferring men and material from the west to the east (Kurdistan). Already confronted by a massive army presence, Turkey's Kurds are now facing genocide. Their cry of self-determination is to be denied in blood.

CDDRT Chair Ernie Roberts MP demanded Government assistance for Kurdish refugees in a parliamentary motion tabled a few weeks ago. In less than a fortnight it had received support from dozens of MP's. But hundreds of other MP's have not yet been confronted with the issue! Write to *your* MP and challenge her or him to support this motion. The motion reads as follows:

"That this House is aware of the repressive nature of the regimes of Turkey, Iran and Iraq, now occupying Kurdistan, which is denying basic human rights to the Kurdish people, resulting in a continuous exodus of refugees from Kurdistan from a situation where they are not allowed to publish, read or write their own language nor express their culture; that this situation has worsened in the recent past with the indiscriminate bombing and raiding of Kurdish villages, and the mass executions and imprisonment of suspected Kurdish activists, when many survivors from peaceful demonstrations in Iraqi Kurdistan fled to the mountains and made their way through Iran to seek refuge in Europe; and therefore urges the Government to allow the Kurds to remain in the United Kingdom as refugees.

Council of Europe Refusal Act

Turkey will remain a member of the Council of Europe. That was the decision taken by its Assembly on 27 January 1983.

Numerous members of national parliaments from 20 of the 21 member countries (Turkey's delegation is suspended) present in Strasbourg spoke for expulsion. Prominent was Peter Hardy,

Labour MP for Rother Valley. He cited the closure of *Cumhuriyet* (for the fourth time) on 25 January as showing the fascist junta's attitude to press freedom.

In order to avoid the wrath of the Council of Europe, Turkey's fascist junta had already:

1. Released the sick Mahmut Dikerdem on bail on 17 December 1982. He is President of the Peace Association Committee.

2. Given formal permission on 24 December 1982 to 133 former Republican People's Party MP's to travel abroad.

3. On 21 January published a draft law on political parties; released the tortured Ahmet İsvan from jail after 27

months; and freed two little known DİSK members from custody.

Reactionaries were then able to use these as examples to attempt to refute charges of undemocratic behaviour. The reality of over 100,000 political prisoners, torture and death under the junta did not, however, sufficiently impress the majority of the Assembly. It is worth noting that the vaunted draft law on political parties in Turkey is most repressive and allows very little freedom of action.

Anyway, democrats and progressives in the Assembly did manage to force suspension of the junta's voting rights on the Council's Executive until it restores "full democracy". That is a veritable achievement.

IN BRIEF

Evren's son in law

Ankara 13.1.83. Unconfirmed report that Maksut Göksu, President Evren's son in law, arrested for alleged links with the Communist Party of Turkey.

Mojahedin

Istanbul 12.1.83. Seven Iranians on trial for organising an illegal underground group of the Mojahedin-e-Khalq.

Missing

Strasbourg 11.1.83. Voting 192-5 the European Parliament demanded from Turkey information about hundreds of Greek Cypriots missing since the 1974 Turkish invasion.

Free trade

Evren announced in December that free trade zones around Mersin and İskenderun would boost the present \$7 billion trade with Arab and Muslim countries.

Starvation minimum

Minimum wages are to rise £46 per month for agricultural workers (60% of Turkey's 18 million working people). Shanty rents start at £30 monthly.

Legal murder

Three more prisoners were executed in January.

Gloucester's Challenge

In a resolution intended for the Regional Council of the Labour Party, Gloucester, CLP in December accused Britain's Government over its lack of condemnation for Turkey's junta. More such declarations are needed. This was what our Gloucester friends agreed:

This Regional Council condemns the hypocrisy of so-called bastions of 'Western Democracy' including the British Tory Government which call for freedom of political and trade union activity in countries such as Poland, while support-

ing the fascist regime in Turkey. We call on all sections of the labour movement to campaign for a restoration of freedom of association, etc in Turkey and for the repeal of the totally undemocratic Constitution adopted in November 1982.

If your Party or trade union has not yet taken a stand on Turkey then now is the time, more than ever, to have a go at proposing it does so as unequivocally as Gloucester CLP. Please send us a copy of any resolutions, especially if they are intended for later discussion by leading labour movement bodies.



The 867-page indictment prepared for the DİSK lawsuit is a totally unlawful document. "Crimes" which do not exist in laws have been artificially created. The accusations have been based on the methods of analogy and suggestion which have been declared unlawful in the Penal Code.

These accusations are assertions of subjective appraisals such as predictions and hypothetical statements. The indictment is a biased political document of polemics full of contradictions and false reasoning, an effort to create chain crimes based on collective accusation, which is contrary to the principles of the Constitution and the codes defining the personal character of crimes. According to us, the Military Prosecutor has resorted to fraudulent alteration of facts, in order to find a basis for his unlawful methods.

No evidence

The most striking peculiarity of the indictment is that it is not based on evidence.

There is not one single piece of evidence in the indictment, proving that DİSK is an illegal organization conspiring to overthrow the state order, or showing that DİSK was guilty of deliberate violation of Articles 146, 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code.

The identification of the defendants in the indictment is uncertain. The legal basis of the accusations is not present. The offences are not described, which is contrary to Article 1 of the Turkish Penal Code. The attempt to penalize in cases which have already been brought to Court and finalized, is a very concrete example of violation of the basic principles of Law.

The indictment has not been able to assert a single case which can be considered under the titles of "physical compulsion", "psychological compulsion" and "evil intention" under Turkish laws. Moreover, it is not possible to look for evil

SLOW EXECUTION

intention in the trade union activities we have undertaken, nor in the posts we have been elected to through secret vote and public consensus. None of our activities can be declared unlawful.

The Military Prosecutor has openly declared that he will not assent to any decision taken by the Supreme Courts and law authorities.

We were tortured

The papers we were forced to sign under heavy torture and oppression, have been used as the preparatory statements. The Public Prosecutor, by implication, seems practically to approve of torture in his observations on page 781 of the indictment. Our petition concerning tortures has been removed from our file.

All of DİSK's actions so far have been legal and in line with the principle of the Constitution.* The trade union activities of DİSK have always been within the framework of the trade union heritage accumulated in Western Europe for 200 years, in accordance with the ILO principles and the approach adopted by ETUC, of which DİSK is a candidate member.

Nothing has been concealed from the Turkish and world media. Our activities and actions have been publicised through the daily papers, radio and TV.

All domestic and international activities of DİSK have been under the strict control of the State through Law No. 274 on Trade Unions, especially items 10 and 29. The documents at the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, particularly, are good evidence of this fact.

The activities of DİSK have either been carried out under judicial supervision or else have never been prosecuted at all. All of DİSK's press-publication activities have been pursued within the limits of the relevant law and all its publications have been inspected by the Press Prosecutors. According to the Press Law, publications which have undergone prescription cannot be further prosecuted; nor can new accusations be brought forward.

All the Congress meetings held by DİSK have been attended to by the authorities, its by-laws approved, its resolutions certified by the public notary, and presented to the relevant office upon request.

The meetings and conferences have been held under the consent and supervision of the State, which granted the necessary legal authorisations. The strikes carried out by the affiliated trade unions are in accordance with Law No. 275 on Collective Bargainings and Strikes, **No suit was brought against any of these strikes at the time.**

DİSK Democratic

It is against both the law and democracy to regard

*The 1961 Constitution, which has been superseded by the 1982 fascist Constitution.

our views and activities for many years. This approach is in violation of the principle of "Permanence" in the Penal Code Law, which states that an act can be punished which was not against the law at the time it was committed. Acts which were not against the law at the time they were committed with the Constitution are proclaimed illegal in the present.

DİSK has always defended the principle of the Constitution should be applied perfectly, and this has been practiced wholly with all the members of DİSK. DİSK has taken office in various institutions of the State, serving as members of the Council of Ministers. DİSK has always been taken as model by the State. DİSK is also mentioned in the Constitution.

On the other hand, DİSK has always had a clear attitude against terrorism. DİSK has always been on the side of the people's freedoms.



During the trial, DİSK members were accused of "being responsible for and causing death and terror". It can be seen from the contents of the indictment that the documents in the case file have no material foundation.

A slow death

On the other hand, even though we have been rendered and thought to be sentenced for such a sentence to be given, that has been demanded, the conditions concretely begun to be applied under conditions of confinement.

Indeed, 18 of us are suffering from conditions described by doctors as "slow death" because of the extreme conditions. Because of the chimney's air coming into the airing yard with soot and dust, we are dying from slow poisoning. Under these conditions, we are under a total of 60 minutes a week of breathing poisonous gas in concentrated form.

Except for these poisonous conditions, many diseases include

ON OF UNIONISTS

crimes after so many total violation of the of the State". Likewise, ch states that "no deed is not considered against committed", has been legal and in agreement der normal conditions, extraordinary periods. ended the idea that the tirely implemented and t democracy should be s institutions and rules. of representation at he State, its members arliament, its practices s for Court resolutions. n university textbooks. K has always expressed or and anarchy and has democratic rights and



SK and its affiliated y some authorities of aking part in "anarchy understood from the and from the study of e, that the accusations on.

hough no sentence has we believe it impossible iven, the death sentence for us has slowly but executed through the t we are suffering.

queezed into each cell, "dangerous for life", difficulty of breathing. smoke which fills our l gas, we are in danger ng in our cell. Under able to get fresh air for ek, as getting air means s in an even more

ning gases which may ling cancer, the general

conditions also threaten our health: the cells and the airing yard receive no sunlight, the dishes must be washed with cold water, each person has 2 to 3 minutes of bathing water per week, etc.

The lighting system is in a position to severely damage the eyes. Watering and burning of the eyes are frequent. Those among our friends who have asked to see an eye doctor, have been put on a list of 200 people still waiting to be examined. According to an announcement, their turn will come in nine weeks. The regular medical control is made by looking at the face of the arrested person through the loophole every week or every ten days. The prescribed medicine cannot be obtained on time.

Lawyer's contacts minimal

On the other hand, our talks with our lawyers are carried on under the supervision of soldiers, which is unlawful. A lawyer is allowed a total of 20 minutes to talk with his 10-15 clients. We are not given the trial minute statements and defence documents which our lawyers bring for us. A book including the Constitution of 1924, 1961 and 1982 is forbidden to the defendants; the word "harmful" has been added under the title of the 1961 Constitution.

In short, our defence rights are extremely limited.

The ten minute talks we may have with our families are threatening the family institution and are very humiliating.

On the other hand, in the jail house, getting searched, being hit with chains on the back, being insulted, and being subject to dishonouring manners are very hard to endure.

Being under arrest does not mean that the arrested person should be physically, mentally, psychologically sick. **But under the prison conditions that are imposed upon us, it is even doubtful if we will live to the sentence stage of the trial.**

I hope that history will not be the witness of the execution of the innocent trade unionists, who are put to trial on the basis of an unlawful indictment and in view of the death sentence, before the verdict which — according to us — will acquit these men.

All the requests we have submitted to the office concerning our living conditions in the prison have remained unanswered.

A Political Trial

This trial, as the Military Prosecutor who has his signature under the indictment stated himself in one of his remarks, is a political trial.

By this unlawful indictment, it is not the things we do nor our activities, but rather our ideas and views on trade-unionism, which are under accusation.

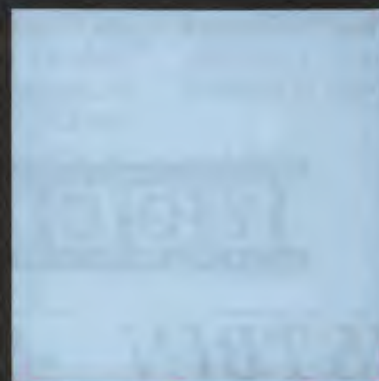
It is not so much DİSK which is being accused and sentenced by this indictment, as trade union rights and freedoms, and the United Nations and ILO principles. The principles of the European

Trade Unions Confederation, to which we are a candidate member, are being interrogated and tried.

DİSK, as a national, independent and democratic workers' union, has worked for the development of the basic rights and freedoms and democratic workers' rights. It has defended the Constitution, democracy and national liberty, has protected labour and has struggled against exploitation, anarchy and terrorism.

DİSK has defended progress, truth, reality and labour. Our greatest witness is history and the social realities of our times. Reality will absolve DİSK.

This article is taken from Abdullah Baştürk's statement to the military court in İstanbul on 15 December 1982 in the presence of an ICFTU delegation, as published in Info-Türk number 74 from the text released by the DİSK Liaison office in Brussels.



**FREEDOM TO THE PEACE
FIGHTERS OF TURKEY**

**TÜRKİYE BARİŞ
SAVAŞÇILARINA ÖZGÜRLÜK**

Postcards and posters with this design have been produced by the World Peace Council. They are available from CDDRT, 29 Parkfield St., London N1 0PS or the British Peace Assembly, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8HA.

The reverse of the cards carries a message of support and the name and address of the President of the Peace Association Committee in Turkey. For a postcard send a.s.a.e. (at least 175mmx95mm); for a glossy poster send 4x15"/, stamps and your name and address.

YG on C4

In a mid-January broadcast Yılmaz Güney was asked by an interviewer on Channel Four if he considered himself in personal danger. Yılmaz Güney replied, "Yes. But I am not afraid because when I came from Turkey I knew what would happen. This is not a surprise for me. Until 1980 I thought, 'I can stay in Turkey and I can fight from the prison.' I could make film, I could write articles ... and build some relation with the people. But after 12 September, ... the military coup — all things changed. In my life all the time I shall speak about Turkey. I shall explain the reality of the fascist junta."

Güney gave this interview in mid-January in Paris. Explaining what his objectives now are, he said:

"1. I must work, I must make cinema, good cinema, very strong cinema.

"2. I must fight the fascist government, opposing the fascist government.

"3. I must explain reality for my people and for the people of the whole world."

Write to your MP. Get her or him demand that the British Government allow this exemplary artist to come to Britain. Petitions are available (see accompanying article on right).



DUSTBIN CORNER



There was even a Turkish fascist at one January showing of Yılmaz Güney's "Yol" in London's Lumière Cinema. His anonymous scrawl on one of the petitions hanging near CDDRT's exhibition (reproduced below) was countered thousands of times over by the signatures of democrats who oppose the British Government's decision.

Yılmaz Güney Campaign



We the undersigned call on Her Majesty's Government to reverse its decision to deny entry to Britain Turkish film maker Yılmaz Güney.

Signature	NAME	ADDRESS

*this man is a killer He never deserve a //
leave Turkey ALONE this*

When completed, return to Yılmaz Güney Campaign, c/o Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT), 29 Parkfield St., London N1 0PS. Tel: 01-226 2668.

Sponsored by



B. Hubschmid, Zurich

TN at YOL

It has been so good distributing last month's *Turkey Newsletter* outside the Lumière Cinema in London's West End. The Lumière is showing Yılmaz Güney's Cannes award winner *Yol* and groups of us from the Committee man our pitch outside to greet the ingoing and outgoing cinema crowds.

Sales have been tremendous. Everyone seems interested in the situation in Turkey. We explain to them about the fascist coup and ask them to help the Committee with a donation. Several people have told me they know Turkey well having spent some months in Turkish jails!

After seeing the film, several people have asked why troops were everywhere. What is exactly going on in Turkey? Why were soldiers murdering people in Kurdistan? From these questions we realise the importance of distributing our material. We could see how important has been the Committee's exhibition of posters, leaflets and information which was kindly permitted by the Lumière management and located downstairs in the bar foyer.

Our Campaign to get Yılmaz Güney into this country (after the Home Office denied him an entry visa to attend the London Film Festival showing of *Yol*) is now developing quite well. The first batch of petitions were sent to the Home Office in November. Now, with the marvellous response at the Lumière — with people taking petition forms as fast as we could give them out — it means that the Home Office will soon be getting several thousand more filled petition forms! If we can keep up the pressure we will soon be able to welcome this fine film maker to these islands. Yılmaz Güney is not the murderer that the fascist junta claims (and in which the Home Office presently concurs), but one of thousands of Turkish artists, writers and singers that Evren wants to silence.

The fascist coup of September 1980 has placed a huge black gag across the mouths of the majority of the people of that country and meant the risk of imprisonment and death for all those who oppose the Generals or speak out for democracy in Turkey. Our Committee can now easily answer the question: "Why do you have a Yılmaz Güney Campaign?" Opponents of Turkey's fascist junta who are able to get to showings of *Yol* can help distribute CDDRT literature. Collect Yılmaz Güney Campaign petition signatures. And of prime importance is for more individuals and organisations to affiliate to the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT) and help in all the activities designed to topple General Evren's fascist junta. If you want to help, telephone 01-226 2668 or drop us a line at 29 Parkfield St., London N1 0PS.

Alison Grigg

How to Address a Fascist

Ambassador Gümrükçüoğlu is becoming a much written to and telephoned man. Local authorities, peace groups, trade unions and individuals have all contacted the fascist junta's man in London in recent weeks.

This Committee cheerfully admits to being the main instigator of his growing relations with British anti-fascists. However, we are glad to say that a great deal of local initiative is being used. And it's initiatives we need if we want to add weight to the fight against Turkey's fascist junta!

You can add your protests, too. Send them to The Ambassador, Turkish Embassy, 43 Belgrave Square, London SW1. Here is a selection from protest letters sent to the Embassy about the trial of peace activists:

Mr. GPH, West Sussex

"I am writing to protest at the trial of thirty members of the Turkish Peace Association at present taking place in the İstanbul military court. Such a trial is a further indication of the undemocratic measures taken by the military junta to silence all opposition. No doubt these people, along with the 2000 trade union members arrested last year, dared to voice views which were not acceptable to your undemocratic, fascist, military leadership.

"I, along with thousands of others, demand a return to democracy within your once great country and freedom for all political prisoners held within your prisons."

CONSTITUTION OF THE CDDRT

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT).
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Congress is the highest body of 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.

5. 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-option.

6. 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.

7. Local Branches of CDDRT are formed with the approval of the General Council.

8. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority at a Congress.

9. The General Council may call, or upon request by two-thirds of affiliated national organisations shall call, a Special Congress.

West Midlands County Council

"Members of the West Midlands County Council ... are extremely disturbed at reports that the Turkish Peace Association has been disbanded and its leaders held without charge.

"The Council have asked me to write to you on their behalf to express their deep concern at the ban imposed on the Turkish Peace Association..."

Huddersfield CND

"We in Huddersfield CND wish to voice our protest at the arrest and trial of the Executive Committee of the Turkish Peace Association. Millions of people all over Europe hold views in common with those that have put the Turkish Peace group in prison and we regard their detention as a violation of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Lewes CND

"I have been asked by the members of Lewes CND to write to you to protest about the arrest of the leaders of the Turkish Peace Association and their detention in deplorable circumstances since then. We also object to their trial on dubious charges..."

"We are asking our government to use its influence to secure justice and humanity for these political prisoners. Perhaps you can make it clear to your Government that repression of this kind is abhorrent to other countries supposedly your allies in NATO."

LOCAL BRANCHES:

East London CDDRT c/o 238 Morning Lane, London E9 6RQ.

Leicester CDDRT c/o 15 Bulwer Rd, Leicester.

Manchester CDDRT c/o Eric Hughes, 137 Dickenson Rd, M14 5HZ.

For branches in all other localities, please contact CDDRT, 29 Parkfield St, London N1 OPS. Tel: 01-226 2668

GENERAL COUNCIL OF CDDRT

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

Frank Allau, MP
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Dennis Canavan MP
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Bob Cryer, MP
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Ken Eastham, MP
Geoffrey Edge, MP
Bob Edwards, MP
Fred Evans, MP
Martin Flannery, MP
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John Golding, MP
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Martin O'Neil, MP
Stan Orme, MP
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Reg Race, MP
Jo Richardson, MP
Allan Roberts, MP
Eric Roberts, MP
Ernie Ross, MP
Dennis Skinner, MP
Clive Soloy MP
Clive Staley MP
John Tilley, MP
Philip Whitehead, MP
Sheila Wright, MP
Richard Balfe, MEP
Roland Boyes, MEP
Richard Caborn, MEP
Barbara Castle, MEP
Ann Clwyd, MEP

Kenneth D Collins, MEP
Brian Key, MEP
Aif Lomas, MEP
Dr Barry Seal MEP
Colin Barnett, Sec. NW TUC
Ken Brett, AGS AUEW
Stan Cole, AUEW NC
Harry Conroy, NUJ
Lawrence Daly, NUM
J. Davidson, NW Dist. Sec. FTAT
Beryl Hufnagle, Yorks and
Humber Side TUC
E.V. Hughes, Vice Pres., NW TUC
Alex Kitson, TGWU
Mick McGahey, NUM
Alan Sapper, ACTT
Bob Wright, AGS AUEW
ACTSS Central London Branch
APEX — Holborn Branch
ASTMS — Divisional Council 8
ASTMS — Manchester HS Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
AUEW — Kingston District
AUEW — N. Manchester District
AUEW — Sheffield District
AUEW (TASS) — Divisional
Council 9
COHSE Caterham Branch
GMWU Burnley Branch
GMWU 22 Bury Branch
GMWU 115 Manchester Branch
GMWU Pendle 122 Branch
GMWU Warrington Branch

NALGO Metropolitan District
Council
NALGO — Hackney Branch
NALGO Southwark
NATFHE Leek
NUM
NUM Derbyshire
NUM Scotland
NUM Yorkshire
NUPE
NUPE — West Midlands Div
NUR — Manchester
SOGAT '82 LCA&EP Branch
TGWU
TGWU Reg. No.1
UCATT — London Region
UCATT — NW Region
Greater London Association of
Trades Councils
Cambridge & District Trades
Council
Gloucester Trades Council
Greenwich Trades Council
Hackney Trades Council
Islington Trades Council
Kingston & District Trades Council
Leeds Trades Council
Cities of London & Westminster
Trades Council
Preston Trades Council
Rotherham Trades Council
Stockport Trades Council

Waltham Forest Trades Council
GEC Openshaw JSSC
Union of Turkish Workers
Ardwick CLP
Beckenham CLP
Bermondsey CLP
Cambridgeshire CLP
Chelmsford CLP
Clackmannan & E Stirlingshire
CLP
Greenwich CLP
Haitemprace CLP
Hazelgrove CLP
Heywood & Royton CLP
High Peak CLP
Runcorn CLP
Keighley CLP
Renfrewshire West CLP
St. Helens CLP
Stockport South CLP
Walthamstow CLP
Wavertree CLP
Labour Party Young Socialists
National Organisation of Labour
Students
Communist Party of Great Britain
Association of Cypriot Women in
Britain
Iraqi Students' Society UK
(Branch of GUS IR)
KNE — Communist Youth of
Greece (org. in Britain)

Kurdish Students Society in Europe
(UK)
Portuguese Communist Party
(org. in Britain)
Union of Turkish Progressives
in Britain
Turkish Students Federation of UK
City of London Polytechnic
Students' Union
Cyprus Students' Society —
Manchester University
Leeds University Union
UMIST — Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union
Manchester University Students'
Union
Teesside Polytechnic Students'
Union
Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation
Demokrat Norway
Haldane Society of Socialist
Lawyers
London CRS Political Committee
Lord Fenner Brockway
Alan Bush
Lord Jenkins of Putney
Mgr. Bruce Kent
Arthur Latham
Robert J. Longuet
William Pomeroy
Andrew Rothstein
Marion Sarafi
Gordon Schaffer
E.P. Thompson

STOP THE TRIALS

Public Meeting with
TONY BENN MP

6.30pm Saturday 16 April 1983

Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1

SPEAKERS FROM KURDISTAN AND TURKEY

1983 Congress of CDDRT

All affiliates of CDDRT, whether individuals or organisations, and CDDRT Branches are entitled to take part in the preparations for what will be the Second Congress.

Schedule

Tuesday 15 March 1983: Last day for receiving motions, amendments to the constitution and nominations for the General Council.

Tuesday 19 April 1983: Last day for receiving amendments to motions.

Sunday 15 May 1983: Second Congress, County Hall, London SE1.

Emergency motions will be approved for debate at Congress (subject to Congress agreement) by the General Council or its sub-committee.

An individual affiliate may attend as a delegate, local affiliates and Branches may

each send two delegates, and national affiliates may each send five delegates to Congress.

Individual affiliates may each submit one motion, organisations may each submit up to two motions for Congress. There is no limit to the number of nominations an affiliate may make, but nominations should be accompanied by an indication that the nominee has accepted nomination.

Affiliate to CDDRT

Organisations and individuals accepting the aims of CDDRT (see Constitution) are eligible for affiliation. Annual affiliation fees are: national organisation £25, local organisation £10, individual £6.

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

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Address

*Delete as applicable.

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