

January 10, 1952

E.H.Carr
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Dear Mr.Carr:-

Your letter of October 24th lay on my desk for the past two months while I deliberated with myself whether I should admit my ignorance or add more confusion to the subject of Russe-Turkish relations. Finally I decided to add my bit to the already existing confusion by telling you what Richard Euringen has to say in his novel Der Serasker. Envers Ende. Irrfahrt und Kampf eines kühnen Türken, published in Hamburg, copyright 1939/42, 344 p. I knew about the existence of this book in the Hoover Library, but did not have time to read it earlier. It is a novel; yet it contains some amazing details which agree remarkably with the few known facts concerning Enver's trip to Russia and his stay there.

The story begins with the escape from Turkey of Enver, Djemal, Talaat and Maşa(a young adjutant) in a torpedo boat. Talaat decides to go together with Djemal to Berlin. Enver, on the other hand, orders them to drop him off in Trabzon. What happens to the torpedo boat is not clear. Be that as it may, Enver accompanied by Assim (a Turkish officer) Mehmet (Enver's groom) and Ahmet (Enver's cook) attempts to reach Trabzon on a small cutter, manned pparently by Russians. They meet with disaster and Assim is killed by a falling mast. Two weeks later Enver and his servants (possibly only the cook) lands in a row boat on the Crimean coast, some place between Sevastopol and Kerch. He uses the name "Ali bey" and pretends to be a Turkish physician. He is gravely ill. Judging by the description of his condition he must have contracted ~~faux~~ typhus. He is placed in a Russian quarantine ward and is given medical care. He regains consciousness and is told that the German troops are leaving the Crimea. He discloses his identity to the Germans and persuades them to allow him to travel with Koch's departing armies to Berlin. Talaat and Djemal reached Berlin earlier. In Berlin, Enver is visited by Radek, who offers him plane transportation to Moscow. Enver is in Berlin at the time of the Spartakusbund uprising and Liebknecht's assassination. Either late in January or early February 1919 Enver leaves Berlin by plane. The plane stops in Danzig, where it picks up a certain Lett, who seems to recognize Enver or else knew of Enver's trip beforehand. Enver pretends to travel as a physician for the Red Crescent on a mission connected with the exchange of war prisoners. Enver travels with his cook Ahmet. Theplane lands in Kovno, where Enver is detained for a number of weeks. There he receives a message from Baheddin Şakir, a professor in Berlin. Together with his cook, Enver is taken from Kovno in a plane, piloted by a typical German war pilot. The pilot's destination was Koenigsberg, but Enver compels him to turn the plane eastwards; he wants to reach either Moscow or Petrograd. There isn't enough fuel in the gasoline tank and Enver asks the pilot to drop him off in Riga which is in Bolshevik hands (Apr 11 1919). The pilot makes a surprise landing in Riga and manages to drop off his passengers and make a quick getaway.. In Riga Enver demands to see Trotsky but is told that Trotsky is not available. He is shown to a woman commissar. He tells her about his plans and offers his services to the Soviet Government against Britain. Finally an interview is arranged with Trotsky aboard a military train. Trotsky makes fun of Enver and openly questions the latter's good faith and Bolshevik leanings.

When Riga is recaptured by anti-Soviet forces on May 23, 1919 Enver becomes involved in the ensuing street fighting. His cook is wounded and the two men become separated from each other. Enver's friends in Berlin believe Enver dead. But, Enver makes his way into Estonia. In Wolmar he is put in prison and held there for a number of months. Finally his friends in Berlin manage to secure his release. In the middle of October 1919 Enver is on his way back to Germany. He is joined by his cook in Koeningsberg and arrives safely in Berlin. There he finds out that his wife and his entire household have arrived in Berlin and that Djemal and MaSha are in Moscow. During his second brief sojourn in Berlin Enver works with Talaat in the Union and Progress Committee. He establishes contacts with Admiral Horthy, the Rumanian representative in Berlin, Generals von der Goltz, seeckt, Ludendorff, and even goes to see Hindenburg in Hannover.

Approximately in April 1920 (after the Kapp Putsch) Radek once more contacts Enver and offers Enver transportation to Moscow on a train carrying war prisoners back to Russia. Enver decides to go to Moscow and arrives there safely. He is met there by Djemal and MaSha.

In the latter part of the book Euringer deals with Enver's stay in Moscow, in Baku, where the Eastern People's Congress is in session, with Enver's trip to Bukhara etc. until Enver is shot in a battle with Red Army troops.

In this connection, I checked your references in Documents on British Foreign Policy Vol. 2 1st series, p.45. One of the names given there is Mohammed Ali Sami - it may well have been Enver in disguise; the other companion being his cook. No wonder that the British report claims that one of the men was an important figure as far as the Russians were concerned. As for the other report published in Vol.3 of that series, p.784 (the Mackinder report) may possibly refer to Enver's young brother Nuri, who disappeared in the region of the Black Sea but later turned up safely in Kabul. There are some vague references to him in Euringer's novel.

I checked also Revue du Monde Masulman, 52, p.194 and found there the following statement: "...l'armee rouge entra le 27 avril 1920 en Azerbaijan, aidée par des officiers superieurs turcs, come Khalil-pacha, oncle d'Enver". You claim that this was taken from Galiev's article published in Izvestia in May 1920. I found no indication in the R.M.M. that this was the source of that information. I know Sultan Galiev's article which appeared in Izvestia No.97(944), May 7, 1920, p.1 under the heading "K perevorotu v Baku". It contains the following paragraph: "The Azerbaijanian army of some 30,000 men was to the last man contaminated with Bolshevism. In addition to agitation which was conducted by the local Communist Party 'Gummet' this [i.e. growth of Bolshevism] was due also to the fact that Turkish officers were in command of the troops, officers, who, like the population of Azerbaijan, were hostile towards the Entente and were conducting anti-Mussavat underground agitation among the soldiers, whom they openly urged to ally with Soviet Russia, the sole Champion of liberation of the oppressed Eastern peoples from the yoke of international imperialism...." No names of Turkish officers are given by Sultan Galiev. As you must know there were many Turkish officers in the ranks of the Turkish war prisoners in Russia. They were also helpful to the Bolsheviks in Turkestan.

As for the Russian emissaries dispatched to Turkey in 1919 I have no definite information. People were being smuggled into Turkey by fishermen along the Black Sea Coast, usually in groups with the returning Turkish prisoners of war. Radek's statement in this connection (in Sbornik Za piat let) is very vague to say the least.

As far as I know, Serif Manatov was the first man of any importance to reach Anatolia. According to a footnote in G.Jäschke's article "Der Weg zur Russisch-türkischen Freundschaft", in Die Welt des Islams, 16, 1934, p.30 Serif Manatov arrived in Turkey in 1919 via Guriev near the Caspian Sea and Baku. However, a chronology of events published in Die Welt des Islams, 20, 1938, p.123 under the