



# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • (617) 498-9017

OFFICE OF  
THE CITY CLERK

December 22, 1982

Mr. Joshua Rubenstein  
12 Parker Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139

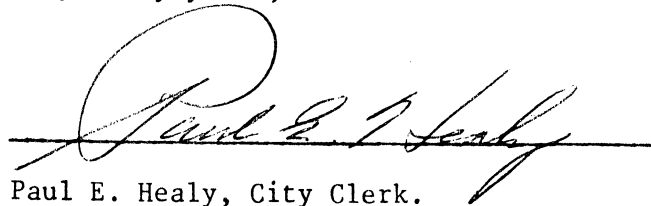
Re: Ahmet Isvan, Reha Isvan and Mahmut Dikerdem

Dear Mr. Rubenstein:

Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of a resolution adopted by the Cambridge City Council at its regular meeting held on December 20, 1982 with regard to possible human rights violations in Turkey.

Your kind attention in this matter will be greatly appreciated by the City Council.

Very truly yours,

  
Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.

PEH/mh

Enclosure: City Council Order No. 2 of December 20, 1982

*papers set*

VOTED:

That the attached Resolution be and it hereby is adopted and that it be forwarded by the City Clerk to the following persons:

RE: Ahmet Isvan  
Reha Isvan

TO: Gen. Kenan Evren, President  
Office of the President  
Devlet Baskanligi  
Ankara, Turkey

State Minister Sermet Refik Pasin  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Basbakanlik  
Ankara, Turkey

Ilter Turkmen, Minister  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Disisleri Bakanligi  
Ankara, Turkey

General Haydar Saltik  
Martial Law Commander  
for Istanbul  
Istanbul, Turkey

COPIES TO:

Embassy of Turkish Republic  
1606 23rd Street  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Hurriyet (Independence)  
Babiali Cad 15-17, Cagaloglu  
262000  
LO Edit: 9 Maddox St., WiR 9LE  
01-491-7957

Baro Baskanligi  
Adliye Sarayi  
Sultanahmet, Istanbul  
Turkey



# City of Cambridge

2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 20, 1982

COUNCILLOR WYLIE

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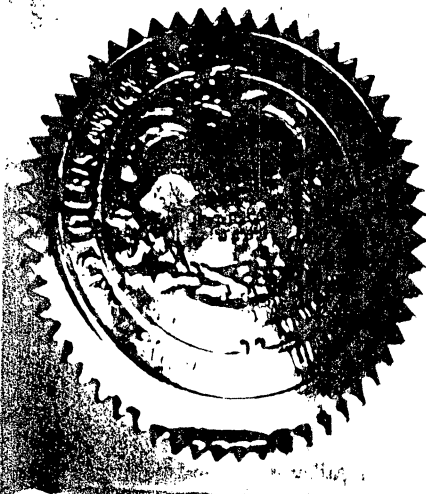
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In City Council December 20, 1982.  
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A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Paul E. Healy, City Clerk.





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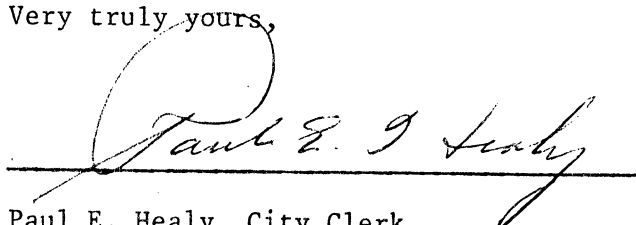
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*mailed all*



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THE CITY CLERK

December 22, 1982

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Office of the Prime Minister  
Basbananlik  
Ankara, Turkey

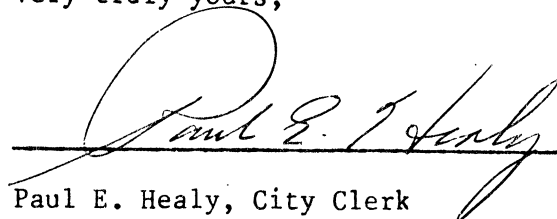
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OFFICE OF  
THE CITY CLERK

December 22, 1982

Ilter Turkmen, Minister  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Disisleri Bakanligi  
Ankara, Turkey

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General Haydar Saltik  
Martial Law Commander  
for Istanbul  
Istanbul, Turkey

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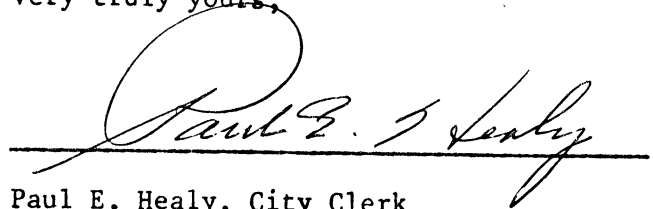
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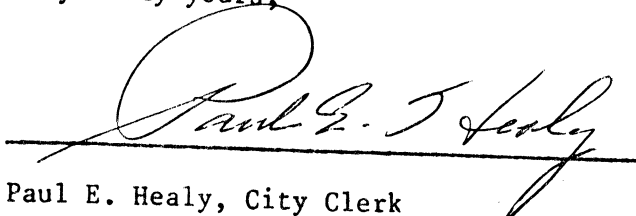
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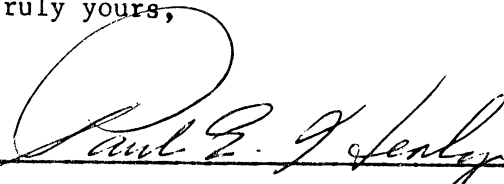
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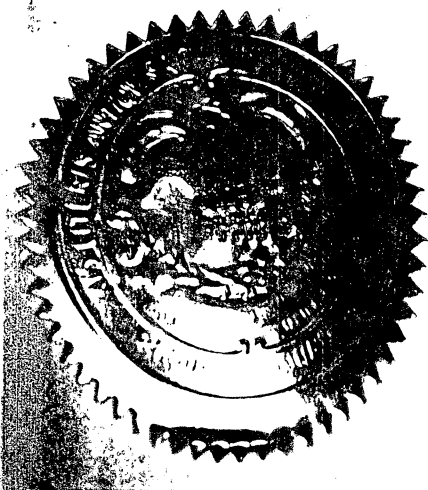
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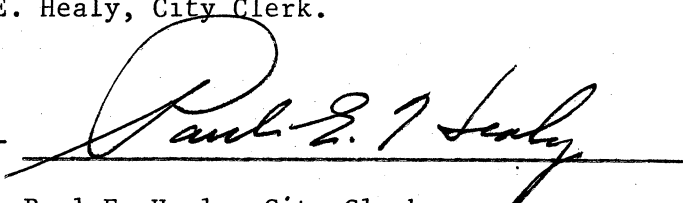
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# CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 876-6800

David A. Wylie  
City Councillor

FROM: Amnesty International Subcommittee  
David A. Wylie, Chairman  
Saundra Graham  
David Sullivan

DATE: December 20, 1982

## REPORT TO THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Attached is a Resolution regarding possible human rights violations in Turkey. Approval by the City Council is hereby recommended.



# CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

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Baro Baskanligi  
Adliye Sarayi  
Sultanahmet, Istanbul  
Turkey

...konusunda karara bağlanmasında... kulmesi zamanının Ermeni mad- kusurları hariç ceza, mall, hu- kuki sorumluluk iddiası iletir

15 Eylül 1982 - Cumhuriyet

# Barış Derneği Davası



«KADINLAR SAVAŞA KARŞIDIR» — Reha İsvan, duruşmada «Kadınlar insan neslini sürdürürler, yetiştirirler, beslerler. Savaşlar ise insanları yok eder. Bunun için kadınlar savaşa karşıdır. Ben de kadınum...» dedi. (Fotoğraf: Ender ERKEK)

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# For Prominent Turks, Shaved Heads and Jail Gar

By MARVINE HOWE

Special to The New York Times

ANKARA, Turkey, Nov. 19 — The 26 prisoners looked ill at ease as they appeared in a military court in Istanbul last week with newly shaved heads and blue prison uniforms.

They were not used to such treatment. They were the president of the Istanbul Bar Association, the head of the Turkish Medical Union, a former ambassador and several prominent authors and journalists, all leading members of the Turkish Peace Movement.

They had been under arrest since February and on trial since May on charges of conspiring to establish a communist regime. Until the first week of this month, they had been held in a military prison and treated as political prisoners.

But on Nov. 5 they were transferred to a civilian prison, where common criminals are held and where all inmates are reportedly required to have shaved heads. It was officially said that the military prison was not suitable for the winter.

## A Temporary Walkout

The prisoners' first appearance in court since their transfer came last Friday, the day Turkey's military ruler, Gen. Kenan Evren, was proclaimed president for the next seven years.

Defense lawyers took part in a temporary walkout to protest the treatment of their clients as "common criminals."

Burhan Opaydin, a lawyer whose brother, Orhan, is the imprisoned bar association leader, sent a telegram to the Minister of Justice, saying, "These people are not terrorists; they are men of science, law and the arts."

There was widespread shock when pictures of the prisoners were published in newspapers around the country. Questions arose among Western diplomats and Turkish lawyers, journalists and other observers over whether the sudden change in treatment was a bureaucratic accident or a sign of a toughening of military rule.

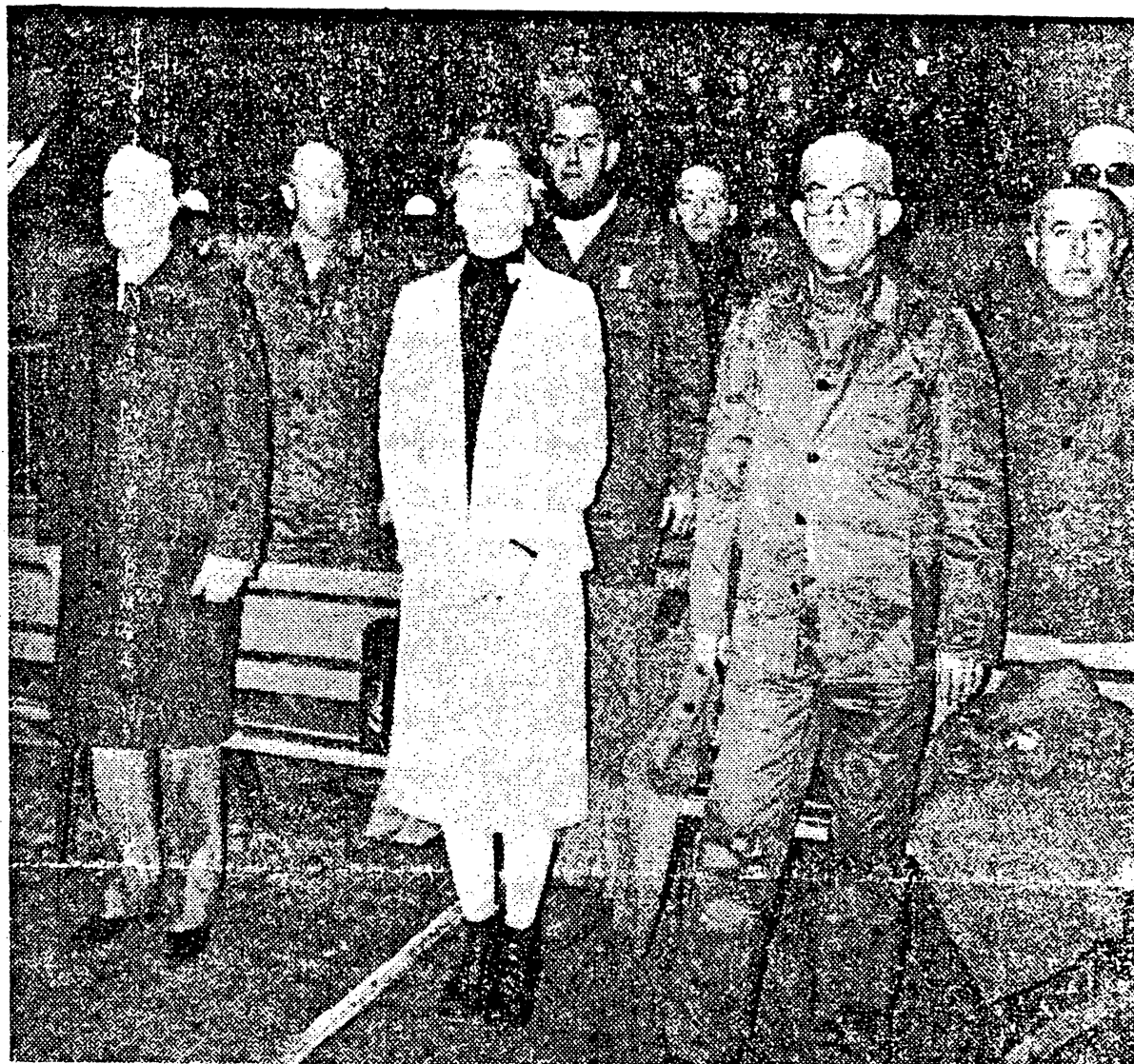
## Elections Set for '83

Despite concern over the treatment of the prisoners, many Turks were heartened last Friday when General Evren, in his first speech as President, called for national unity and pledged that there would be general elections in October 1983, barring "important developments."

General Evren had automatically been chosen President for seven years with broad powers when Turkey's new constitution won overwhelming approval in a national referendum on Nov. 7. The Constitution's restrictions included a ban on political activity for 10 years for leaders of former parties.

Some Turkish lawyers said last week that it appeared that the authorities were in no hurry to bring an end to various trials of labor union leaders, extreme leftists, Kurds and the Turkish Peace Movement leaders.

Some of the lawyers also predicted that the leaders of the movement would be acquitted. They said the trial might have been undertaken by the authori-



Defendants in Istanbul trial include, from left in front row, Mahmut Dikerdem, a former diplomat; Reha Is... wife of a former Mayor of Istanbul and Orhan Opaydin, once the president of the Istanbul Bar Association.

The New York Times/Marvine Howe

ties as a means of teaching them "a lesson."

In all, 34 of the movement's leaders are on trial, and the prosecution has said that the authorities have begun questioning 400 intellectuals in the group, apparently indicating that new legal action is impending.

## 'More Relaxed and Comfortable'

Earlier last week, a Government spokesman, Minister of State Ilhan Oztrak, said in an interview that "the whole atmosphere will be more relaxed and comfortable" as elections approach.

"The special decrees imposed by the military regime will go step by step," he said. "Some will be replaced, some relaxed, some abolished, and they will all be eliminated before elections."

Questioned on the situation of political prisoners, Mr. Oztrak said that as of the end of September there were 16,353 people under formal arrest, 502 others in custody and 6,678 already sentenced. Those arrested include 10 former members of Parliament and 230 trade unionists, he said.

Commenting on accusations of torture, Mr. Oztrak referred to a report drawn up by the Turkish General Staff

early this month that said 540 cases of mistreatment were under investigation by the martial law command.

Of these cases, 37 have reportedly been turned over to the courts. The report said 15 people had been sentenced, listing them as a noncommissioned army officer, a gendarme sergeant, a police lieutenant, three police sergeants and nine other policemen.

The report said that official investigations into accusations that 204 people had died as a result of torture showed that four had died of torture. It said that 25 had died from natural causes and 15 had committed suicide. Five were reportedly shot during attempts to escape, and 25 were shot in clashes with the security forces.

Some lawyers insisted that it was impossible to check these figures under the present regime, and one said that it was not even known "how many prisons there are."

## Amnesty International Protests

Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organization, has denounced the detention in Turkey of union members, some leftists, Kurds and other people for nonviolent political activities and beliefs.

Turkey has also been brought before the European Human Rights Commission by France, the Netherlands and the Scandinavian countries on accusations of abuses of human rights.

The military rulers resent such outside pressures, but some Western diplomats say they believe one positive result has been the official investigation into accusations of torture. Lawyers also point to the trials of many prisoners as a positive development, since defendants have been able to press charges against mistreatment.

## Leftists and Rightists in Custody

Among the trials under way are those of 52 leaders of the leftist labor confederation Disk and five former senators on charges of trying to overthrow the state. These trials have dragged on for a year and a half. In the meantime, the defendants face death sentences.

Also accused of trying to overthrow the state are leaders of the neo-Fascist National Action Party.

Other trials involve extreme left groups accused of direct involvement in political terrorism before the military took power in Sept. 12, 1980.

# amnesty international



U.S. Group 54  
12 Parker Street  
Cambridge, Mass. 02138  
Tel.: (617) 492-8781

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE: Ahmet ISVAN and REHA ISVAN, TURKEY

## AHMET ISVAN

Former Mayor of Istanbul, and landowner. Degree in Agricultural Engineering. Husband of Reha ISVAN. Arrested on Nov. 13th, 1980, along with 52 leading officials of the Turkish Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions, (DISK). DISK leaders are accused of having intended to change the order of the state by force under Article 146/1 of the Turkish Penal Code, which carries the death penalty.

Ahmet was charged on April 14th, 1982, a year and a half after his arrest. He is accused of having supported DISK activities by putting the facilities of the municipality of Istanbul at DISK's disposal for a May Day Rally in 1977, while he was mayor. He is the 53rd defendant in a mass trial, along with the other 52 defendants of DISK.

Amnesty International has concluded that the 52 DISK officials are being prosecuted solely for their trade union activities, in violation of Article 11 of the European Convention of Human Rights to which Turkey is a State Party, and has adopted them as Prisoners of Conscience, Ahmet ISVAN has not been charged with any violent activities, and AI believes the real reason for his imprisonment is his political beliefs and activities.

## REHA ISVAN

57 year old former high school English teacher, ex deputy head of the Department of Education in Istanbul and women's rights activist. Married to Ahmet ISVAN, with three children. Has degree in Agricultural Engineering.

Arrested of Feb. 26th, 1982 under Articles 141/1 and 141/2 of the Turkish Penal Code. She is charged with "Trying to establish hegemony of one social class over another, to change the economic

# amnesty international



U.S. Group 54  
12 Parker Street  
Cambridge, Mass. 02138  
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Reha ISVAN, cont'd.

and social order of the country; making communist propaganda."

Mrs. ISVAN was a member of the Turkish Peace Association (TPA) which was legal before the coup in Sept. 1980. Forty-four of its' board members were arrested, 26 of whom are in prison. No one has been charged with a violent offense. Mrs. ISVAN happens to be the only woman charged; the other 25 defendents are males.

The trial opened on June 24th 1982, and all the TPA members are being tried together in a mass trial. Trial is still in process.

Amnesty Int'l. considers all the imprisoned members of the TPA as Prisoners of Conscience, imprisoned in violation of Articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention of Human Rights, to which Turkey is a State Party.

Order # 2

5757

C.Wylie, Chairman, Amnesty International Sub-  
committee, C.Graham, C.D. Sullivan re: possible  
human rights violations in Turkey.

*copy sent to appropriate Turkish  
Officials + Joshua Rubenstein of  
Amnesty International 12/21/82*

In City Council,

December 20, 1982

*12/20/82*

*EW  
/A*