

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE!

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TÜSTAV

**STATEMENT OF COMRADE İ.BİLEN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE
CC OF THE CPT, CONCERNING THE LATEST DISARMAMENT
PROPOSALS MADE BY COMRADE L.I.BREZHNEV**

All peoples of the world, all peace-loving forces welcome with pleasure and enthusiasm concerning the new initiatives for peace pronounced by L.I.Brezhnev President of the Soviet Union, at the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions.

In case of a nuclear war, our country, Turkey is among those countries which will be destroyed first together with her people and her national resources. These proposals carry a great vital importance for us as well. L.I.Brezhnev also points out the way to preserve peace and detente in our region. In addition to this, the Soviet Union takes a new step on the way to unilateral reduction of nuclear arms. This proves that the words and the deeds of the Soviet Union comply with each other once again and it also exhibits her invincible strength.

K.Evren, the President of the National Security Council, in his speech right after the September 12 coup, had emphasised the great responsibility of the Soviet Union for the preservation of the peace in the world and in the region. But, the junta administration maintains a dead silence concerning the new proposals brought before all the NATO countries and which shows the profound responsibility of the Soviet Union. On the contrary, they are boasting for making Turkey a country which receives a bigger aid from and third biggest dependent one to the USA. Today the US Administration is the greatest danger before the world peace. Reaganites are increasing this aid in order to drag our country into adventures in the Middle East. The generals of the junta, on the one hand, shout loudly what put into their mouths by the US rulers concerning "the violation of human rights in Poland" and they arrest, on the other hand, tens of distinguished leaders of the Peace Committee of Turkey.

K.Evren frequently referred to peace and disarmament during his visit to Bulgaria. If his words were sincere, the junta administration would not yield to the pressuers of the US and NATO and would give a positive reply to the latest proposals of the Soviet Union. These proposals, such as mutual withdrawal of the US and Soviet Fleets from the Mediterranean, contain concrete steps closely concerning our country's future as well.

For years our people have been demanding the dismantling of the US and NATO bases, the annulment of bilateral military treaties with the US, to put an end to violation of our continental waters by the US war fleets. Our people have been waging a continuous struggle for this aim. The collaborating ruling circles are helping the US to turn our land into a nuclear spring board. They are trying to present this as a necessity together with the lie of the so-called Soviet threat. Those who utter such lies are overstepping even beyond the boundaries of effrontery in view of the latest proposals of L.I.Brezhnev extending to get rid of all nuclear arms.

Responding to the constructive peace proposals of the Soviet Union is the necessity for our national interests. This is necessary in order to prevent our country getting dragged into adventures of war and being turned into a nuclear graveyard. The CPT calls on all our people, all progressive forces, anybody with common sense who does not want to get reduced to ashes in a nuclear hell, to support the proposals of the Soviet Union.

March 19, 1982

STATEMENT MADE BY İ.BİLEN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CC OF THE CPT, FOLLOWING THE REFUSAL BY THE JUNTA ADMINISTRATION IN COLLABORATION WITH THE USA OF THE LATEST PROPOSALS OF THE SOVIET UNION

The Defence Minister of the Junta, Bayülken, made to the public known in the NATO meeting about the support they have given to the US stand in relation to the Soviet peace proposals. When he made this declaration on March 26, 1982 two warships from the US Sixth Fleet passed through the Straits onto the Black Sea. In view of this flagrant US provocation, the Soviet Union has expressed its legitimate indignation and protested the USA strongly. It is evident that the presence of the US war fleet can also turn the Black Sea, as some other regions, into an area of mounting tensions.

A short while ago, however, President Brezhnev of the Soviet Union, made a proposal, alongside a series of others, concerning distancing away of military fleets from each other. As is known, the Communist Party of Turkey supported this proposal, alongside all others, as a logical outcome of the national interests of Turkey and demanded, in particular, to put an end to the violation of our continental waterways by the Sixth Fleet.

The latest provocation of the Sixth Fleet which aims at putting Turkey into a position against the neighbouring Black Sea countries, evidently proves that how correct the CPT stand was by supporting the peace proposals of the Soviet Union. One other proof of this is that the provocation precisely coincides with the eve of talks concerning the three-year period of trade relations between Turkey and the Soviet Union.

Following in the wake of the US imperialism, as is seen, the junta contradicts with national interests of our country.

Ignominious slanders concerning the Soviet Union supposedly menacing Turkey, have been, in effect, coined in order to hide away the fact that the US imperialism threatens the socialist countries and national liberation movements. What the warships of the US who have not even an inch of sea-frontiers next to the Black Sea are looking for in our continental waterways? What is evidently at issue here is flexing the muscles against the socialist countries. By slavishly obeying the aggressive policy of the US, the junta is dragging Turkey into tensions, into a danger of war.

In opposing the Soviet peace proposals made by Comrade Brezhnev in collaboration with the Reagan Administration, the junta, in effect, is pursuing a path against national interests of Turkey. The policy of the US to aggravate the situation and to heighten the tensions all over the world, and also in the

Middle East, is in total contradiction with Turkey's attempts to improve its relations with all her neighbours.

By pursuing such a policy, it is impossible to establish cordial relations with the Arab and Iranian peoples. Moreover, there are signs that in response to the US aid, the junta may drag Turkey into a gendarmerie in the Middle East and in the Persian Gulf. Building of vast military airfields in Van (Eastern Turkey), settling Afghan counter-revolutionary gangs in Turkey in the guise of "refugees", allowing subversive attempts of the CIA of the soil of Turkey against Iran and the latest stand taken in the United Nations conducive to Israel are some examples of the above-mentioned signs.

The people of Turkey do not want to be annihilated in a nuclear war. It wants to establish peaceful relations with all her neighbours based on mutual benefit and equality. The Soviet peace proposals open a great opportunity before our people and also before all other peoples. Turkey should not miss this opportunity and the should not be a tool to anti-human, aggressive ends of the US imperialism.

March 29, 1982

60th FIGHTING YEAR OF COMRADE İ.BİLEN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CC OF THE CPT IN THE RANKS OF THE PARTY CELEBRATED

On March 16, 1982 the 60th fighting year of Comrade İ.Bilen, in the ranks of the CPT has been celebrated.

Comrade Bilen was born on October 18, 1902 in Rize, and completed his secondary education in İstanbul. He graduated as engine-mechanic, and began to work in an engineering factory in Haliç, İstanbul.

Comrade İ. Bilen joined the political struggle during the years in which profound impact of the October Revolution had been felt in Turkey. That was also the period in which the people of Turkey had been waging a national liberation struggle against the imperialist aggressors. İ.Bilen took an active part in the liberation struggle as a member of a partisan unit.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of Turkey was set up on September 10, 1920. Party units were fighting in the front rank of the national liberation war. The Haliç District Committee, which was the sub-unit of İstanbul Provincial Committee, accepted İ.Bilen into the rank of the Party.

İ.Bilen continued his political education in the University of Working People of the East (KUTV) in Moscow in 1924. After returning to Turkey, he undertook various tasks in the organisation and propaganda fields of the Party. He actively took part in organising many strikes. Later, he was assigned to from Provincial Party Committee in Adana, Southern Turkey. He fulfilled this task successfully. He was among the initiators and publishers of the then central party organs "Communist", "Hammer and Sickle", "Bolshevik". Later, he undertook various party assignments within the party ranks. He spent many years in prison. Then he escaped from the prison and went underground. He worked in Comintern. He undertook various tasks in the international field during the struggle against the Hitlerite fascists.

Comrade İ.Bilen was in the forefront of the persistent struggle against all

hues of opportunist, revisionist, sectarian and divisionist currents appeared within the rank of the CPT. Under all conditions, he defended and held high the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. He had an important contribution to the consolidation of fraternal ties between the CPT and the CPSU. He played a primary role in reviving and revitalizing the Party and making it a nation-wide organisation.

Comrade Bilen characterises his joining into the Party in "Atılım", central party organ, dated March 1, 1982 in the following way: "I became a party member on March 16, 1922. That day had been a rebirth for me. I was just about 20 years old. I was enlisted as a fighting soldier in this Party, the Party of the militant vanguard of the working class of Turkey".

The life and the struggles of Comrade Bilen are a living example before the communists of Turkey who are waging a selfless struggle under the reactionary military dictatorship in extremely hard conditions. In his article in "Atılım", he calls on the communists of Turkey:

"How, with and basing themselves on what are the CPT, the communists meet such a situation? They are basing themselves on the Leninist principles, on the Leninist fighting traditions. The key to victory in this struggle is Leninist party discipline and carrying out the party policy. It is to be in strict accordance with the party programme, the party statute and the decisions of the Plenary sessions of the Central Committee. It is not to give an inch from the principles of clandestinity and secrecy. It is to safeguard granite-like Leninist, ideological and organisational unity of the Party before the enemy. It is to struggle selflessly. It is to oppose against irregular, spontaneous acts. It is to have an open heart towards the Party. It is categorically to get rid of the artisanship and narrow practices in the Party work. We should protect the cadres. We should use the cadres in their proper places. Leninist discipline. Leninist cadres. Victory is ours.

Membership to the Party for 60 years within the ranks of the CPT has thought such things".

from party organs

Atılım, April 1, 1982

AT THE CROSSROADS

The historical importance of the new Soviet peace initiatives which were announced by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev at the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions, is that they were put forward at a time when the mankind has come to a crossing point. We are approaching to the middle of 1982. Within this year, either nuclear arms race will be stopped by preserving the existing military-strategical balance, or new round of arms race will begin with qualitatively new nuclear arms which can be controlled and limited with great difficulty or can not be at all. Either the first path will be chosen and the way of peaceful cooperation and competition will be followed, or it will be entered in an atmosphere

of cold war which will bring the humanity, day by day, to the nuclear war.

The Soviet Union doing its best to lead the humankind on the way to peace, but the berserk US Administration does its best to lead humanity on the way to death. Refusal of the new Soviet peace proposals by Reagan Administration, within twenty four hours, without even consideration, is the latest and clear proof of it.

The USA and NATO, this time again, have subscribed to the lie concerning so-called "superiority of the Soviet Union in nuclear arms, in Europe". They are trying to deceive the people by counting the Soviet Union's missiles as nuclear arms without any consideration of their own nuclear bombs in NATO planes and submarines. Their aim is to get nuclear superiority. If not, why did the US reject the similar moratorium proposals, while there was no SS 20 missiles of the Soviet Union and later, only few were located?

Here are the facts. The Soviet Union proposed that the limitation of medium-ranged nuclear missiles should be included in SALT-II. That time, there was not even a single SS 20 missile located. The USA rejected it. Later, while only few missiles had been located, the US and NATO chiefs turned a deaf ear to the proposals of L.I. Brezhnev on March 2, 1979, October 6, 1979 and November 6, 1979 in relation to mutual limitation of nuclear arms in Europe and urgency of mutual talks. At that time, the lies of military superiority of the Soviet Union had not been brought within the agenda yet. Therefore, the refusal of peace proposals on the grounds of the number of SS 20 missiles is only the efforts of the USA to hide its will of gaining nuclear superiority.

The Soviet proposals, however, are probably one of the last opportunities before the humankind at the crossing point of war or peace. The answer is such important as not to leave it to a handful nuclear terrorist on the other side of the ocean. The junta, while never gives up using the words of "peace", "disarmament" and, instead of supporting the proposals of Comrade Brezhnev which are closely connected with the security of our people, it gives support to the fatal decision of armament imposed on humanity by Reagan and NATO chiefs. Therefore, the junta also gives consent to our country being a spring-board for new US missiles. There is no doubt that if this arms race continues, our country now will be a spring-board for new US missiles as Jupiter missiles had been during the cold war period, and is desired to be made a target for nuclear confrontation.

But the world is neither the world of 1950s, nor Turkey is the Turkey of Menderes period. The peoples who want peace and disarmament is not willing to leave their destiny in the hands of neither the USA and NATO chiefs nor their own pro-NATO governments. The peoples in Europe, America and Asia are raising up for peace by supporting the concrete proposals of the Soviet Union. A mass struggle is lifting up in order to get concrete decisions directing the humanity to peace and disarmament, in particular, in the Second Special Disarmament Session of the United Nations which will be held in June, and to get decision preventing the deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe during the USA and USSR talks in Geneva before the end of this year. As the struggle for peace and disarmament brings together millions of peace-loving people of various nationalities, beliefs and political views, the USA, NATO chiefs are going berserk. On the one hand, they try to deceive the people, on the other, they accuse and attack them for being "pro-Soviet" and "submissive". The arrest of vanguards of peace movement with charges of being communist and pro-

Soviet by the junta who pestered over our people on the name of preventing terror but set on to collaboration with nuclear terrorists is the most patent and vulgar way of this attack. It is the threat of the US and NATO chiefs to the peace forces, peace-loving peoples in the world and in our country. This proves that how rabid they can become in order to crash peace and the peace movement. It corroborates Lenin's following words: "Democracy is most clearly manifested in the fundamental question war and peace". (Collected Works, Volume 30, Page 319)

Neither the prohibitions of the junta, nor the intimidation of peace forces will make our people to accept to go to death so openly. Our people will not and should not yield to the decisions of the USA, NATO and the junta. Our people, peace forces of our country, in unity, will and should give a positive response to the proposals of Comrade Brezhnev.

Atılım, 1 February 1982

INAUSPICIOUS MISSION

The leadership of the Communist Party of Italy (CPI), with the pretext of events in Poland, denied everything which connects her to the progressive fighters of peace and socialism in nearly 90 countries of the world. The CPI leadership has openly taken a stand against world socialism. The plenary meeting of the CC of the CPI in January made apparent the line "in great similarity with the targets of opportunism and revisionism which had been come across by the working class movement many times and thrown away by its revolutionary vanguard" as Pravda writes on January 24.

The opportunists of the Second International in 1914, in relation to take a position against the war, had defended the policy in the interests of their own bourgeoisie and broke off from the world communist movement. Today, the CPI leadership puts on a par the tension and the aggressive policy of Reagan Administration and the Leninist peace policy of the Soviet Union. It blackens the Soviet Union with the words of Haigites and takes a stand against the interests of peace and socialism. This, at the same time, prevents the Italian workers and Italian people to take their honourable place in the world-wide front of struggle. The decisions of the latest plenary meeting clearly shows that the policy of CPI leadership is directed towards the aim to break off the Italian working people from Marxism-Leninism, to make them forget the revolutionary traditions of the Party, and give up solidarity and fraternity with the peoples of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. The argument of the CPI leadership, "the period, which started with October Revolution, lost its influence and its force of being an example" in present conditions, is a direct support for anti-communism and imperialism, which for tens of years, tries to weaken, to crush and ideologically upset the existing socialism. It is not meaningless that the reaction of capitalist countries praise the CPI leadership.

The bourgeois democracy, no matter how false it is, fascinates the CPI leadership. For this reason, they are not satisfied with only by saying that "For Poland, it necessary to make pluralist changes", but they demand freedom

also for the counter-revolutionaries. They, therefore, argue that in the Soviet Union "does not exist a democratic development". They are giving the responsibility of tragic events in Poland to the Soviet Union by saying "In Eastern European countries, the Soviet type was chosen as a model". But, they never mention to that the general regularities of construction of socialism which was realised in the Soviet Union and in other socialist countries, was not followed properly in Poland.

If, we, the communists of Turkey are taking a stand against such views which influenced by the bourgeois ideology, it is because of our loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and also our principled positions.

However, it is not only that. The communists of Turkey, who have been struggling tens of years under repression and brutality for the interests of the working class, have witnessed and now witnessing through their own experiences that the policy of the CPI leadership helps to the reaction. The representatives of the reaction, several times in recent years, tried to make us accomplice of their false democracy through the statements, such as "if the CPT wants to be legal, it should take the policy of CPI leadership as an example."

Today, the question of military dictatorship comes into the agenda directly in connection with preservation of peace in the world. Some imperialist circles, in order to justify themselves before the public opinion for their anti-peace, anti-socialist attacks to the leadership in Poland, are opposing the junta regime and the repression in Turkey. This "refined" tactic is not less dangerous for peace than the open confrontation policy of the US Administration. We, the communists of Turkey call on everybody to oppose the junta in our country. We, however, can not accept the opposition to our junta considering it same as the leadership in Poland with the aim of attack to the existing socialism. Because, this stand, in its content, does not weaken the positions of imperialism, in the contrary, becomes a life-saver when it is in despair. The words of the CPI representative who said: "If we do not punish Turkey, we can not punish the military regime in Poland", at the meeting of the Council of Europe, during the discussions on Turkey, exactly means that. We are struggling not only to overthrow the junta regime, but also, for the defeat of the aggressive policy of the US imperialism. The future of our country, our people and all humanity depends on this.

Opposition of the CPI to the general line of the world communist movement means to confuse the masses in their struggle for preservation of peace which is now the main question, to blacken the role of existing socialism being an example for the working people of the capitalist countries and to support imperialism and the reaction.

DISK TRIAL HAS REACHED TO THE STAGE OF CROSS-EXAMINATION

The trial of 52 leaders of Confederation of Revolutionary Workers Trade Unions (DISK) under the demand of death sentence came to the stage of cross-examination. In the 16th session of the court in March, the judge turned down the demand for release of 41 trade unionists. At this session, the lawyers presented to the court two petitions. In the first petition, the lawyer, Ercüment Tahiroğlu stated that the accusations directed to the trade unionists were unclear and also concrete evidences were lacking. In the second one, Turgut Kazan, another DISK lawyer reminded the court that investigations were left incomplete. He also drew the attention to the fact that the time gap starting the investigations and opening the case was longer than the period fixed in the law. He rejected the law court. Both petitions, however, were turned down by the court. It was announced that the cross-examination of the trade unionists will start on April 14, 1982.

While the solidarity campaign with DISK and its 52 leaders for whom the death sentences have been demanded, is gaining momentum in the international arena, the chief architect of DISK trial, fascist-minded military prosecutor, Süleyman Takkeci has been supplying statements to the foreign news agencies one after another. In his statement to the Agence France Presse and, in his other statements, Takkeci especially emphasised the following point: "The DISK leaders are under trial, not because of their conduct as trade unionists, but of being Marxist-Leninist."

The DISK indictment, however, does not contain a scrap of evidence to prove the charges of prosecutor Takkeci. He has built up all his charges on analogies. For example: DISK defended unity of the working class. The CPT is also defending this. Therefore, DISK is a communist organisation. Another example: DISK went on strikes in order to get higher wages for the workers. The CPT is also for better living conditions for workers. Therefore, DISK is a Marxist-Leninist organisation. DISK demanded preservation of peace in the region and in the world. Marxist-Leninists are also continuously demand this. Therefore, DISK leaders are Marxist-Leninists, and so on. If Takkeci's logic is applied, we may come across with such a scene: The US trade unions, AFL-CIO are opposing the limitation of workers' rights. Therefore, AFL-CIO is a Marxist-Leninist organisation, or Senator Edward Kennedy, of the Democratic Party of the USA is for the preservation of the peace. Therefore, Edward Kennedy is a communist.

But whatever prosecutor Takkeci and his bosses within the junta do, solidarity movement with DISK is increasingly gaining momentum.

In the report of the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions the onslaught against DISK and the trade union movement in Turkey was condemned. Solidarity with DISK was put forward as an important task. "Trud", the organ of the Soviet Trade Unions, dated March 23, 1982, published an interview with Kemal Daysal, member of the Executive Committee of DISK. Daysal said the following: "We are further heartened by the categorical condemnation of repres-

sion in Turkey, in the report read by Chairman Shalaev... The help and support rendered by the trade unions of the Soviet working people to the just cause of the patriots of Turkey is invaluable for us. The 17th Congress has once more convincingly displayed the unshakable class positions of Soviet Trade Unions on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism and international solidarity."

Throughout March, numerous international organisations displayed solidarity with DISK. Many solidarity meetings took place in various countries.

International Labour Organisation (ILO) demanded to drop DISK trials. In a report prepared by ten experts belonging to this organisation, the Turkish junta was charged with not complying by the statute of the ILO and international conventions. It was emphasised that trying the trade unionists just because of their trade union activities was in contradiction with statute of the ILO.

Otto Kersten, General Secretary of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) has applied to the ILO and asked them to speed up their activities for the release of DISK activists. In March, ICFTU sent a circular to its 130 affiliates by drawing their attention into the misdeeds of the military regime. It gave information concerning the DISK trial and demanded to raise the level of solidarity.

DISK members, Mehmet Karaca and Selahattin Uyar had a meeting with the representatives of the British Trade Unions (TUC) in London. After the meeting it was announced that TUC, on behalf of its 10 million members, demanded to put an end to DISK trial and release of the trade unionists.

In FRG, representatives of 54 trade unions affiliated to Federal German Trade Unions (DGB) have established an "initiative for solidarity with arrested trade unionists in Turkey". West Berlin DGB, at its 12th Congress, passed a resolution concerning with the solidarity with DISK.

In Paris, a solidarity demonstration was organised under the slogan "Freedom for 52 trade unionists". Galland, General Secretary of CGT who spoke at the demonstration, said: "The working people of France, French democrats will be forefront to rise solidarity with workers, trade union movement and whole democratic forces of Turkey."

TORTURES IN TURKEY WIDESPREAD AND SYSTEMATICAL

The generals who are in power in Turkey, frequently apply various maneuvers in order to present themselves different from their Latin American ilk. Refusal to accept the practice of widespread and systematic tortures is a part of their maneuvers. Short while ago, Amnesty International published a report on Turkey. In that report, it announced that the number of deaths caused by torture was 70. Taken this matter up also by Amnesty International arose further indignation of broadest circles in Turkey against tortures. As a result, the junta administration resorted to another maneuver namely blatant lies.

The press in Turkey is under a heavy censorship. For this reason, neither the torture report, nor the list of Amnesty International could appear in the newspapers. The junta administration, capitalising on this, resorted to the following method in order to take the heat out of indignation of the public opinion:

Instead of those who were tortured to death, mentioned in the list of Amnesty International, the representatives of the junta picked up various prisoners under arrest in different trials and argued before the Turkish press that they are alive. But soon after such a maneuver, İ.Öztürk, Minister of State stated that the number of deaths caused by tortures was 15, and argued that criminals were punished. The developments, however, do not conform to the statements of the junta. Because, the torturers are being released one by one, and they are being protected. Torture is systematic, widespread and is maintained in an organised manner.

The British weekly, "Observer" writes about the release of a torturer, Enver Göktürk, without any punishment and says: "The generals in Turkey argue that they are against torture. But who provides the instruments which produces electrical shock and other means of torture in the torture chambers ruled by Enver Göktürk? Why the daily occurring tortures can not be prevented?"

The French paper "Le Monde" in its March 17, 1982 issue gave detailed information about tortures and published letters by the persons who were subjected to torture. In the bulletin of French-Turkish Friendship Society, it was announced that Bahadır Dumanlı, a lecturer was tortured to death on January 3, 1982. The letters of trade unionists and democrats belonging to various organisations, who witnessed tortures, have been made available. In the same bulletin, Sırrı Çopur from Ankara says: "Tortures are not only carried by the 'ill-intentioned police' as the authorities argue. Tortures are organised openly and carried out consciously by a group of torture experts."

Dursun Karataş who gave the names of two young persons killed by torture, was beaten up in the court, during the case. As the audience in the court showed signs of protest, they were attacked by the soldiers with truncheons. Two of them were injured and taken into hospital.

"The Voice of the CPT", in its broadcast on March 20, 1982, gave the names of torturers in various provinces. According to the radio, the persons whose names and crimes are well-known, are at large. They are still at business and continue to practice torture. Their number amount to 27 only in Ankara. When one adds up the other torturers in other provinces to this list, there appears a huge "army of torturers". It is impossible anyway for such an army to act outside the knowledge and the control of the generals in power.

"ONE CAN NO LONGER REMAIN SILENT BEFORE THE PREVAILING SITUATION IN TURKEY!"

The Political Commission of European Council passed a resolution in its meeting which took place in March condemning the detainment of leaders and members of the Peace Committee of Turkey. In that resolution, it says: "One can no longer stand still before the prevailing situation!" European Council, first time in its history applied such a method: It gave a notification to the military regime in Turkey to stop repression and to ensure the freedoms. In addition, the Council put into its agenda the proposals concerned with setting up two special commissions, one of which is to examine tortures, human rights and trade union rights in Turkey and the other is to deal with "the operations of the junta in order to return to democracy". Turkey was again on the agenda

during the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Common Market. The ministers listened the report of Tindenams who had been on a fact-finding trip in Turkey, and they criticized the operations of the military junta, arrests, repression on democratic organisations and trade unions and trampling down the human rights. They made a statement in which they demanded lift over the ban on trade union activities, release of political prisoners and trade unionists.

The members of the Peace Committee who were prisoned in other provinces were taken to Istanbul. They were put into the prisons in Kartal. Their hair was shaved. The committee members, including scientists, lecturers, journalists and artists who are mostly middle-aged or even above, are being kept in cold, damp cells of prison without any consideration of their age and illnesses. They are not allowed to have their diet food.

17 lawyers who went to Turkey, to meet the arrested members of the Peace Committee, were not allowed to see them and returned back. Meanwhile, the fascist prosecutor, Süleyman Takkeci and his assistant, Mustafa Gül prevented the request to be carried out concerning the release of committee members. Later, the request for release was rejected, without any given reason. The Chairman of the Peace Committee of Turkey, Mahmut Dikerdem, in his petition, objected his arrest and demanded his release. He rejected the charges of being a member of an "illegal organisation", and he said: "Representatives of various sections of the society, with defferet political views and beliefs, but devoted to the principle of universal peace, same as in the peace committees of other countries, have joined and supported all activities of the Peace Committee of Turkey. In March, the lawyers presented another petition for the release of Peace Committee members. Some important points were underlined in this petition. Such as: 1- This trial is not in accordance with the law. Because the case was opened 17 months after the coup. 2- The name and the register number of the judge who made the decision for arrest, was not given. 3- Takkeci should be dismissed from hearing the case, all prisoners, after having the approval of Martial Law Commanders, should be released.

The arrest of Peace Committee members and its leaders arose a worldwide protest. The French paper, "Le Monde" dated March, 1, 1982 wrote: "why the military regime hurls upon the intellectuals? We can answer this question with the words of Orhan Apaydın, the Chairman of Istanbul Bar Association. He said that he was arrested with the aim of preventing him to defend 52 DISK leaders who are under trial, and his arrest was based on trumped up charges. He said "If it is a crime to defend peace, I am ready to have the honour of being charged".

The Soviet paper "Pravda" pointed out that the arrests directed to the members of the Peace Committee is the widest repressive operation of the military regime. The French paper "Humanite" wrote: "Today, an American type of regime prevails in Turkey".

The Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Turkey held a meeting following the arrest of Peace Committee members. They made a decision to raise an objection against the arrests. The Chairman of the Bar Association of Turkey, Atilla Sav was assigned to carry out the procedures.

The General Secretary of the Peace Committee, Enis Coşkun, other leaders and members, Mehmet Karaca, Oya Baydar, Gültekin Gazioğlu, Tektaş Ağaoğlu, Cemal Kral, Zülal Kılıç and Metin Denizmen who are how abroad, made a statement in Paris, on March 8, 1982. They protested the arrests and pointed out that these arrests meant a threat to all peace forces.

Various national and international organisations have risen their voices against the arrests of the Peace Committee leaders and members. They demanded to put an end to these arrests and immediate release of outstanding defenders of peace. Some of these organisations: British Trade Unions (TUC), International Association of Democratic Lawyers, European Bar Association, Bar Associations of France, Denmark, Holland, Sweden, Norway, West Berlin Turkish Centre, Peace Committees in West Europe, European Confederation of Trade Unions, International Federation of Journalists, International Press Institute, joint actions of organisations of Turkish and Kurdish workers in Federal Germany (FIDEF, Dib-Fak, Gerçek, Kürt Halkevleri), Peace Council of the USA, German Trade Unions (DGB), Union of Democratic Lawyers in Belgium, Organisation of Democratic Lawyers in Belgium, the Socialist Group of European Council, Peace Movement of Churches in Holland, Organisation of "No! To Neutron Bomb" in Holland, World Federation of Trade Unions...

Metin Denizmen, a trade unionist, a leader of the Peace Committee and a member of the World Peace Council, made a speech in Holland, at the meeting of the "Committee of Solidarity with Democratic Forces of Turkey". While he was appealing to the world public opinion, he said: "Now, we must create the conditions in order to be able to say 'stop!' with all our strength, against the attacks directed towards progressives, democrats, intellectuals of Turkey, and conditions to realize this. Because, the signs indicate that these merciless attacks have become more rabid. The latest events should warn everybody who is for peace, freedom and democracy.

**Attacks are becoming more rabid!
The new target: Republican Peoples Party (RPP)**

The junta has carried on its repression and terror during March. Three young men, Seyit Konuk, İbrahim Ethem Coşkun, Necati Vardar were executed in İzmir. The Executive Committee members of the Association of Architects' and Engineers' Union have been sentenced to 4 months imprisonment. The reason for this sentence was given as their action of protest on September 19, 1979, against unemployment and high prices. The junta which counts itself as Kemalist, banned the activity of the mass organisations called "People's Houses" which were established by Atatürk in 1932. It started proceedings for the leaders of "People's Houses", ex-member of Senate, Ahmet Yıldız, and MPs from the RPP, Erol Saraçoğlu and Ferhat Aslantaş. The prosecutor demands imprisonment from 18 months up to 4 years for these democrats. The reason for this was given as they took part in the platform of broad democratic forces and they had relations with DİSK, RPP and the teachers' organisation, TÖB-DER. On the other hand, all assets of the Rural Cooperatives (KÖY-KOOP) were confiscated.

Repression on progressive press and democratic journalists continues to the utmost. In March, the junta banned the weekly "Arayış" published by the RPP sympathizers. The owner and the editor of the "Birlik Yolu", Ali Rabeş was sentenced to 10 years and 2 months of heavy imprisonment. The managing editor of "Kitle Sosyalist Dergi", Feyzullah Öner was sentenced to one year and 6 months of imprisonment. Editor-in-Chief of daily, "Politika", Aydın Engin was sentenced to 7,5 years of imprisonment. The Minister of Justice, C. Menteş stated that there was a need for 80 new jails in Turkey and construction of 32 prisons in various provinces were in progress. According to the new changes

in the "Execution Law", the prisoners are going to work in the construction of buildings, roads, in mines under the security measures.

In March, the release of the prisoners who belong to the Nationalist Action Party continued. Ten more fascist prisoners were released. They were directly being instructed by A. Türkeş and taking the orders for terrorist actions and pass them to the other provinces, such as Sivas, İstanbul, Afyon, Erzurum, and also hiding the weapons of NAP. Therefore, investigations for 124 fascists in the NAP trial were completed and 97 of them were released. Meanwhile, the junta speeded up the prosecutions for RPP, a member of the Socialist International. Legal proceedings have started for 132 MPs. The ex-leader of RPP, B. Ecevit is being called frequently to give evidence to the military prosecutor. He refused to give any evidence about his party and rejected all accusations.

Olaf Palme, who spoke at the international forum organised by Social Democratic Party of Sweden and the Swedish Trade Unions, said: "There is now a real military dictatorship in Turkey. There exists torture, thousands of political prisoners, arrested trade unionists and implication of death penalty. We observe the rule of anti-democratic, anti-trade unionist, anti-people policy in Turkey".

At the end of March, Research of Development Foundation in Turkey, on the base of 1980 census gave the following information: 8 million people are in the state of half-starvation. 7 % of population gets daily food containing less than 1600 calories. The number of people who gets less calories than the required amount is 18.5 million.

Repression, terror, torture, arrests and plus hunger. As the European Council says: "One can not stand aloof in view of this situation!"

DANGEROUS SIGNALS - DANGEROUS RELATIONS

The Turkish daily "Cumhuriyet" dated February 22, 1982 published an interview with the President of Iran, Hucettulislam Seyyid. Part of this interview is given below:

Question: What is your opinion about US Rapid Deployment Forces? Do you believe that the USA wants to prevent a possible Soviet intervention to the Gulf? What is the aim of Rapid Deployment Forces?

Answer: The Rapid Deployment Forces does not worry about the Soviet intervention to the Gulf. Its main fear is Islamic Revolution and its target is also Islamic Revolution.

Question: Do you think that Turkey will be involved in the Rapid Deployment Forces?

Answer: We expect that the people in our region will resist broadening of US activities, political and military interferences. We recommend all countries not to give further help and support to the American military forces, not to do more than they have done. This is also our recommendation to Turkey. The close relationship between present Turkish Government and the USA evokes the idea that Turkey may join the Rapid Deployment Forces. However, we want to believe that this never occurs."

In February and March, the developments connected with the relations between Turkey and the USA shows that the junta regime does not take into consideration the warnings of our neighbour Iran "not to increase the help and

support to the US forces"but,acts contrarily.These developments are as follows:

At the beginning of February, it was announced that the NATO and US bases in Adana-İncirlik, Erzurum, Çorlu, İzmit-Köseköy, Sinop, İstanbul and Çakmaklı would be expanded and modernised. Adana-İncirlik base among them calls our attention. Because, according to the statements and the articles written in the years of 1980 and 1981, it had been argued that they were very "sensitive" to the usage of this base in the interests of the USA and NATO.

On February 14, 1982, the Chairman of Armed Forces Commission of the US Senate, John Towel visited Turkey. While he was making statements in which says: "We consider Turkey as an important ally of us", the daily "Washington Post" wrote that the American aid to Turkey would be as much as 940 million dollars. Later, the amount of aid was put into the agenda as 819 million dollars.

The 30th anniversary of the entry of Turkey into NATO was celebrated. On this occasion, General Secretary, Luns announced: "Turkey plays an indispensable role for the existence of NATO and its continuation. It makes us to feel easy". The Foreign Minister of the junta, Türkmen spoke also in a similar way. He said: "NATO became more powerful with the presence of Turkey".

At the beginning of February, "Voice of America" announced that Turkey would buy 300 F-18 war planes. Later, this information was covered up by the statements saying that the work is being carried out as joint projects. At the end of February, Thomas Jones, the Manager-in-Chief of Northrop which produces F-18 planes, visited Turkey. He said that the production of these planes could be realised in Turkey with 40 % American capital. The newspaper "Bulvar", dated March 7, 1982 wrote the statement of Jones as "they were ready to make investments in Turkey as much as its budget". Same paper argued between the lines that the Director of the American company, General Dynamics was to visit Turkey. "Cumhuriyet" dated February 24, 1982 wrote that while the US was prepared to sell trident nuclear missiles to Great Britain with very low prices, offered that the production of these missiles could be realised in Turkey. NATO Submarine Forces Commander, Weyl visited Turkey to examine the sea bases which were considered to be prepared for the American 6th Fleet. In March, NATO Southern Flank Naval Commander, Giovanni again went to Turkey. While he was examining İzmir, İstanbul, Gölçük Harbours, it was announced that Turkey would get 105 million dollars worth credit from NATO, for modernisation of bases.

On March 26, two war ships of American 6th Fleet passed through the Straits onto the Black Sea. This event was characterised by the Soviet TASS Agency as an open provocation. This news, however was hidden from the public opinion and did not appear in the press. Same day, the press agency ANKA gave information in relation to talks among the Turkish foreign affairs circles about the threat of Soviet SS 20 missiles.

On March 23, the spokesman of Foreign Affairs, Akıman stated that Turkey would accept 4500 counter-revolutionary Afghan gangs as "refugees". While the junta is worried by the return of workers from abroad, now, easily states that land, housing, credit, rights of trade and job facilities will be provided for counter-revolutionary Afghans.

Meanwhile, the junta regime abstained in the vote for the resolution of United Nations to condemn the annexation of Golan Heights by Israel. Although the junta repeatedly mentioned the rights of Palestinian People since it took power, it tried to explain the reason behind such a stand through Minister of

Foreign Affairs, Türkmen: "As the USA is our ally, and the USA was also condemned in the resolution, we abstained in the resolution of the United Nation condemning Israel."

One June 25-26, 1980, the meeting of Council of Ministers of NATO, by the proposal of Justice Party Government, was held in Ankara. This meeting caused actions of protest in seven big cities and hundreds of towns in Turkey. In this connection, the Chairman of the Peace Committee, Mahmut Dikerdem made a statement. He condemned this meeting which coincided with the 30th anniversary of Turkey being dragged into Korean War and underlined that Turkey began to play a dangerous role on the Cairo-Tel-Aviv axis. The line of development becomes more apparent on time. 17 months after taking power, the junta arrested M.Dikerdem and 44 leaders and members of the Peace Committee. This is a dangerous signal in connection with the junta, in return to American aid, will drag Turkey into the role of being a gendarme in the Middle East and Persian Gulf.

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TO THE XII. CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

Esteemed comrades,

On behalf of the communists of Turkey and the working class of our country, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey sends its militant revolutionary greetings to the XII. Congress of the fraternal Communist Party of India.

Your Congress takes place in a period, when US imperialism and the ruling circles of NATO are fanning the international tension and the arms race and intensifying their aggressive and adventurist efforts to bring the humanity at the edge of a nuclear war. The military-strategic alliance of the Chinese hegemonists with imperialism, the establishment of the Washington-Peking-Islamabad axis and the increase of the American military build-up in the Indian Ocean are sharpening the dangers in the region against the forces of peace and progress. The concrete peace proposals of the Soviet Union in regard with preserving peace in the world and the Indian Ocean and reinforcing detente and security, make a solid guarantee for the prevention of such dangers.

Your Congress takes place in a period, when in India the struggle for the improvement of the living conditions of the toilers, the isolations of the pre-American lobby and the adoption of a policy which is defending the independence of India is gaining new momentum. The Communist Party of India is at the frontmost line of the struggle for the rights and interests of the working class and the toilers of India. The unity of all left forces is a solid obstacle in rebuffing the dark plans of imperialism and the reactionary forces.

Comrades,

Today, the people, the working class and the broadest peace and democracy forces in Turkey are under the repression and terror of a reactionary military dictatorship. Members of the Peace Committee of Turkey, members of the Republican People's Party and the patriots within the army are persecuted and arrested. 52 functionaries of the Confederation of the Progressive Trade Unions DISK are tried with the demand of death punishment just because of their trade union activity. Members and sympathizers of the CPT, functionaries and members of the workers' parties, are tortured severely. In numerous cities mass trials started against the communists. While the hysterical anti-communist campaign of slander is being mounted, the repression on the Kurdish people is taking unprecedented dimensions. The masses are facing hunger, unemployment and ruin through the economic policy in favour of the monopolies and imperialism.

The Reagan administration, trying to hide itself under the mask "friend of trade unions", which is defending the counter-revolutionaries in Poland, is supporting the reactionary military dictatorship in Turkey fully. Imperialism is intensifying its efforts and diktat in order to turn our country into a springboard and a transit base against the Soviet Union and the national liberation movement in the Near and Middle East. It is signing bilateral enslaving treaties with the junta.

The Communist Party of Turkey is struggling under hard conditions to establish the united front of all national and democratic forces against the diktat of imperialism, dependence on NATO, the brutal exploitation of the local and foreign monopolies, the repression of the junta, for peace, national independence and democracy, for bread, land, job and freedom. The Communist Party of Turkey is regarding the joint declaration and the joint appeal with the Workers' Party of Turkey and the Socialist Workers' Party of Turkey as an important step in this direction.

Comrades,

The Communist Party of Turkey and the Communist Party of India are bound fraternally with ties which are developing and strengthening on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. We wish great success to the XII. Congress of the Communist Party of India.

Long live the Communist Party of India!
Long live Marxism-Leninism!
Long live proletarian internationalism!

March 22, 1982

İ.Bilen
General Secretary
CC,CPT

TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BRAZILIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

Esteemed comrades,

On behalf of the communists of Turkey and the working class of our country, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey greets the 60th anniversary of the founding of the fraternal Brazilian Communist Party and sends its revolutionary greetings.

The Brazilian Communist Party was set up within the stormy influences of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It has always defended and is defending the interests of the working class. It has stood and is staying at the front line of the struggle of the Brazilian people for their fundamental democratic rights, for peace, democracy and national independence. Today, it is struggling together with other left forces of the country to form a democratic alternative and to end the exploitation of the local and foreign monopolies.

The Communist Party of Turkey and the Brazilian Communist Party have fraternal ties on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

We wish the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Brazilian Communist Party be a year of new upsurges.

March 25, 1982

With our communist greetings

İ.Bilen
General Secretary
CC,CPT

TO THE XXIV. CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BELGIUM

Esteemed comrades,

On behalf of the communists of Turkey and the working class of our country, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey greets the XXIV. Congress of the fraternal Communist Party of Belgium and wishes success.

The Communist Party of Belgium is struggling today persistently against the consequences of the crises in Belgium, against unemployment, inflation, against the curbing of the social expenditures, and for the improvement of the living conditions of the toilers.

The policy of fanning the arms race and stepping up the confrontation with the socialist countries, followed by the most aggressive circles of imperialism, first of all by the USA administration and NATO, is increasing the danger of a nuclear war which is threatening the whole mankind. The communists of Belgium are struggling together with other peace forces of their country for the winning of the broad masses for the peace movement and against the deployment of new US nuclear missiles to Western Europe.

Our Party appreciates the solidarity of the communists of Belgium with the communists of Turkey and the peace and democratic forces of our country who are faced with today with the severe and bloody attacks of the reactionary military dictatorship. The Communist Party of Turkey and the Communist Party of Belgium are bound on the basis of the principles of common struggle ideals and internationalist solidarity.

We wish great success to the XXIV. Communist Party of Belgium in realizing the tasks put by its XXIV. Congress for the cause of peace and socialism.

March 26, 1982

İ.Bilen
General Secretary
CC, CPT

TO THE V. CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM

Esteemed comrades,

On behalf of the communists of Turkey and the working class of our country, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey conveys revolutionary greetings to the V. Congress of the fraternal Communist Party of Vietnam.

This high forum of the Vietnamese communists takes place in a period when USA administration and the ruling circles of NATO are following the policy of confrontation with the socialist countries, threatening world peace openly, and mounting the arms race at the expense of bringing the mankind at the edge of a nuclear war. The Peking rulers are supporting this policy and entering an open military-strategic cooperation with the most reactionary imperialist circles. This cooperation is threatening the peoples of the Southeast Asia. The peace proposals of the XXVI. Congress of the CPSU and the support of the Soviet Union to the demand of the peoples of Southeast Asia to collective security are a solid source of force for the Vietnamese communists and the peoples of the region.

Comrades,

The working class of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people are exerting great efforts under the guidance of the Communist Party of Vietnam for the economic and social development of the nation. In spite of the continuing attacks and threats of the Peking hegemonists, the Vietnamese people develop the economic and defense potential of their country and strengthen the socialist foundation of the society. The communists of our country appreciate these successes with great pleasure.

Comrades,

The reactionary military dictatorship which seized the power on 12 September 1980 in Turkey is mounting its repression and terror on our people and on the democratic forces of our country. 52 leaders of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions, DİSK, are tried with the threat of death penalty just because of their trade union activities. At the trials against the members and sympathizers of the Communist Party of Turkey patriots are accused just because of their engagement to the ideals of peace and socialism, just because they got organised in compliance of their thoughts. Torture, mass persecution, price increases

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unemployment, and poverty. These are the results of the military dictatorship.

USA administration and the ruling circles of NATO are intensifying their efforts to use our country directly in their imperialist plans for our region. They are intending to make Turkey an open base of aggression against the Soviet Union and the national liberation movement in the Middle East. Therefore, Reagan administration is delivering its full support to the reactionary military regime in Turkey. USA administration which has declared that it is approving the demand of death penalty for the trade unionists in Turkey, is launching a campaign under the mask of "friend of workers and trade unions" against the legitimate measures taken by the legitimate government in socialist Poland against the counter revolutionaries. The communists and progressive forces of Turkey are persistently unmasking these efforts of Reagan administration.

The Communist Party of Turkey is struggling today under severe conditions to realise the unity of all national democratic forces against the imperialist diktat, dependence on NATO, repression of the junta, for peace, national independence, democracy and for a better life for the toilers. Our party appreciates highly the joint declaration of our party, the Workers' Party of Turkey and the Socialist Workers' Party of Turkey, and their unity of action.

Esteemed comrades,

The Communist Party of Turkey and the Communist Party of Vietnam are bound fraternally with compatriot ties which are developing on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. We never forget how fervently Comrade Ho Chi Minh supported our national liberation struggle and the communists of our country in the 1920's. We wish great success to the V. Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Long live the Communist Party of Vietnam!

Long live Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism!

March 27, 1982

İ. Bilen
General Secretary
CC, CPT

TÜSTAV