

TURKEY NEWSLETTER



Issue No 25

August 1982

PEOPLE YES JUNTA NO



P VERTY & EXPLOITATI N UNDER FASCISM

Two resolutions from CDDRT's International Conference on 12 June 1982

Standard of living, health care & general indices of income and the education in Turkey.

Exploitation of the working class of Turkey is much greater than that of the working class in advanced capitalist countries: this has led to a mounting class struggle in Turkey which the fascist coup came to couter.

This Conference condemns:

Firstly, the extremely low level of wages which endangers the ability of the working class to reproduce itself. Indications of this are the extremely high death rates, low life expectancy, very high number of work accident and occupational illness.

Secondly, inhuman working conditions, exploitation of women workers, exploitation of children under "apprenticeship", and exploitation of uninsured, illegal workers.

Thirdly, unemployment in Turkey is a social disaster. The mass of unemployed workers greatly lowers the

standard of living of the working class.

Fourthly, institution of the new education laws which restrict educational opportunites to the rich and drastically curtail academic freedoms.

Fifthly, the denial of the right of the Kurdish people living in Turkey to education in their own language and development of their own culture.

Democratic movements: political parties When the fascist junta came to power they forbade all democratic movements such as meetings, marches, assemblies and seminars. (An example of this was Köy-koop). Besides this, there is no right to form a democratic organisation. All democratic organisations have been banned: trade unions, women's organisations and all political parties, including the Republican People's Party (RPP), one of the largest parties and an affiliate of the Socialist International.

The Kurdish democratic movement has been banned and is being tackled by military means. Books and films are banned. Newspapers are censored under threat of the bans that closed Arayış and Cumhuriyet. Individuals are not allowed to criticize the fascist junta.

Democratic rights and freedom can be gained and regained by pulling down the fascist junta together with the capitalist system; the need for a full democracy requires no return to "11 September 1980" (the day before the fascist coup). They came by tanks and will go by revolution: this will be the only solution for full democracy and freedom.

We can support the struggle by ending aid to Turkey's fascist junta, whether military or economic. We ask the Labour Party, the trade unions and all other democratic bodies everywhere for support in the struggles that lie ahead.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

STATEMENT

The Socialist International:

1. deplores the continuing drastic restriction of human rights, the dissolution of parliament and a large number of trade union organizations, the substantial restriction of activities still permitted and the restrictions on the freedom of the press in Turkey;

2. is deeply disturbed by the continuing political trials, the difficulties with which defence lawyers are confronted and the constant demands for the death penalty

which have now become routine;

3. is particularly distressed at the systematic persecution and the repeated imprisonment of the former prime minister, Bülent Ecevit;

4. notes the intention of some member states of the Council of Europe to raise the matter of torture and other violations of Human Rights in Turkey before the European Commission of Human Rights, and urges other member states to support this initiative:

5. condemns the announced intention of the regime to continue to ban former

politicians from political life even if elections are held;

6. notes resolution no. 765 of 28 January 1982 of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which stated that the present situation in Turkey is incompatible with the statutes of the Council of Europe and by which the ban on political parties and the confiscation of their assest were also condemned; also notes decision no. 398 of 13 May 1981 which rejected an extension of the mandate of the Turkish parliamentary delegation in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; and welcomes the actions on this matter by Socialist Members of that Assembly;

7. welcomes the initiatives of the Socialist Group in the European Parliament, which have led to the blocking of EEC aid to Turkey, and supports the view that aid must not be resumed until pluralist parliamentary democracy and all basic civil, political and trade union rights are restored in Turkey;

8. notes that this action can be undermined if individual governments continue undiminished their bilateral aid to Turkey, and urges them to follow the lead of the EEC.

TURKEY NEWSLETTER is the publication monthly of Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT), 29 Parkfield St., London NI OPS. Tel: 01-226 2668

Editorial Board at same address.

Subscription rates are:

Britain & Ireland £3.00pa £4.00pa Europe Africa, Asia, Australasia £7.00pa Americas US\$15.00pa

Bureau of the Socialist International, Helsinki-26-27 May 1982

DISK: A CLASS ON TRIAL

The fact that the 817-page indictment against the 52 leaders of DISK was a political one rather than a legal one had little effect on Prosecutor Takkeci's case. Indeed, since the leaders of DISK (Revolutionary Confederation of Trade Unions) are accused of the crimes of wanting peace, being against fascism and of being a class organisation, the whole of the court proceedings were just to provide a cover for the murder of DISK.

DISK President Abdullah Baştürk gave vent to his righteous indignation at his treatment when he spoke in court during the trial on 1 July 1982. He told the Military Court that police interrogators had beaten him 80 to 100 times when he was first detained. This lasted for six days and nights. Baştürk was tied to an iron chair and whilst blindfolded was forced to listen to other prisoners screaming under torture.

The conduct of the court has astounded even observers who are hardened to seeing judicial malpractice in different parts of the world. Not only were lawyers kept across a gangway from their defendants (see picture below), but the court was crowded with Military Police armed to the teeth.

Every prosecution submission was granted by the presiding judges (there is of course no jury) and defence lawyer was arrested on a charge of being an Executive member of the Turkish Peace Council (see p.5).

Clearly torture, now widespread and systematically used throughout Turkey, was used against DISK defendants. This, and the call for death sentences against all 52 DISK leaders shows the hatred of the fascist junta for Turkey's working class and its organisations. It is our duty to stand by the beleaguered leaders of DISK and show our hatred of fascism and all its works. Protest the judicial murder of the DISK leaders and all the thousands against whom the junta has asked for the death penalty.

Send protests against the DISK trial from your organisa-

HE The Ambassador
Embassy of the Republic of Turkey
43 Belgrave Square
London
SW1
(Please send a copy of any protest to CDDRT).



"The following persons (the names of the 52 members of DISK are given) "have as members of an illegal Marxist-Leninist organisation of a revolutionary character attempted to subvert the order of the, the constitutional order, and the fundamental institutions of the

state, in order to bring about proletarian socialism and to establish dictatorship by the proletariat based on the power of the working class, under the leadership of DISK, which has become the working class's political organization, in conjunction with groups of people

allied to the workers."

25th June 1981 Süleyman Takkeci Colonel, Military Public Prosecutor

BRUTAL TORTURE EXPOSED

A large number of statements about torture were recently received at CDDRT offices. They were written by those who had been tortured, by relatives or by friends. One statement follows.

In this letter, I shall mention the methods of torture applied to revolutionaries by the group called DAL,

Ankara Security Police.

The regime of 12 September in distinction to other examples of "military regimes" tries hard to create a "democratic" appearance. In order to create this appearance a great campaign of demagogy is carried out and systematic work is done by using press and publication organs skilfully on the large mass of people and public

opinion.

It is necessary to convey this idea openly, as the present administration (as it is many times expressed by Evren's torture, and that such torture events as occur in Turkey lead to those who were responsible being charged. This demagogy has been continued to give the impression that they are really carrying on the investigation, with the numbered "torture claim". It must be clear that torture in Turkey is a common practice, and it is continuing to be applied. Also, these kinds of torture events are not events which are created by "individuals" and some impertinent "security men". IN TURKEY, TORTURE IS BEING CARRIED OUT AS A FORMAL STATE POLICY. Because this claim has many times been put forward it has lost its impact and become an abstract fact. For this reason, it is an inevitable duty to put forward this concretely, to make a set of explanations and to exhibit the most detailed parts of it. Now lets start with the subtitles of this topic.

WHERE DOES TORTURE TAKE PLACE?

At the present time, there are two centres in Ankara where the political prisoners are tortured. (Because they have been exposed previously some of the "special" places for torture are not in use at the moment. For example the notorious Erenköy Villa of the 12 March Coup (1971 -TN) is not in use.) The first is the Security Administration Building's 6th floor; the second is the old Yusuf Kahraman School, where the group DAL (whose activities we shall mention further on) functions, this place being next to the Security Administration Building. It is in the back garden connected by a corridor.

WHAT ARE THE APPLIED TORTURE METHODS? a) Application of electricity, especially to the right foot and right hand thumb, to sexual organs, anus, head, ears,

tongue, eyes, and teeth.

b) Cold water and snow bath. Especially in winter prisoners are soaked in cold water as well as applying electricity. Also, lying the victim nude in the snow in a desolate place.

c) Hanger. This is applied in the DAL group with different styles. First, to hang the body by means of a stick under the arms. Second, hanging the body by the arms, which are tied behind the body. Third, hanging from the feet. Simultanously during each of the three hanging methods electricity is applied.

WHAT IS THE GROUP DAL AND HOW DOES IT

FUNCTION?

DAL has been formed from both Ankara Security Administration and members of MIT, functioning as an integrated group. It bears first responsibility to First Branch and to MIT. The president of the DAL is Kemal Yazıcıoğlu, nick-named "Doctor".

The organisation according to rank are as follows:

The President of group DAL (Kemal Yazıcıoğlu) First Interrogation Team Interrogation Teams 1. Bekir Pullu 2. ? 3. MİT 4. MİT

MİT and First Branch (Azmi Derin)

own words) puts forwards the ideas that it is against President President President President President President (2.1)(2.2)(1.2)(1.3)(2.3)

> One interrogation team (excluding the president) is formed by six people. For example (1.1), (1.2), (1.3) interrogation teams are responsible for Ankara quarters and (2.1) for officials, teachers and so on. The most important team is the first interrogation team and (although it is not very certain) it is formed by two MİT officers and two policemen. The most brutal torture is applied by this team. It is being led by a police officer named Bekir Pullu. These names can be increased in number from the knowledge of other victims and this kind of work should be carried out as soon as possible. Also the picture of the torturers can be drawn by hand.

> Apart from these officials there are other police officers who do not interfere with the interrogation but act as guards. They change guards every 12 hours; their guard changing times are 8am-8pm. Their duty is to beat the accused in a general way, take them to the toilet and give

> out meals. HOW DOES A SUSPECT PASS THROUGH A

PERIOD OF TORTURE? A suspect caught by the police is brought to DAL with eyes blindfolded. The suspect is made to stand on one foot angled at 45 degrees leaning against the wall with his or her

fingers for two or three days with a pinned written paper on his back saying "water, food, sleep forbidden". Later on, the first questioning team uses the previously

explained methods on the person.

After that the suspect belongs to one of the groups. After that torture is carried out by this group team.

MIT's team is formed by about ten people. The suspects that they are interested in are shared among them.

The tortures carried out by the police are attempted to be justified in two ways. One of them is that if torture is not applied some of the organisations and events will not be revealed or crimes solved. The second is that the tortures are only one or two events and the government is against it. For a moment if we accept that these are true, how can it be explained that tortures are being carried out on the suspects whose cases are closed. Are we going to say that tortures being carried out in Mamak Prison, which is directly connected with the Ankara Martial Law Commander (and therefore to the National Security Council), are done without the knowledge of the administration? The nonsensicality of these ideas is obvious. Yes, the tortures being carried out by the police are being continued at a different level in Mamak Prison.

PEACE ON TRIAL

The trial of the Turkish Peace Council/ Association Executive started on 24 June 1982 in Istanbul, with the charge sheet accusing them of being in solidarity with DISK!

The 27 Executive members in court also face the charge of having demanded the removal of foreign military forces from Cyprus and of declaring that world peace will be saved by working people. Upon conviction under the "Mussolini Laws" (Articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code) they could receive sentences of 8 to 14 years in jail. When the trial opened 17 arrest warrants were issued for absent Executive members now in exile or in hiding.

The fascist junta is trying very hard to establish a conspiracy linking the Peace Council, DISK and the Communist Party of Turkey, amongst others. Former chief defence lawyer at the DISK trial (see p3), Orhan Apaydin, was arrested with the initial 19 Peace Council members in April (see May Turkey Newsletter). Orhan Apaydin is President of the Istanbul Bar Association, which had proceedings started against it at the end of June.

Five MP's from the Republican People's Party (RPP) who were also on the Peace Council Executive are on trial. The RPP is an affiliate of the Socialist International, whose Bureau at its meeting in Helsinki in May issued a Statement (see p2) th. tit was "...deeply disturbed by the continuing political trials, the difficulties with which defence lawyers are confronted and the constant demands for the death penalty which have now become routine...".

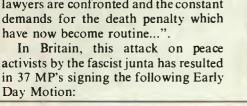
ARREST OF MEMBERS OF TURKISH PEACE ASSOCIATION

That this House deplores the arrest and trial of the members of the Turkish Peace Association under Articles 141 and 142 of the Turkish Penal Code restricting freedom of association and freedom of speech; and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to protest formally against this violation of the code of NATO and the Council of Europe on free institutions and democratic rights.

Norman Atkinson
Guy Barnett
Tony Benn
Sydney Bidwell
Robert C Brown
Norman Buchan
Bob Cryer
Alfred Dubs
Ioan Evans
Martin Flannery
Derek Foster
Walter Harrison
Dame Judith Hart

Eric S Heffer Norman Hogg Stuart Holland Frank Hooley Doug Hoyle Joan Maynard Michael Meacher Stanley Newens Stanley Orme Robert Parry Laurie Pavitt Reg Race Jo Richardson Allan Roberts
Ernie Roberts
Ernie Ross
Dennis Skinner
Renee Short
Dr Roger Thomas
Stan Thorne
Edwin Wainwright
Frank R White
David Winnick
Sheila Wright





ÖZAL GOES



In the middle of July the ripples of the Banker Kastelli collapse a fortnight earlier reached as far as Deputy Prime Minister Turgut Özal, who resigned.

As chief economic supremo his role had been to develop and implement the fascist junta's monetarist policies. The restructuring of the economy in the ways it had intended led to the Kastelli collapse. While the immediate beneficiary of such a collapse is the state, Özal may well have been sacrificed as a sop to a section of finance-capital.

TURKEY & ISRAEL

In June there were growing fears that Turkey's fascist junta were co-operating in the Lebanon with the Israeli fascists, in attempting to capture Turkish citizens whom they wanted. At the time Admiral Bülent Ulusu, the Prime Minister, refused to deny this.

Now Güneş (20 July 1982) has declared that this co-operation is indeed occurring. One more danger posed by the existence of such reactionary regimes in the Middle East.

The Yılmaz Güney Campaign is off to a good start. Requests for leaflets and petition forms have been coming since the launch at an increasing rate.

Those who have already signed the petitition include several MP's and churchmen. The British Film Institute and the Institute of Contemporary Arts have both become Sponsors of the Yılmaz Güney Campaign, and are allowing their respective logos to appear on the Campaign Petition.

Whilst we await the results of up-todate enquiries on behalf of Yılmaz Güney, there is no question but that we must build up the pressure for him to be allowed into Britain by the time of the London Film Festival. At that Festival Güney's Yol (The Way) is due to be shown. All who have seen the film consider it is one of his best endeavours and that it is of world rank. This was underlined by the first prize which it won at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year.

You can help the Campaign by taking leaflets (60p per 100) and petitions for filling. If you are or know someone working in film, TV or the arts then we are always pleased to have new Sponsors for the Yılmaz Güney Campaign. Finally, everyone can write to their MP asking her or him why this exemplary artist is not allowed into Britain.



CDDRT's new poster is printed three colours on stout art paper A2 (42cmx 59cm). It is priced at £1.00 including

A non-glosy version is available the same size, suitable for pasting up, at 35p post-free.

A FLYING START



Opening scene from Yılmaz Güney's The Herd (Sürü).

Yılmaz Güney Campaign



We the undersigned call on Her Majesty's Government to reverse its decision to deny entry to Britain Turkish film-maker Yılmaz Güney (whose film The Herd opened at ICA Cinema in May this year) particularly so that he can attend the showing of his prizewinning film (The Way) at the London Film Festival in November

Signature	NAME		
	MAINE	ADDRESS	
	-		
-	75		
			_
	T -	_P	_
		T	_
	-		
			100

When completed, return to Yılmaz Güney Campaign, c/o Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT), 29 Parkfield St, London N1 OPS. Tel: 01-226 2668.





Constitution of CDDRT

- 1. The name of the organisation shall be the Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT).
- 2. The aims of CDDRT are as follows: End 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 fascist junta. Totally oppose junta harrassment of overseas opponents. Organise solidarity on the basis of the foregoing utilising every means at our disposal.
- 3. Organisations and individuals acception the aims of 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 became 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 motions. The conduct of business shall be on the basis of Standing Orders approved by Congress. Pre-Congress arrangements are the responsibility of th 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 weekly and be responsible for the day to day work of CDDRT.
- 7. Local Branches of CDDRT are formed with the approval of the General Council.
- 8. This Consitution 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.

General Council of CDDRT

Richard Balfe MEP, John Bowden, Alf Lomas MEP, Stan Newens MP (President), Gerry Pocock, Reg Race MP (Treasurer), Ernie Roberts MP (Chairperson), Alan Sapper, Marion Sarafi, Bob Wright, Jim Moody (General Secretary), and one representative each from the Turkish Students' Federation of the UK, Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain and the Union of Turkish Workers.

GMWU Pendle 122 Branch

Sponsors include

Frank Allaun, MP
Joe Ashton, MP
Norman Atkinson, MP
Guy Barnett, MP
Tony Benn, MP
Andrew Bennett, MP
Sid Bidwell, MP
Ron Brown, MP
Dennis Canavan MP
Tom Cos, MP
Bob Cryer, MP
Arthur Davidson, QC, MP
Alfred Dubs, MP
Ken Eastham, MP
Geoffrey Edge, MP
Bob Edwards, MP
Fred Evans, MP
Martin Flannery, MP
George Foulkes, MP
John Golding, MP
Doug Hoyle MP
Les Huekfeld, MP
Bob Hughes, MP
Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP
Neil Kinnock, MP
James Lamond, MP
R. Leighton, MP
R. Leighton, MP
John McKays, MP
Jim Marshall, MP
Jim Marshall, MP
Jim Marshall, MP
Joan Maynard, MP
George Morton, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Newens, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Stan Orme, MP

Reg Race, MP
Jo Richardson, MP
Allan Roberts, MP
Ernie Roberts, MP
Ernie Ross, MP
Ernie Ross, MP
Dennis Skinner, MP
Philip Whitehead, MP
Sheila Wright, MP
Richard Balfe, MEP
Roland Boyes, MEP
Richard Cahorn, MEP
Ann Clwyd, MEP
Kenneth D Collins, MEP
Brian Key, MEP
Alf Lomas, MEP
Or Barry Seal MEP
Colin Barnett, Sec, NW TUC
Ken Brett, AGS AUEW
Stan Cole, AUEW NC
Harry Cornoy, NUJ
Lawrence Daly, NUM
J, Davidson, NW Dist. Sec, FTAT
Frances Dean, Sec., Manchester TU Council
Beryl Huffinley, Yorks and Humberside TUC
EV, Haghes, Vice Pres., NW TUC
Alex Kitson, TGWU
Mick McGahey, NUM
Alan Sapper, ACTT
Bob Wright, AGS AUEW
ACTSS Central London Branch
APEX — Hothorn Branch
ASTMS — Manchester Its Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
ASTMS — Sheffield District
AUEW — N. Manchester District
AUEW — N. Manchester District
AUEW — Sheffield District
COHSE Caterham Branch
GMWU Burnley Branch
GMWU Burnley Branch

NALGO Metropolitan District Council
NALGO — Hackney Branch
NUM
NUPE
NUPE — West Midlands Div
NUR — Manchester
TGWU
TGWU Reg. No.1
UCATT — London Region
UCATT — NW Region
Greater London Association of
Trades Councils
Cambridge & District Trades Council
Greenwich Trades Council
Hackney Trades Council
Islangton & District Trades Council
Slangton & District Trades Council
Slangton & District Trades Council
Slangton & District Trades Council
Sington & District Trades Council
Sides of London & Westminster Trades Council
Preston Trades Council
Rotherham Trades Council
Stockport Trades Council
Stockport Trades Council
Stockport Trades Council
GEC Openshaw JSSC
Unition of Turkish Workers
Ardwick CLP
Beckenham CLP
Bermondsey CLP
Cambridgeshire CLP
Clackmannan & E Stirlingshire CLP
Greenwich CLP
Haltemprice CLP
Hayelgrove CLP
Heywood & Royton CLP
Heywood & Royton CLP
Renfrewshire West CLP

St.Helens CLP
Stockport South CLP
Walthamstow CLP
Walthamstow CLP
Wavertree CLP
Wigan CLP
Labour Party Young Socialists
National Organisation of Labour Students
Communist Party of Great Britatin
Association of Cypriot Women in Britain
Association of Cypriot Women in Britain
Portugese Communist Party (org. in Britain)
Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain
Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain
Organisation of Supporters of Iranian
People's Fedaii (Maj) in Britain
Committee for the Defence of Iranian Revolution
Turkish Students Federation of UK
City of London Polytechnic Students' Union
Cyprus Students' Society — Manchester University
Leeds University Union
UMIST — Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union
Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation
Demokrat Norway
Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers
London CRS Political Committee
Lord Fenner Brockway
Alan Bush
Lord Jenkins of Putney
Mgr. Bruce Kent
Arthur Latham
Robert J.Longuet
William Pomeroy
Andrew Rothstein
Marion Sarafi
Gordon Schaffer
E. Thompson

Affiliate to CDDRT

All organisations and individuals accepting the aims of CDDRT (see Constitution above) are eligible for affiliation. From 1 January 1982 the cost of affiliation for the year is: National organisation £25.00, local organisation £10.00, individual £5.00.

I/W	e a	ppi	y I	or	ai	Ш	lla	on	to) (٦L	<i>)</i> [Jŀ	< I	2	an	en	CI	05	e	a	C	ne	qu	ie,	r	1	וי	101	rt						
Name						٠.								٠.																				 	٠.	
Addres	SS.																																	 		

Return to CDDRT, 29 Parkfield St., London N1. Tel: 01-226 2668

Second INTERNATI NAL DAY AGAINST FASCISM Sunday 12 September 1982

2 pmAssemble for picket of the Turkish Embassy, 43 Belgrave Square, London SW1. Followed by a March to the Rally.

6 pmRally chaired by Bob Wright, Assistant General Secretary of the AUEW. Speakers from the British and Turkish labour movements.

Followed by a Solidarity Evening with artists from Britain, Latin America and Turkey. Tickets for this event are available at £2 each (£1 unwaged, children free), from the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey, 29 Parkfield St, London N1 OPS. Tel: 01-226 2668.

ECEVIT H UNDED

Turkey's fascist junta is determined not to allow Bülent Ecevit a moment's respite. On 6 July Ankara Martial Law Court sentenced him to two months and 27 days in prison for writing an article for *Der Spiegel*, which appeared in the 22 March issue.

Ecevit, Turkey's 3 times former Prime Minister and leader of the Republican People's Party (RPP), submitted a lengthy statement to the court which challenged the military prosecution, but to no effect. His guilty verdict will in addition re-active one month's remission from a previous sentence on similar charges: he will therefore serve close to 4 months. Ecevit was jailed for 2 months in December last and on 10 April this year. There are another 132 RPP MP's awaiting trial.

The changes which Ecevit challenged are concerned with the prohibition of statements by former politicians which the fascist junta enacted to give it a free hand in "re-educating" the masses. Part of the reason for its heavy-handedness became clear when the new Constitution was published recently. (There was initially some delay reportedly because the Constitutional Commission lost the working draft!)

The Constitution, due to be approved by referendum in November, will restrict the press, freedom of expression and democratic rights. It will protect Turkish youth from "pernicious ideologies", i.e. anti-fascist ideologies. In addition, the Constitution will prohibit trade union activity (including political strikes, general strikes and workplace occupations), Marxist-Leninist propaganda, and agitation for self-determination for the Kurds.

(The September Turkey Newsletter will carry a full-length article on the new Constitution).

In Britain, 67 MP's recently support-

ed CDDRT's President Stan Newens MP when he put down the following Early Day Motion in the House of Commons on 8 July:

IMPRISONMENT OF FORMER TURKISH PRIME MINISTER

That this House deplores the sentence of imprisonment imposed on Mr Bülent Ecevit, former Prime Minister of Turkey, on being found guilty of writing an article for the West German magazine, 'Der Spiegel', critical of the present Turkish military rulers, who overthrew the Parliamentary system in Turkey by force; and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to condemn this sentence and indicate to the present Turkish authorities that it will oppose all military assistance to and cooperation with Turkey as long as civil and human rights are not observed in that country.

Frank Allaun Donald Anderson Norman Atkinson Guy Barnett Sydney Bidwell Robert C Brown Norman Buchan Dennis Canavan Lewis Carter-Jones Bob Cryer Laurence Cunliffe Eric Deakins Joe Dean Don Dixon Frank Dobson Alf Dubs Alex Eadie Ioan Evans John Evans Martin Flannery Ted Fletcher Derek Foster George Foulkes John Garrett John Garrett

Ted Graham Peter Hardy Dame Judith Hart Norman Hogg Bill Homewood Frank Hooley Les Huckfield Roy Hughes Neil Kinnock James Lamond Ron Leighton Joan Lestor Arthur Lewis Ron Lewis Alexander Lyon Joan Maynard William McKelvey Tom McNally Michael Meacher Dr M S Miller Alfred Morris George Morton Stanley Newens Robert Parry Laurie Pavitt

Christopher Price Giles Radice Ernie Roberts John Home Robertson Ernie Ross Dennis Skinner Clive Soley Nigel Spearing A W Stallard Jack Straw Dr Roger Thomas Stan Thorne John Tilley Tom Torney Tom Urwin David Watkins Frank R White David Winnick Sheila Wright