

13 March 1967
5209 Westwood Drive
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Mete,

I am enclosing a copy of the Mustafa Subhi article. It also appeared in English translation in the International Review of Agricultural Economics, but the translation is somewhat faulty it seems to me; undoubtedly Subhi wrote the French original.

I much appreciated the pictures you sent. I think it a fine idea to give as broad a circulation as possible to such photographs which convey in a way that mere written description can not the nature of the personalities of the times. Thanks again for your cooperation.

I too hope to have my work at the printers soon. It has been considerably expanded since the version you have. Hoover was kind enough to sponsor a return trip in December, where I managed to locate a rather full collection of the English and French papers of Istanbul for the years immediately following the First World War. Naturally this does not change the basic picture in any fundamental way, but it does allow some more precision about some points. For example, Huseyin Hilmi was murdered in November 1922. There are other amusing vignettes, like the story of Aralov's pet bear who spent the night in an Ankara mosque and surprised the Muezzin at morning prayer call! -- I have not yet figured out how to fit this in, though the comedy aspects might relieve the ponderousness of the subject. Also, of course, the local press does give some additional biographic information on Vanli Kazim, and reports the arrests of Hacıoglu Salih in the spring of 1923 and Nizamettin Nazif in June of that year. Well, there are a number of such additional details, but I'm not sure that you will find them of any great significance.

One facet of the problem which I did find of larger importance is the relationship with the French Communists. Hoover fortunately has a wonderful collection which helps on this point. l'Humanite followed events in Turkey at times with great attention. Magdeline Marx Paz wrote a long series of articles in November 1921 on her return from her Istanbul inspection trip. Jacques Sadoul printed a long report on his trip to Ankara in 1922. In 1923 Henri Paulmier was the l'Humanite resident correspondent in Istanbul. And he reported on the events of that rather hectic year, including of course the trials.

Also at Hoover, I looked into the influence of French literature on the Aydinlik circle. And on going over the Aydinlik collection again, I was impressed at the interest shown by Sadrettin Celal in what European Communists, especially the French, were writing. I make a good deal over this relationship, which of course has its roots in the earlier socialist movement in Turkey.

Another point that I give considerably more attention to is the local labor movement in Istanbul after the First World War. Hoover has a copy of Haber, the newspaper published by the striking printers in 1923. This is an interesting venture and one in which the Aydinlik Communists were apparently involved -- at least I have an allegation to that effect by the extraordinarily well informed German source which also indicated that Yeni Hayat had lasted beyond July 1922.

I'm sure that you would be interested in hearing also that R. Oguz Turkkan's book Kizil Faaliyet completely falsifies the testimony about Mustafa Subhi's Albanian ancestry. He quotes from I. Raguza a conversation between Zinoviev and Stalin, but adds the remark that Zinoviev assured Stalin that Subhi was an Albanian. In fact, Raguza reports no such remark!

Well, I must stop now, or I'll never get this off. Thanks much,
George