



ISTANBUL
GELISIM
UNIVERSITY

ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION II

TURKEY (1939-1960)
DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

WEEK 13

Assoc. Prof. Ercan KARAKOÇ



Death of Ataturk– November 10, 1938

- Ataturk placed much importance on travelling in Turkey, observing the developments on site and realizing the inauguration of the new facilities in person.
- In this context, he had to rest for a while in the Cankaya Palace upon his falling ill of influenza after a tour through Yalova, Bursa and Istanbul in the first months of 1938.
- After recovering completely from his illness during his rest, Ataturk started another through to Mersin and Adana in May 20, 1938 subsequent to his participation in various activities in Ankara. This travel exhausted him and he got sick again.
- He returned to Ankara on May 26 and later went to Dolmahce Palace to have rest and to receive treatment.

- Ataturk made his will on September 5th, 1938, and left a some of his assets to Turkish Language and History Societies as well as to the people from his family, which reveals the value he attributed to language and history of Turkish nation.
- Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, Founder and the first President of Turkey passed away at 9.05 on November 10, 1938.



A view from the state funeral of Atatürk, November 1938



Funeral of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk



Ataturk's monumental tomb

«Our Big National Morning»



The Inonu Era (1938-1950)

- Ismet Inonu served as the Prime Minister of Turkey continuously from 1924 until 1937. He performed as a leading figure in the determination and application of all the political and economic decisions of the early Modern Turkey.
- Subsequent to the Ataturk's death, Ismet Inonu was elected as the new President by the unanimous vote of the Grand National Assembly on November 11, 1938, thanks to the support of the Army as well.
- Inonu was elected to the Chairmanship of the Republican People's Party. (RPP)
- In the First Extraordinary Convention of the RPP, he was elected as the «Constant/Permanent Chairman» and titles also as the «National Chief» on December 26, 1938.
- The Fifth Ordinary Convention of RPP was held in Ankara on May 29, 1939. In this convention, an Independent Group, if not as the opposition, was established to check and control the actions of the government.
- This Group which was comprised of 21 people had the authority to act independently and check the Governmental activities.
- Although this Group continued to exist until 1946 Convention, it failed in performing an efficient control over the government and did not succeed in preserving its independence.



National Chief
İsmet İnönü

The Reasons for the World War II

- The failure of the Treaty of Versailles in solving the problems in Europe,
- The Racist Policies of Italy and Germany,
- The effort of France to protect its position after the World War I,
- The invasion of Austria and Czechoslovakia and Germany,
- The competition among France, England and Germany,
- The Russian activities to escalate the tension among these countries,
- The expansionist policies of Italy, Japan and Germany were the general reasons.
- Invasion of Ethiopia by Italy in 1936, China by Japan in 1937 and Austria by Germany in 1938 were the signs of a new war.



The World War II

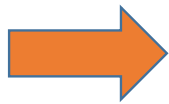
(clockwise from top left)

1. Chinese forces in the Battle of Wanjialing
2. Australian 25-pounder guns during the First Battle of El Alamein
3. German Stuka dive bombers on the Eastern Front in December 1943
4. American naval force in the Lingayen Gulf
5. Wilhelm Keitel signing the German Instrument of Surrender
6. Soviet troops in the Battle of Stalingrad

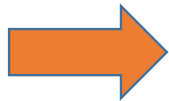




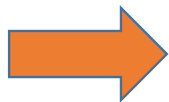
AXIS



Germany

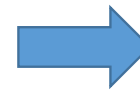


Japan



Italy

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England



France



Russia



USA



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Germany



Italy



Japan

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England



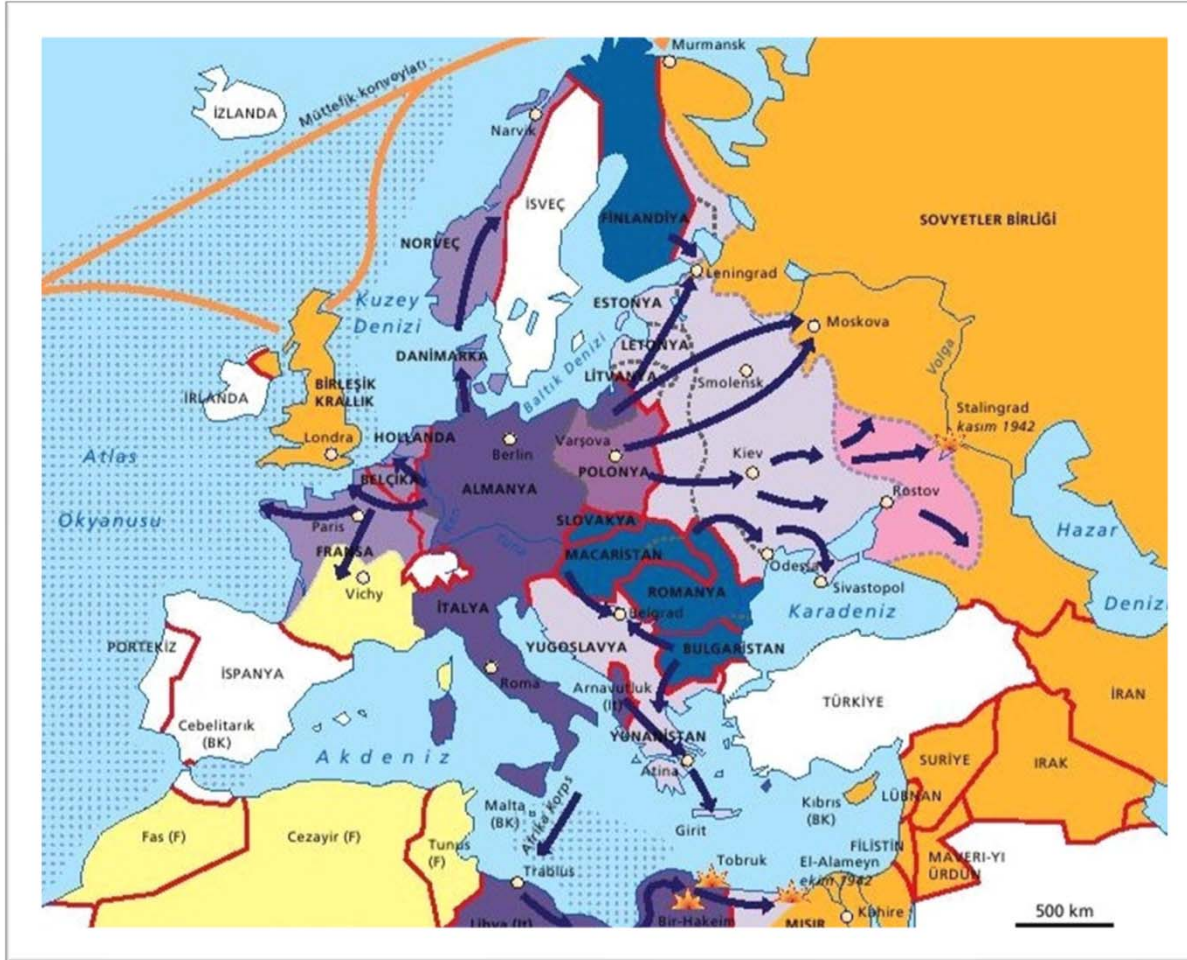
France

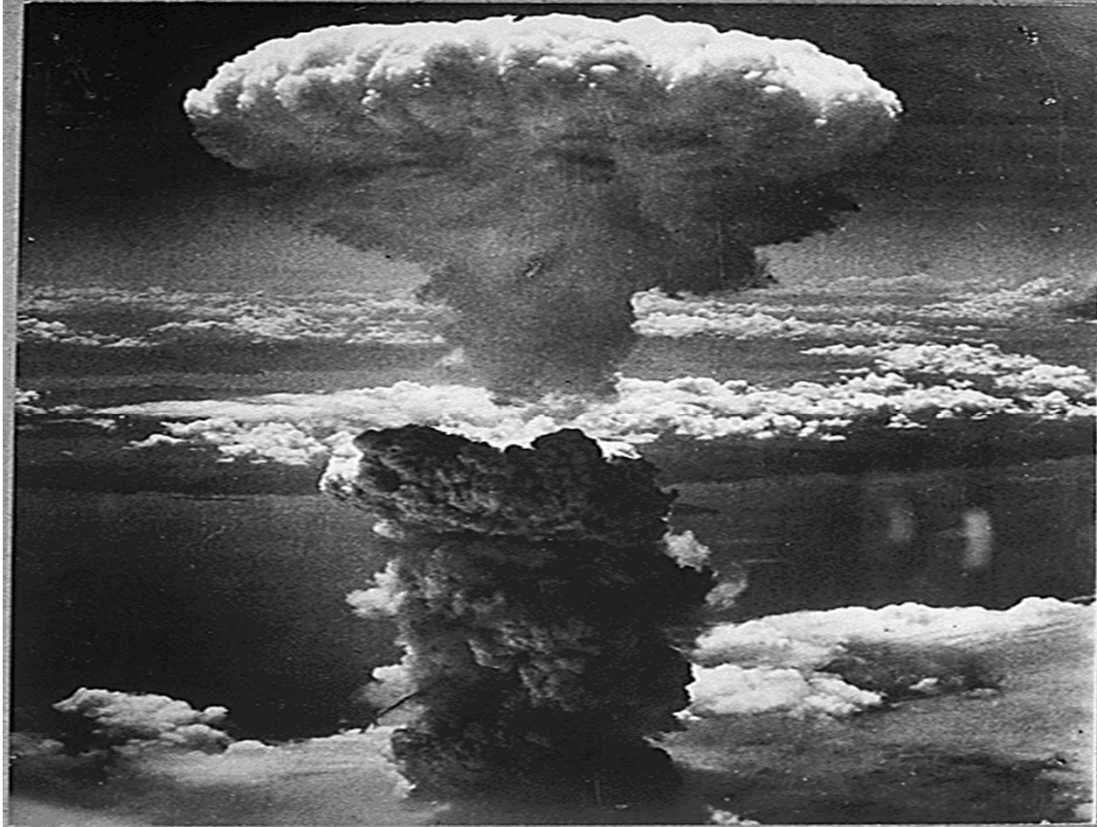


Russia



USA





- Even after the fall of Italy and Germany, Japan still continued the war against the USA in the Pacific. The USA dropped the first atomic bombs in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945 and Nagazaki on August 9, 1945 to end the war as soon as possible.
- Thus, Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945 unconditionally.

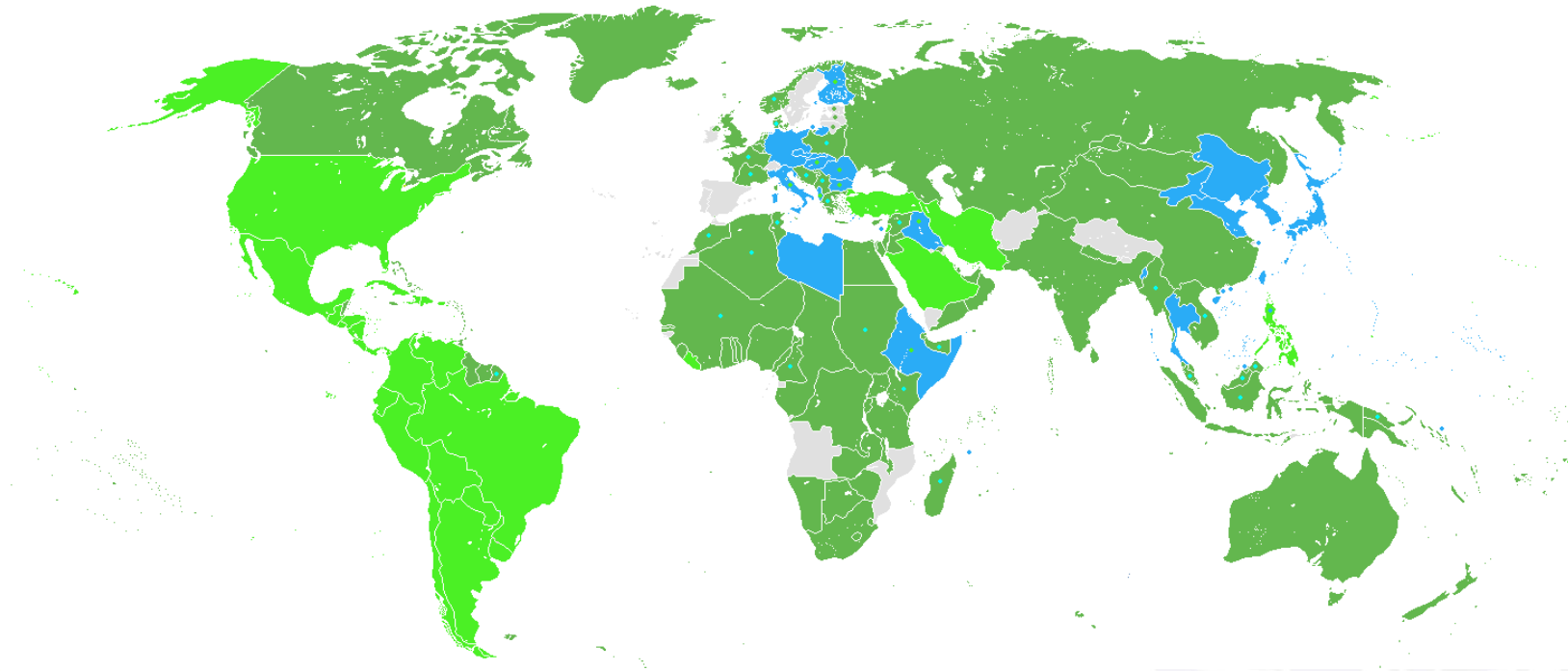


The Results of the War

- The Allies divided the world into influence zones in the Yalta Conference,
- The Germany was divided into two as the East and the West,
- NATO was founded under the leadership on April 4, 1949 against the Soviets.
- The USA and the Soviets stood out as the Super Powers of the World and the Cold War which lasted until 1990 started. Communism rose to power in China,
- Avrupa'da sınırlar değişmiştir, ırkçılık akımları başarısız olmuştur, The borders were reshaped in Europe and the racist movements failed,
- The Jewish Israel state was established in 1948,
- England and France had to grant independence to their colonies,
- The United Nations was established in 1945,
- The Western European States founded the Council of Europe on May 5, 1949.



Map of Participants in World War II: **Dark Green:** Allies before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, including colonies and occupied countries. **Light Green:** Allied countries that entered the war after the attack on Pearl Harbor. **Blue:** Axis Powers and their colonies or countries that had to choose a side in order to stay independent. **Grey:** Neutral countries during WWII



TURKEY DURING AND AFTER THE WORLD WAR II



Roosevelt, Inonu and Churchill
at the Second Cairo Conference,
December, 4-6, 1943.

- Turkey aimed to protect her integrity through remaining neutral in the World War II. Both Allies and the Axis tried to persuade Turkey to join in the war because of her location.
- Turkey signed agreements of mutual aid with France and England while signing agreements of non-aggression with Soviets and Germany in 1941.
- After the progression of war to detriment of the Axis, Turkey declared war on Japan and Germany but did not have any clash with these countries.



Turkey During the War

- However, the economic achievements which could be attained through difficulties weakened due to the war, neutrality and mobilization.
- Turkey introduced the Village Institutions which would be founded in or near the villages with vast agricultural fields in accordance with the law legislated on April 17, 1940.
- These institutions were established under the leadership of Hasan Ali Yücel and İsmail Hakkı Tonguç to educate the people in terms of agriculture, science and health; raise the cultural level of the nation and train the teachers.
- National Protection Law was passed through the National Assembly on January 18, 1940.
 - The Government was allowed to control the production-distribution-consumption cycle in the economy. Accordingly, The Government could confiscate the businesses, control the foreign trade, buy the products which were for the National Defence and the people without paying a profit.
 - Furthermore, Petroleum Office, Meat and Fish Authority, Trade Office, Undersecretariat of Provision were established and rationing was started.
 - The black market rose because of the scarcity in basic consumer goods, which resulted in capital accumulation for some of the business owners.



- In January, 1942, the bread was began to be distributed through rationing and the Government was enabled to confiscate the agricultural products.
- Apart from these measures, the Grand National Assembly legislated the «Wealth Tax» on November 11, 1942.
 - The aim of the act was announced to be» the taxation of the excessive profits which resulted from the extraordinary conditions of the war.»
 - Causing controversy both in Turkey and the abroad, the Wealth of Tax was completely abolished in March, 1944 due to the pressure by the Allies as well.
- Turkey incurred great hardships in terms of political, military, social and economy in the wartime but could survive this detsructing war without heavy damages.
- Turkey could preserve its neutrality in spite of the heavy pressure by both the Allies and the Axis owing to the significance of her geopolitical position and attained to protect the achievements of the Early Republican Era.

Postwar Turkey

- Turkey signed the Declaration of the United Nations on February 28, just subsequent to the World War.
- Turkey participated in the San Francisco Conference which started on April 25 with a delegation headed by Hasan Saka, the Foreign Minister.
- As a result of this Conference, attended by 46 countries together with Turkey, the United Nations was founded.
- Turkish delegation signed the Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice on June 26, 1945.
- These resolutions were ratified by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on August 15, 1945.



Flag and Logo of United Nations





- The adoption of the resolutions of the San Francisco Conference also meant the approval of the democratic ideals/principles which centered around the Western countries.
- When the Soviet threat was taken into consideration, the inclination of the Turkish foreign policy towards the Western world and adoption of the Western values seemed more reasonable.
- Ismet Inonu promised to democratize the regime in his speech on May 19, 1945.
- On May 14, 1945, the National Assembly debated an act for the provision of lands, which concluded the distribution of the private lands which were larger than a determined area.
- CHP içindeki toprak sahibi vekiller tasarının bu maddesine şiddetle karşı çıktılar. Bu sırada, 1945 yılı bütçesi görüşülmeye başladı. The land-owner deputies in the RPP opposed this regulation.
- Concurrently with this debate, the Budget was also on the agenda of the Assembly. Harshly criticizing the economy policies of the Government, Adnan Menderes, Refik Koraltan and Emin Sazak casted nay vote to the Budget together with Celal Bayar and Fuat Köprülü.

- Celal Bayar, Adnan Menderes, Fuat Köprülü and Refik Koraltan made a motion which is known as «the Memorandum of the Four» to the RPP Parliamentary Group on June 7, 1945.
- The motion aroused a reaction in the Party Council.
- Menderes and Köprülü were discarded from the RPP on September 21 and Koraltan on November 27.
- Afterwards, Celal Bayar resigned from the deputyship on September, 28 and from RPP on December, 3.
- These politicians later founded the Democrat Party on January 7, 1946.



Adnan Menderes and Celal Bayar



Fuat Köprülü and Refik Koraltan



1946 Election

- In 1946, Turkey had the first multi-party elections of the Modern Turkey.
- While RPP constituted the majority by winning 395 of the total 465 deputyships, Democrat Party won 66 and the independents won 4 in the election of July 21, 1946.
- This election caused contraversies for long years because of the system of «Open Vote, Hidden Count».
- President Inonu assigned Recep Peker to form the government.
- The most important practice of the Peker Government was measures which were known as the «September 7 Decisions».
- Accordingly, the Lira was devaluated at the rate of 53.6% against the USD.
- The aim of this decision was to limit the importation and increase the export.
- This high-level devaluation also failed and Turkey joined in the IMF and World Bank.
- However, the poverty could not be prevented and the government was under the criticisms of the opposition.



Domestic Affairs

- Upon these failures, Recep Peker resigned and Hasan Saka formed the new cabinet on October 13, 1947.
- After the New Cabinet took office, the relations between the government and the opposition were relieved.
- This atmosphere was particularly for the benefit of Turkey because,
- Concurrently, the USA on the one hand transferred large funds to re-construct the devastated Europe in accordance with the Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan and on the other hand worked to form her front against the rising Soviet threat.
- USA provided 100 Million USD to Turkey and 300 Million USD to Greece as a part of this doctrine.
- In 1948, the religious education began to cover more place in the debates of the multi-party era.
- In this context, it was decided to establish a Faculty of Theology within the University of Ankara on June 4, 1948 and this faculty started to give education on November 21, 1949.
- Again through the consent of the RPP, two religious vocational course which would only accept the secondary school graduates and provide a ten-month education were opened in Istanbul and Ankara on January 15, 1949. Afterwards, the number of these school was increased to 10.

1950 Election and the Democrat Party Rule

- In the 1950 election which was accepted as the first democratic elections of the Turkish political history, the principle of «hidden vote, open count» was adopted and as a result Democrat Party came into the government.
- The 1950 Election was named as «the White Revolution» in Turkish political history.
- As a result of the Democrat Party's coming to power with 55.25 of the votes and 408 deputies, Celal Bayar was elected as the 3rd President of Turkey, Adnana Menderes the Prime Minister and Refik Koraltan as the Speaker.



Demokrat Parti'nin amblemi

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Democrat Party Era

- Turkey incurred great changes during the Ten-year Prime Ministry of Adnan Menderes in terms of Turkish foreign and domestic policy.
- The Ezan was allowed to be recited in Arabic.
- Turkey participated in the Korean War.
- Turkey was accepted as the full member of NATO in 1952.
- The properties which RPP acquired during the one-party era were confiscated and transferred to the Treasury, the Community Centers were closed and Village Institutions were transformed into the Teacher Training Schools.
- Between 1950 and 194, Turkey entered into a development period and the transition to the free market economy was accelerated.
- The foreigners were allowed for oil research and drilling.
- The Act for the Foreign Capital Encouragement was legislated and the foreign credits were began to be used in agriculture.
- Agricultural mechanization was encouraged and intensified.
- The GNP of Turkey grew about 9% in average through these years.

1954 Election



- In this election on May 2, 1954, Democrat Party had a great victory.
- Democrat Party maintained its one-party government by winning 57% of the votes.
- In 1955, the Cyprus Question emerged.
- Furthermore, the economy started to suffer from problems.
- The foreign debt was rising whereas the balance of payment collapsed and the inflow of foreign currency was insufficient.
- Because of the financial bottleneck and the political turmoil, Democrat Party brought forward the elections of 1958.



Adnan Menderes
(February 3, 1958, on the cover of 'Time' magazine)



US President Dwight D. Eisenhower with Turkish President Celal Bayar and Prime Minister Adnan Menderes in the Çankaya Palace (December 1959).



1957 Election and 1960 Coup D'etat

- The election campaign before the election on October 27, 1957 was pretty harsh.
- The election weakened the Government while fortifying the opposition.
- Even though Democrat Party prevented the opposition from entering the elections as a front, Democrat Party could not prevent the loss of votes.
- As a result, Democrat Party won the 47.9% of the votes while the opposition, RPP, won 41.1%.
- The imbalance in the foreign payments resulted in impayable debt burden in 1958.
- The Lira was again devaluated and the exchange rate increased from 2.80 to 9.02 against the USD.
- Despite the relief in the foreign payments, economic stagnation caused prices rise, unemployment and bankruptcies.
- The rumors for a Coup gradually spread in Turkey.
- In all these turmoil, Turkey applied to the European Economic Community (which transformed into the European Union later) to be a full member on July 31, 1959.

Coup and the Executions

- In the morning of May 27, 1960, National Unity Committee seized the power on behalf of the Turkish Armed Forces with the declaration read by Colonel Alpaslan Turkes on Ankara Radio Channel.
- General Cemal Gürsel took the lead of the Committee.
- Democrat Party members, initially Presiden Celal Bayar, Speaker Refik Koraltan and Prime Minister Adnan Menderes were arrested.
- The Constitution and the Parliament were abolished and all political activities were prohibited.
- On May 28, 1960, a cabinet under the leadership of Cemal Gürsel was formed.
- The procedures were started to prepare the new constitution and to form the political institutions.
- The Democrat Party members under arrest were sent to Yassıada for the trials.
- Democrat Party was closed on September 29, 1960.
- Hasan Polatkan, former Minister of Finance, Fatin Rüştü Zorlu, former Minister of Foreign Affairs were executed on September 16, 1961 while Adnan Menderes, former Prime Minister, were executed the following day in the Imralı Island.
- The capital sentence of the other eleven people including Celal bayar and Refik Koraltan were changed into life-sentence.



Colonel Alpaslan Turkes,
reading the Coup Declaration
at 05:25 on May 27, 1960, Friday.



Yassıada Trials



**The Executed Democrats (from left to right), Prime Minister Adnan Menderes,
Finance Minister Hasan Polatkan and Foreign Minister Fatin Rüştü Zorlu**