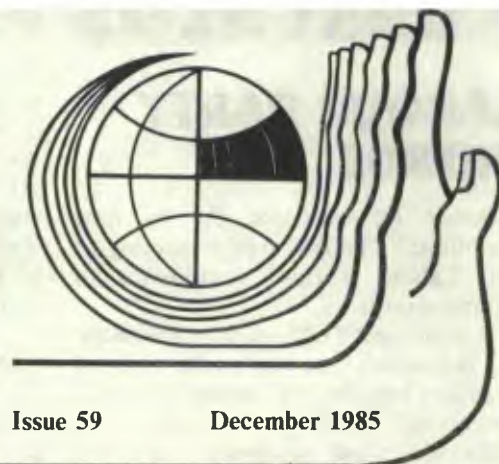


TURKEY NEWSLETTER



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

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SAVE PAŞA GÜVEN!

Pasa Guven, a leader of the banned Turkish left-wing organisation DEV SOL, who escaped from prison in Turkey has been arrested in Italy and faces extradition according to reports dated 31st October.

If extradited to Turkey, Pasa Guven faces the certainty of torture and the near certainty of being hung. This case also poses a serious threat of creating a precedent for the treatment of many Turkish political refugees now in Europe.

Pasa Guven who apart from leading DEV SOL was a leader of the ISTANBUL HIGHER EDUCATION CULTURAL ASSOCIATION — a student organisation, faces five indictments including one of “forming an illegal organisation”. The charges he faces carry the death penalty.

The fate of Pasa Guven if he is returned to Turkey is also clear if we look at the evidence collected by Amnesty International and members of the European Parliament showing the violations of human rights and the routine use of torture by the military and police in Turkey.

The Italian authorities state that they will not return Pasa Guven to Turkey if a death sentence has already been passed on him. To overcome this obstacle the Turkish military authorities are saying that a decision to hang Pasa Guven has not *yet* been taken. It is clear however, that as in past cases Pasa Guven will join the over 400 people recently sentenced to death and once in the hands of the Turkish regime will become the 51st person to die on the scaffold in Turkey since 1980.

All who hold democracy and human rights dear must protest *now* against the threat hanging over Pasa Guven.

Those who take action to prevent this extradition will find the working people of Turkey on their side. Turkish communities throughout Europe are raising their voices in protest.

Last year a Turkish political refugee in West Germany — C.K. Altun committed suicide when his extradition to Turkey was decided. This situation must not be permitted to happen again. Governments granting the anti-democratic regime in Turkey's extradition requests are committing a political crime.

To support and defend Pasa Guven against extradition is the most important point in the struggle for democracy in Turkey at this time. Not to allow him to be surrendered into the clutches of the murderous regime in Turkey is a historic task for all democrats.

The call to prevent Pasa Guven's extradition must be raised with all West European governments, Members of Parliaments and Members of the European Parliament.

In this issue:

CDDRT CONGRESS REPORT

A ROUGH TIME FOR ÖZAL

In September, Prime Minister Ozal rashly did a series of "meet the people" tours of several regions of Turkey. Designed to give Ozal and his unpopular Motherland Party (ANAP) government a boost, they turned into a fiasco.

In the tea producing area of Rize, Ozal attended two days of meetings with local tea producers. The first meeting heard Ozal in stony silence. When he had finished, an old man rose from the audience and shouted "where is the money for the tea?". Ozal replied "we know when to give the money", the meeting became 'ugly'.

Next day, Ozal was again pressed by tea producers for the money the government is supposed to pay for the crop. True to his "sensitive approach", Ozal replied "we do not give you money because you will waste it"(!). The meeting broke-up in disorder.

In the depressed town of Isparta, Ozal promised "we will build a football field here". A young man in the crowd shouted "we don't want football fields, we want bread". To which Ozal laughingly replied "if I had some on me, I would give you some".

In the nut producing area of Ordu, Ozal promised to increase the price paid for nuts. A man in the audience exclaimed "don't lie" and was promptly arrested by security police.

During Ozal's visit to Aslertli the crowds pressed around him calling "water, water". Ozal immediately left claiming the speakers' table was in the wrong position!

Soon after these visits Ozal flew to the USA for an eye operation. The sight of so many angry faces had obviously been a strain!

MARTIAL LAW

On 1st November, martial law was lifted in Istanbul and seven provinces. The unexpected early lifting of martial law in Istanbul — Turkey's largest city is seen as a retreat by the regime in the face of growing discontent with continuing restrictions dating from the 1980 coup.

However, martial law has been replaced by 'Emergency Regulations' in all of Turkey's larger cities.

Martial Law continued in areas of Eastern Anatolia where the army is fighting Kurdish guerrillas.

PROFITS OF THE GENERALS

The 25th General Council meeting of



At the "TIKKO-7" political trial of members of a banned left-wing organisation, defendants are dragged back to the cells for refusing to wear prison uniforms. (Cumhuriyet, 12.9.1985).

OYAK (Armed Forces Mutual Assistance Foundation) was held on May 31, 1985 in Ankara. According to the financial report presented by the Chairman Görmüş, despite the recent economic stagnation in Turkey, OYAK's profitability rate climbed to 130% in 1984 and the foundation distributed a profit-share of 42.4% to its all members in army uniform.

OYAK, according to the report, is currently giving service to its members through 20 different army department stores. The annual turnover of these stores rose to TL 10.2 billion in 1984 while it was TL 6.3 billion in 1983.

OYAK was founded 22 years ago with the contributions of army officers and NCOs, apparently for providing them with supplementary social benefits. But the 5% deducted from the salaries totalling 20 million dollars a year pushed army chiefs to invest OYAK's enormous funds in industrial and commercial ventures. Thanks to its collaboration with foreign companies such as Renault, International-Harvester, Good-Year and canned food industries and in tourism, OYAK has turned in a very short time into a mammoth finance-holding. OYAK climbed to 15th rank among the 500 biggest companies of Turkey in 1983.

REFUSED PERMISSION

The latest victim of the Ozal regime's practice of denying political 'suspects' permission to leave the country is Aziz Nesin.

Aziz Nesin, famous humourist writer and Chairman of the Turkish Writers' Union has been denied a passport by the regime.

He had been invited by the National Union of Journalists to visit Britain and attend a conference on the media in

Turkey. This is the second time Aziz Nesin has been refused permission to travel. In 1983 after a heart attack he sought permission to go to the United States for medical treatment but permission was refused.

Aziz Nesin, who is 73 years old still faces trial for sending a protest petition on human rights to 'President' Evren.

THE PAST RETURNS

Every day the law aimed at barring leading pre-1980 coup politicians from active politics comes under increasing attack.

The old politicians continue to play decisive roles behind the scenes in the new parties.

Sensing the change of mood and realising that the regime will not take strong action against him, Demirel, the former conservative Prime Minister has emerged into a blaze of publicity.

Though officially banned from politics, Demirel in October visited his old constituency the town of Isparta. Crowds just 'happened' to line the streets and when he made a political speech a crowd just 'happened' to be there to hear him. 'President' Evren, 'guardian of the Constitution' has been unable to take any action against him.

Demirel and the Party he influences — the Correct Way Party (DYP), is being built-up as the 'safe', conservative to the Ozal regime when it meets its inevitable fate.

The bankruptcy of the ruling Motherland Party (ANAP) in the eyes of large sections of the business community was reflected in the defeats suffered by ANAP candidates in the elections for the governing bodies of Chambers of Trade & Industry, and in the large producer cooperatives over the last two months.

THE THIRD CONGRESS OF THE CDDRT

The Third Biennial Congress of the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey was held on Sunday, 3rd November at GLC County Hall London.

The Congress reviewed the Committee's work over the past two and a half years. Analysed the changes in the situation inside Turkey and mapped-out the general lines of the CDDRT's work for the next two years.

Congress opened with the Chair — Dr Bedir Aydemir reading messages of support from a wide range of Labour movement and progressive persons and organisations. Greetings came from R. Balfe MEP, T. Banks MP, J. Blackman MEP, R. Brown MP, CDDRT Ireland, Frankfurt Union of Turkish Progressives, A. Lomas MEP, S. Newens MEP, C. Short MP, C. Smith MP and many more.

The General Secretary of CDDRT M. Hiron began his report by reviewing the changes which had taken place in Turkey since the last Congress.

"The two years and five months which have elapsed since our Second Congress have seen a marked change in the situation in Turkey. To put it simply, what we have witnessed since 1983 is the disintegration of the regime. No longer are we confronted by an apparently monolithic junta but by a ramshackle anti-democratic regime faced with a wide spectrum of internal opposition forces and desperately trying to suppress a rising struggle for democracy.

"The changes in Turkey meant confusion for some, but for the CDDRT they meant new opportunities to render effective support for the struggle for democracy and international solidarity. The Committee was able to recognise and respond to fresh developments in Turkey.

"While some forces in the West were hailing the Ozal regime as part of a 'controlled return to democracy' we were able to show its authoritarian essence and demonstrate that only through the struggle of the working peoples of Turkey can there be a genuine democracy in that country."

The General Secretary reviewed the wide range of events, demonstrations, meetings and conferences organised by the committee over the last two years. Particular emphasis was laid on the development of CDDRT's in other countries. He ended by saying

"This report would not be complete if we did not pay tribute to the tireless work of the members and supporters of CDDRT. It is they who year in year out have distributed our publications and raised our voice at countless labour and progressive movement events. It is they who sacrificed to raise the funds necessary to keep the CDDRT going and who ensure that international public opinion is made aware of the violations of human rights and the growing battle for real democracy being waged in Turkey today."

Of particular interest to delegates was the fraternal address by the representative of CDDRT France at the Congress. She said:

"It is now over a year and a half since we have founded in France the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey.

"Following the reintegration of Turkey to the Council of Europe in May 1984, we decided to organise ourselves with two objectives in mind.

"1. To inform the public opinion in France of the real

situation in Turkey,

"2. To create means to support the struggle being waged there.

"Our Committee is working in a climate of 'conscious ignorance' of what is happening in Turkey.

"From the social democrats who are presently in the parliament, to the far right parties in the political spectrum everybody is racing with one another to find enough number of pretexts to absolve the government of Ozal of all the violations it inflicts on the most elementary human rights in Turkey.

"Let us illustrate what we have just said with an example: During the two-day conference organised by the government on the topic "Defence of human rights throughout the world" on the 30th and 31st May this year, not a single word was announced about the violations of human rights in Turkey. Among the many people invited for the occasion there was not one single victim of the oppression in Turkey.

"Apart from the newspaper *l'Humanité* and the press close to the Communist Party of France, the rest of the bourgeois press took a similar attitude.

Our role starts first of all with the attempt to make our voice heard in a media seemingly satisfied with the information it gets from Turkey. To fulfil this aim, despite the small number of members that the Committee has for the time being, we started to publish a monthly bulleting for over a year now. We have recently changed the frequency of publication of our bulletin, called *Turquie: Lutte et Démocratie* which stands for *Turkey: Struggles and Democracy*, to a bimonthly, which will enable us to produce a bulletin of higher standards in every respect.

"During a period of six months this year, we have informed the public opinion through fortnightly programmes that we have made on a local radio station. In some of these programmes, we elaborated on various questions of interest in the current political and economic situation in Turkey. Topics such as the economy of Turkey, the Kurdish question, the question of women in Turkey, the genocide of Armenians, the Cyprus question, Maydays in Turkey, etc. have been welcome by the public opinion sensitive to the events in Turkey. We have recorded these debates on tapes, and they are currently available for sale. We are working on the eventual possibilities of making programmes on different local radios, and thereby reaching a wider audience. We also prepared press releases and read them in our radio programmes.

"Apart from these two major activities, the Committee has participated, on several occasions, in the meeting and festivals organised by the Communist Party of France, notably the Festival of *l'Humanité*, in September this year. The Committee was also present in various demonstrations, such as the March for Peace, the Mayday, etc.

"We will continue our activities and hope that they will enable the Committee to bring together a larger membership.

We are glad to participate today in the meeting of various other sister organisations in order to exchange views and to create, from our respective frontiers, a wide support for the struggles of the peoples of Turkey.

"It is high time that the Turkey of Evren and Ozal should

finally be considered by as large a public opinion as possible as the disgrace of Europe. It is also high time that the one-sided hypocrisy about the human rights should be exposed, and our message should be made heard..."

Delegates passed resolutions on Kurdistan, Women in Turkey, Political Prisoners, withdrawal of passports by the regime, Cyprus and the Aegean, Students and the Turkish Peace Association trial.

Amendments were made to the CDDRT's Constitution to reflect changes in Turkey and to reaffirm the Committee's aim of fighting all the way for the creation of a real democracy in Turkey, irrespective of whether the regime is dressed in army uniform or civilian clothes.



Another highlight of mounting opposition to the regime. Ruhi Su's funeral which turned into a massive demonstration against the regime.

The Congress also adopted a General Resolution which reviewed past developments in Turkey and indicated the main aim of the CDDRT in the coming period.

"...Following the 1980 coup the junta of General Evren set itself two tasks: Firstly, to crush the intense struggle for greater democracy then being waged in Turkey and to end the power of the organised labour movement. Secondly, in the long term, to overcome Turkey's deep and underlying social and economic crisis by expanding and lifting the economy of Turkey on to a higher level of development.

In order to achieve these aims the junta concentrated all political power in its hands to an unprecedented degree and attempted to reorganise Turkey along fascist, corporate lines.

The junta succeeded in ending the revolutionary situation, hundreds of thousands of revolutionaries, democrats, MPs and peace campaigners were arrested. All political life and parties were banned. Independent trade union activity was brutally suppressed. However, the junta failed to accomplish its second, long-term aim. Despite intense exploitation of Turkey's workers the economic crisis remains, inflation continues at a high rate as does unemployment.

This failure coupled with growing discontent at home and sharp criticism in Europe forced the junta into a dead-end. In a desperate attempt to save itself the junta held a constitutional referendum and permitted some political parties to function. They hoped that this would provide a shield behind which the junta could continue as before. The plan failed and the disintegration of the regime accelerated. Such was the growing demand for democracy by the people that more political parties and activity emerged.

"The civilian government of Ozal's ANAP (Motherland Party) which came to power through elections in which only a limited number of parties were allowed to participate, has

been forced to preside over a further disintegration of the regime.

1985 has seen clear signs of the rising struggle for democracy in Turkey. The June Istanbul rally in which 40,000 people protested against the regime was a milestone in the fight for democracy. The funeral of democrat and singer Ruhi Su in September attended by almost 10,000 people despite police 'measures' turned into a demonstration against the regime. The police even had to release those arrested during its course.

1985 has also witnessed the rising tide of discontent in the Turk-Is trade union centre. Workers are putting the leadership under tremendous pressure to oppose the regime and the employers. For the first time since 1980 many strikes have broken out. At the same time open discontent is rising in rural areas particularly among small farmers and farm workers.

The Ozal government is bankrupt. The forces which have backed the regime and every crime against the people and democracy in Turkey are looking for a 'safe' alternative. The manoeuvrings among the legal opposition parties represent this striving to find an alternative to the Ozal group and divert the peoples' demand for real, full democracy in Turkey.

Whether real democracy comes to Turkey or whether there is a return to a barbaric dictatorship depends on the mass struggle now growing in Turkey. The main task of the CDDRT is to develop support for this struggle.

In the coming period the CDDRT will aim to concentrate its work and campaign in support of the crucial struggle of democracy now taking place in Turkey."

Ernie Roberts MP, Chair of the CDDRT addressed the conference during the afternoon session and pledged the continuing support of many MPs in raising all issues affecting the human rights of people in Turkey and migrant workers in Britain.

In the last session of the Congress a 17-strong General Council for the CDDRT was elected.

Delegates left the Congress full of optimism and determination to carry international solidarity with the fight for democracy in Turkey forward.

The CDDRT will be implementing an ambitious plan of activities in 1986 which we hope will help bring the day of freedom closer for the peoples of Turkey.

The Report of the Third Congress is now available from the CDDRT address. Contents include General Secretary's Report, Resolutions and Revised Constitution. Price 35p inc. p&p.

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON TURKISH PEACE ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

From the first day of the arrests of the Turkish Peace Association members of the CDDRT immediately commenced a campaign for their immediate release, bringing their plight to the attention of world democratic public opinion.

Today the future of the members of the Executive Committee of the TPA now very much depend on the decision of the Supreme Court of Appeal in Turkey. Unless this appeal is successful, those members who are out on bail have to return to prison to complete their sentences.

The CDDRT condemns the regime which tries peace supporters namely the TPA Executive. The CDDRT resolves to:

1. To continue the campaign for the immediate release of the TPA Executive Committee members.
2. To continue to expose the regime which is the enemy of peace and democracy.

EEC REPRESENTATIVE PUT AT RISK

Both the *Irish Times* and the *Guardian* of November 1 carried reports of the behaviour of Unionist MEP John Taylor. We print below the item as reported in the *Guardian* by D. Brown and A. Scott.

John Taylor, the Northern Ireland MEP, who passed on sensitive Common Market documents on human rights in Turkey to Ankara, was unrepentant yesterday amid the gathering diplomatic storm.

He admitted handing over the "sensational" papers to a Turkish diplomat, and launched a bitter personal attack on the EEC commission representative in Ankara, Mr Gwyn Morgan.

The Turkish press has been calling loudly for Mr Morgan's expulsion, and yesterday Mr Taylor, who supports the Turkish government policy in occupied Northern Cyprus, where he has a holiday home, joined the attack.

He accused Mr Morgan of interfering in the internal affairs of Turkey, and claimed that he had repeatedly soured relations between the European Economic Community and Ankara.

Mr Taylor went on: "The duty of the EEC Commission, now that Mr Morgan's activities have once again been publicised, and if they wish to improve relations with Turkey, is to recall him to Brussels and appoint a new person to the EEC post in Ankara."

Turkish diplomats here could not confirm reports that Mr Morgan, who is on leave, would be summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Ankara on returning to his post next Monday. The diplomats made valiant but somewhat unnecessary attempts to protect their informant.

There was "absolutely no foundation" in the claim that the information had come from Mr Taylor, said one diplomat, some hours after the MEP had freely admitted the fact.

The EEC Commission is bracing itself for a serious diplomatic rift. Highly placed officials, who refused to be identified, have indicated that if Mr Morgan is expelled from Ankara, he will not be replaced.

There have even been suggestions that the former British Labour Party official could be in physical danger there, such is the fury of press and politicians about the leaked human rights papers.

Now the Commission president, Mr Jacques Delors, and the commissioner responsible for Mediterranean policy, Mr Claude Cheysson, are preparing indignant complaints to the European Parliament about Mr Taylor's behaviour.

The papers were never intended for the MEP's eyes. They included comments from EEC members' ambassadors in Ankara, on a draft report on human rights compiled this summer by a London Labour MEP, Mr Richard Balfe. The final report, highly critical of the Turkish Government's human rights record, was approved by the full parliament last week.

As guidance for Mr Balfe only, Mr Morgan collected the ambassadorial comments, and sent them, unedited but with a covering note from himself, to the director-general of human rights at the parliament, also named John Taylor.

The letter was sent by diplomatic bag from Ankara, but was confusingly addressed to Mr John Taylor at the European parliament in Brussels. It was sent, not surprisingly, in the MEP's pigeon hole. The other Mr Taylor works in the parliament secretariat in Luxembourg.

When the MEP opened the letter and discovered the error, he made no attempt to pass it to his namesake, or return it to sender.

He said in a statement yesterday: "When I read it, I realised that it was not for me, and that it was a matter for the EEC Commission representative in Ankara and the Turkish Government. I immediately gave the envelope and contents to the Turkish embassy representative in the parliament and requested that it be returned to Ankara so that it could be redirected to the correct person."

Mr Taylor insisted later that he had done nothing wrong. He said that since there was an association agreement between the EEC and Turkey, there was no harm in the Ankara authorities being informed.

He also said that he had happened on the Turkish representative within 10 minutes of opening the letter, and had passed it on right away without taking a photocopy as some Commission sources had claimed.

Socialist MEPs, have demanded disciplinary action, and have accused him of putting Mr Morgan's safety at risk.

His Northern Ireland rival, Mr John Hume, MEP, said that Mr Taylor was "a Turkish supergrass," and Mr Balfe promised to raise the matter in parliament.

"Mr Taylor's astonishing behaviour actually endangered the life of the Commission's representative. It was highly irresponsible... I would expect better from a politician in Northern Ireland who has himself been the victim of a terrorist attack," he said.



This cartoon appeared in the Turkish satirical magazine 'GIRGIR', Özal is saying "good news, we have made all the preparations and we are now passing into democracy"

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

If you want to do more to assist the struggle for genuine democracy in Turkey there are several ways you can help. You, or an organisation to which you belong, can affiliate to the CDDRT. You can take extra copies of *Turkey Newsletter* to distribute to friends and colleagues or raise the issue of Turkey in your Trade Union, Party Branch etc... The CDDRT can provide speakers.

Join or help establish local branches in your area.

If you live within reach of London you can participate in the work of the Executive Committee.

CDDRT Addresses:

Britain: 129 Newington Green Road, London N1

France: 7 Rue Leclerc 75014 Paris

Ireland: 9 Cavendish Row, Dublin 1

USA: Box 90. 924 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago, IL 60657

CONSTITUTION OF THE CDDRT

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (the CDDRT).

2. The aims of the CDDRT are as follows:

End all vestiges 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 anti-democratic regime.

Totally oppose the regime's 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 the 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 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 the 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 at least fortnightly and be responsible for the day to day work of the CDDRT.

7. Local Branches of the 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.

CDDRT General Council

Bedir AYDEMİR
John M BLOOM
Jeremy CORBYN, MP
Bill DEAL
Max HIRONS

Sandra HODGSON
Aif LOMAS, MEP
Aydn MERİÇ
Ernie ROBERTS, MP
Marion SARAFI
Faik SINKIL
Peter SPALDING
Tijen UĞURİŞ

and one representative each from:
Turkish Students' Federation in the UK
Union of Turkish Progressive in Britain
Union of Turkish Women in Britain
Union of Turkish Workers

Sponsors include

Peter Archer QC MP
Joe Ashton MP
Norman Atkinson MP
Tony Banks MP
Guy Barnett MP
Margaret Beckett MP
Tony Benn MP
Andrew Bennett MP
Syd Bidwell MP
Roland Boyes MP
Ron Brown MP
Richard Caborn MP
Dennis Canavan MP
Alex Carlisle MP
Lewis Carter-Jones MP
Bob Clay MP
Ann Clwyd MP
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Jeremy Corbyn MP
Harry Cowans MP
Tom Cox MP
Stan Crowther MP
Ron Davies MP
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Alexander Eadie MP
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Bob Edwards MP
Derek Fatchett MP
Martin Flannery MP
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Judith Hart MP
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Bob McTaggart MP
J Maxton MP
Joan Maynard MP
Michael Meacher MP
Martin O'Neil MP
Stan Orme MP
Bob Parry MP
Terry Patchett MP
Jo Richardson MP
Allan Robert MP
Ernie Roberts MP
Ernie Ross MP
Clare Short MP
Dennis Skinner MP
Chris Smith MP
Clive Soley MP
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Robert Wareing MP
Dafydd Wigley MP
Richard Wolfe MEP
Barbara Castle MEP
Kenneth D Collins MEP

Brian Key MEP
Aif Lomas MEP
Stan Newens MEP
Dr Barry Seal MEP
Colin Barnett, Sec. NW TUC
Ken Brett, AGS AUEW
Stan Cole AUEW NC
Harry Conroy, NUJ
J. Davidson, NW FTAT
Jacob Ecclestone, NUJ
Beryl Huffinley,
Yorks & Humb TUC
E.V. Hughes, NW TUC
Alex Kitson; TGWU
Mick McGahey, NUM
Allan Sapper, ACTT
Bob Wright, AGS AUEW
ACTSS Central London Branch
APEX Holborn Branch
ASLEF
ASTMS Divisional Council 8
ASTMS Manchester HS Branch
AUEW Kington District
AUEW N. Manchester District
AUEW Sheffield District
AUEW (TASS) Div Council 9
COHSE Caterham Branch
Fire Brigades Union
GMWU Burnley Branch
GMWU 22 Bury Branch
GMWU 115 Manchester Branch
GMWU Pendle 122 Branch
GMWU Warrington Branch
NALGO Met Dist Council

NALGO Hackney Branch
NALGO Southwark
NATFHE Leek
NUM
NUM Derbyshire
NUM Scotland
NUM Yorkshire
NUPE
NUPE Northern Ireland Div
NUPE West Midlands Div
NUR Manchester
Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance
SOGAT '82 LCA & EP Branch
TGWU
TGWU Reg. No.1
UCATT London Region
UCATT NW Region
Greater London Association of Trades Councils
Croydon Trades Council
Cambridge & Dist Trades Council
Gloucester Trades Council
Greenwich Trades Council
Hackney Trades Council
Kingston & Dist 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
Beckenham CLP
Bermondsey CLP
Chelmsford CLP
Greenwich CLP
Hazelgrove CLP
High Peak CLP
Keighley CLP
Walthamstow CLP
Wigan CLP
Labour Party Young Socialists
National Organisation of Labour Students
North Islington CLP Turkish Section
Forenign For Progressive Fr Tyrkia
Iraqi Students' Society UK (Branch of GUSIR)
KNE (Communist Youth of Greece) org. in Britain
Kurdish Students Society in Europe (UK)
Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain
Turkish Students' Federation in the UK
City of London Polytechnic Students' Union
Cyprus Students' Society — Manchester University
Leeds University Union
UMIST Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union

Manchester University SU
Teesside Polytechnic Students' Union
P.U.K.-UK Branch
Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation
Demokrat Norway
Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers
London CRS Political Committee
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Annual affiliation fees are: national organisation £25, local organisation £10, individual £6.

To the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey.

I/we* wish to affiliate to the CDDRT and enclose a cheque/PO for £

Name

Address

Date of Affiliation

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A BIG STRIKE

For over two months an important strike has been taking place in Turkey. 440 members of Petrol-Is (Chemical and Petroleum Workers' Union) are on strike at the United German Medicine Factory — many of the strikers are women.

Apart from being one of the biggest strikes since 1980, the strike is significant for another reason. Petrol-Is General Secretary Cevdet Selvi said the strike is not just an economic one for wage demands, but is related to the fight against sackings. When workers join an active trade union they are sacked. This has been the experience of many trade unions in Turkey in the present period. For example the union Automobil-Is reports that 2,865 members have lost

their jobs for being union members over the last year. (*Hurriyet*, 10.11.85)

The 1982 Constitution of Turkey forbids strikes for political purposes, for supporting other workers nationally or internationally. Go slows and decreasing productivity are also forbidden by the Constitution. Such extraordinary provisions have been written into the Constitution rather than into the Labour Laws, (which are harsh as it is) for two reasons. Firstly, it reflects the special fear Turkey's rulers have of the organised working class. Secondly, the regime hopes to apply these measures for a long time. To do this, it is 'safer' to write articles into the Constitution than into ordinary law which is easier to change at any time.

In the context of this situation in Turkey it can be seen that the extra significance of the Petrol-Is strike is that it can be seen as an indirect political strike.

The strike is a further warning that the era of "labour peace" imposed by the regime at the point of bayonets is ending.



REVISION AND THE NUCLEAR THREAT

The Turkish regime is demanding a major revision of DECA — the Turco-American Defence and Economic Co-operation Agreement in December.

In 1985 Turkey received \$879 million

in loans and grants from the USA under this agreement. The Ozal regime now feels they should get more for their subservience to the US administration.

The Pentagon has "only" earmarked

\$939 million in aid for Turkey in 1986.

The Ankara regime would particularly like to see the 10-7 ratio in US aid in favour of Greece altered in their favour.

In return for the aid it gives, the USA receives the use of intelligence gathering posts throughout Anatolia and the important air base of Incirlik among other facilities.

Another aspect of Turco-American cooperation was brought to light when Ozal declared that Turkey would not be taking cruise missiles. He did not mention that the US government stockpiles 500 nuclear warheads in Turkey.

According to reports the US nuclear mission to Turkey is in "an aggressive growth" stage. Some nuclear warheads are in the form of bombs, and aircraft armed with them are on alert at bases in Turkey.

MAJOR NATO AND US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY



TURKEY NEWSLETTER



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