

Turkey 'must declare amnesty'

By JOHN HAYLETT

LIFT all death sentences and declare a general amnesty for political prisoners, the Turkish ambassador in London was told by British trade unionists yesterday.

Transport and General Workers Union deputy general secretary-designate Bill Morris and vice-president Brian Nicholson, together with Rod Tucker of engineering staff and craft union AUEW-TASS delivered a letter to the embassy, signed by 30 union general secretaries.

Order laws threaten civil rights

NEW public order laws planned by the government would lead to increased confrontation between police and public, the Greater London Council warned yesterday.

The laws would pose "the most dangerous threat to civil and social rights," with greater harassment of ethnic minorities, it says in a pamphlet which responds to the white paper, *Review of Public Order Law*.

The government plans new powers for the police to control location, size and timing of demonstrations such as pickets, with further grounds on which police could ban or impose conditions on marches.

The GLC says: "When placed alongside the additional police powers in the 1984 Police Act, these proposals will place unprecedented power in the hands of the police which can only lead to increased confrontation and conflict between police and the community."

Unions urge: release political prisoners

Trade union response followed an alarm call from the Solidarity Committee for Trade Union Rights and Democracy in Turkey.

This was prompted by the Turkish prime minister's recent announcement that his government had shelved plans for a general amnesty on Republic Day, October 29.

Prime Minister Ozal had planned to release only non-political prisoners and members

of the neo-fascist National Action Party, whose terrorist acts provided the pretext for the 1980 military takeover.

Domestic and international pressure to include the tens of thousands of trade unionists and democrats held, many without trial, since 1980 gave the government cold feet.

"The main work of the Solidarity Committee is to secure the dropping of all charges in the DISK (trade union centre) trial,"

explained Brian Nicholson at TGWU headquarters later.

"However, the broader aspects concern the restoration of the democratic rights of the Turkish people."

"Over 1,400 trade unionists are on trial and 78 political prisoners are facing death sentences," he said.

Mr. Morris said there were two actions that Turkey's military junta should take. These were the lifting of death sen-

tences on political prisoners and the declaration of a general amnesty.

"If the Turkish government had the courage to take those two steps and move toward a restoration of democracy, they could then get a hearing on the world stage."

"Until they take those two steps, what they do will not be treated with any seriousness."

Britain's TUC wrote to the Foreign Office two weeks ago, asking for representations on behalf of Turkish trade unionists. So far, only an acknowledgment has been received.



BRITISH and Turkish trade unionists approach the Turkish embassy in London to deliver a letter demanding an end to persecution of trade unionists and other democrats.

Darfield miners meet to campaign for their pit

By GRAEME ATKINSON

MINERS and community representatives packed into the Darfield Main miners welfare on Wednesday night for a meeting to mark the latest round in the

versity who demolished the NCB's case for closing Darfield and said the closure alone would cost £50 million.

For the NUM's national office, head of industrial relations Mick

3 airmen acquitted in Cyprus secrets trial

THREE of the seven British servicemen accused of spying for the Russians on Cyprus were cleared by a jury at the Old Bailey yesterday.

The jury of five women and seven men found Senior Aircraft-

continue trying to reach verdicts on charges against four other servicemen.

The three acquitted men had been charged with "communicating information useful to an

London against

Morning Star Reporter

THOUSANDS of people will take to London's streets on Sunday in defence of the welfare state.

All of us benefit from the welfare state at some point in our lives, whether when we are unemployed, in ill-health, expecting a baby or retired from work.

But if Social Services Secretary Norman Fowler has his way, these benefits will be greatly reduced or scrapped altogether.

The Fowler Review is a full frontal attack on the welfare

Ambulance salary deal

UNIONS representing Britain's 18,000 ambulance staff yesterday hailed as a "major breakthrough" a package deal negotiated after 11 hours of talks at the DHSS in London.

The four unions will now start extensive consultations on the introduction of a salaries structure for the service.

The package offers a comprehensive overhaul of the NHS ambulance service, and recognises the enhanced status and role of its key staff.

The unions have long pressed for a move to a salaried service, in line with the other emergency services — fire and police.

As part of the package, the unions are backing the introduction of extended training throughout the service.

At the moment, ambulance staff in some regions can volunteer to train in their own time on advanced techniques. Aca-