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The Men, Money and Ideas of

EREĞLİ

The capacity of the mill initially is 500,000 metric tons annually and eventually will be 1,500,000 tons. This is steel Turkey has had to buy from other countries in the past.

By Jerry E. Rosenthal

İsmail Bektaş has found a new life as one of Turkey's steel makers. For most of his 32 years he had led a traditional rustic existence in the Black Sea coastal town of Ereğli, making his living from the soil. Now he is one of 2300 men in the ultra-modern Ereğli steel mill there.

Until a few months ago, İsmail's day was governed by the sun. Now a whistle summons him to work and, after eight hours, tells him to go home. He formerly would walk from the little house he owns to work in the hills on the outskirts of the town. Now a bus shuttles him

Ereğli's Ismail Bektaş and AID's Jerry Rosenthal. At the opening of the Ereğli Iron and Steel mill on May 15, Rosenthal interviewed several Americans and Turks working there. All were proud of their achievements so far and were enthusiastic about the future of Ereğli.

back and forth to the sprawling mill that lies on the site of a former hill and marsh.

İsmail is proud that he can read and write. When asked by an American touring the new mill at its dedication whether he had regrets about the change in his life, he replied through an in-

Mr. Jerry E. Rosenthal, Chief of the Information Staff News Division, AID/Washington, came on a visit to Turkey between the 13th and 28th of May 1965. During his visit he was detailed to handle AID news coverage in connection with the opening of the Ereğli Steel Mill (Erdemir) in Turkey and to survey the effects of the AID program in Turkey.

terpreter: "I am happy. I will be rich."

"Rich" isn't really what he meant, of course, but there is no question that İsmail, the father of three children, is better off than he was. Before he got his job of pouring molten iron into "pigs," he never earned more than 10 lira a day as a farmer. Now he makes 24 lira.

What İsmail really means by "rich" is that he may now have the opportunity to put more bread on his table, to further the education of his children and, perhaps, buy for his wife one of the refrigerators, washers, sewing machines and hardware that will be made of the steel he is helping to produce in the $275 million plant.

İsmail also says he knows how the change in his life has come about – through assistance from the United States.

This has been supplied in various ways. One was a $129.6 million loan from the Development Loan Fund, a predecessor of the Agency for International Development. These dollars, largest in number for a single project assisted by the United States, bought the coke ovens, blast and oxygen furnaces and other equipment from the Koppers Company of Pittsburgh, the steel center of the United States. They procured the mills, roll shop equipment and tinning line from Blaw-Knox Company, also of Pittsburgh. And the dollars also produced the power plant and electrical equipment to run the huge complex from Westinghouse International Corporation. Some of the dollars also paid Foster Wheeler Corporation of Livingston, N. J. for erection of the plant, and the Morrison–Knudsen Company of Boise, Idaho for the foundations.

AID also provided 250 million Turkish lira (about $27 million) in the form of loans in local currency. These funds were added to those raised largely by the Government of Turkey and by Turkish investors from various private sources to pay for the new harbor, roads and other local costs, including Ismail's wages while the plant was getting into production.

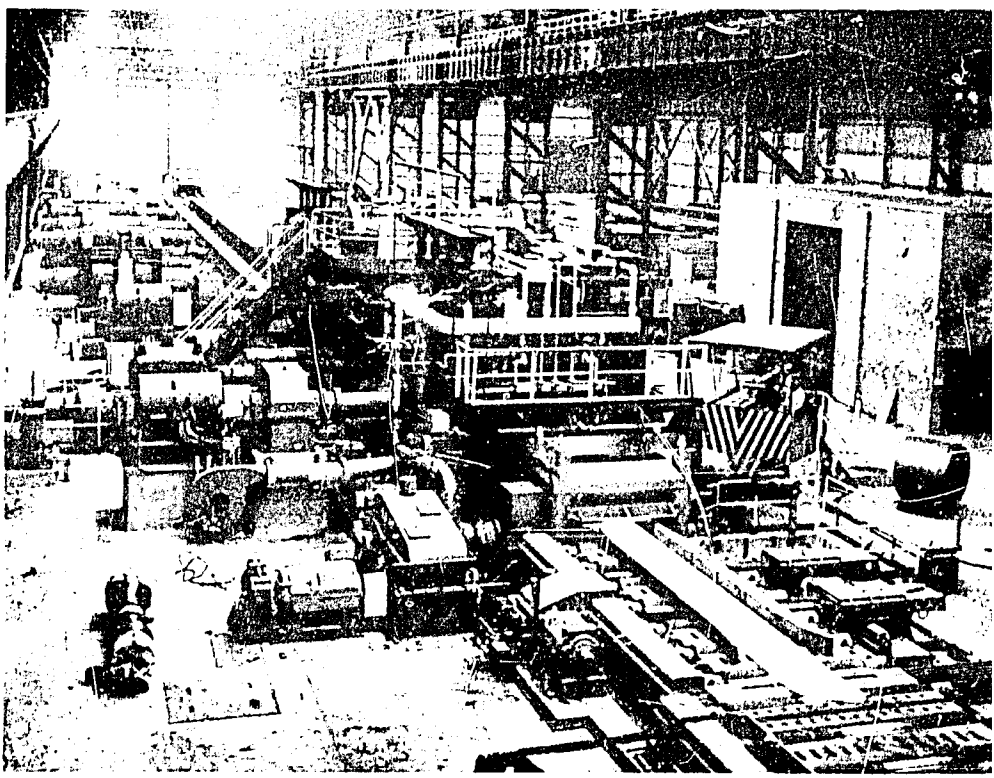
Now that all the buildings have been erected, the harbor constructed and the machinery installed over the 740 acres, assistance is coming from 90 U.S. and Canadian experts who are teaching İsmail and his fellow workers how to work the complicated equipment.

Eregli's blast furnace.

Most of these technicians are employed by the International Consulting Services, Inc., which is the sub-contractor to Koppers Associates for training the workers and operating the mill for its start-up phase. Koppers Associates is a consortium of Koppers Company, Blaw-Knox and Westinghouse which built the plant and has the contract for operating and advising for the first five years.

Two of the technicians are Norman MacLeod and William Stamper, both 37 years old, and both from Portsmouth, Ohio, who met for the first time in the hot strip mill at Ereğli. MacLeod, who is general foreman in electrical maintenance, lives with his wife, Beulah, and their two daughters, Patricia, 10, and Nancy, 8, in a two bedroom house rented from the company. This is MacLeod's first over-

Ereğli's hot mill.



U.S. A.I.D.-Turkey's Director, James P. Grant said in a speech at the opening of the Ereğli Iron and Steel Plant:

"... the Ereğli Steel Mill stands for far more than just the steel it will produce, important as that is for Turkey. It symbolizes in many ways the partnership for development between Turkey and its friends in the West.

"Ereğli symbolizes Turkey's own role in its development as well as the contribution of its friends. Ereğli was built with Turkish money and American money, with Turkish skills and American skills..."

seas job after service with ICSI in the States.

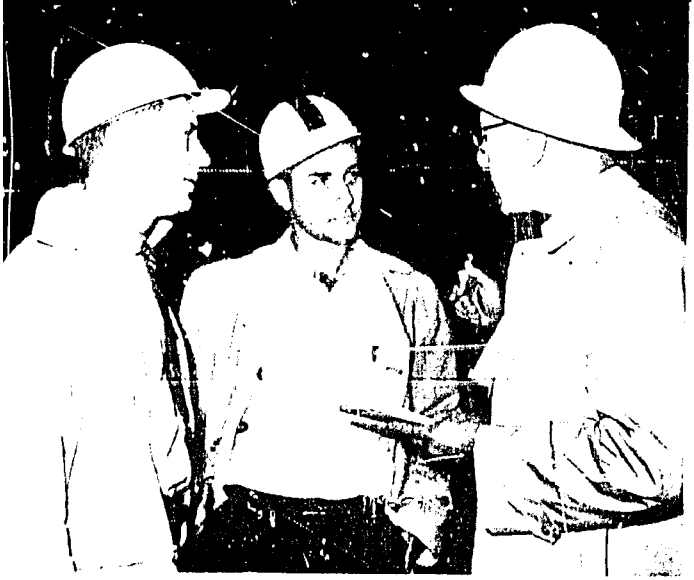
Stamper came to Ereğli in September after three years service with the Hindustani Steel Ltd. mill in India. Stamper's family--his wife, Betty and two children, Terry, 13 and Cheryl, 9 – also are with him. The children of both families attend the new school built by the company.

Both MacLeod and Stamper have high praise for the Turkish employees' eagerness to learn.

"This will be a good mill," MacLeod says, "when these fellows learn all the ropes. It's not easy for many of them."

The soft-spoken, confident American might have been referring to İbrahim Uluoğlu, a stocky, former farmer from Kars, near the Russian border. İbrahim, who wears a long, proud mustache that looks like an eagle's wings, is a hooker in the hot mill, securing cables to the power lifts and cranes that transport rolls of steel up and down the long building. İbrahim has had schooling in his eastern Turkey town, but his only working experience had been in the fields. He knew nothing of machinery.

"There was no work," he said through an interpreter. "I heard about this mill and I came here to find a job. I left my wife and family at home—I have three children, all in school. Now I live here with two friends who



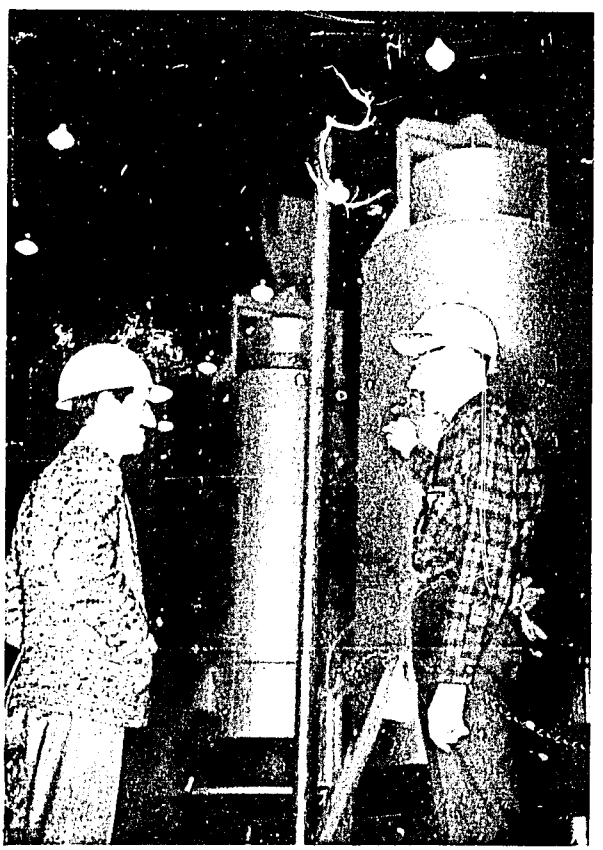
Ereğli Iron and Steel Mill's American foremen Norman MacLeod and William Stamper with AID's Rosenthal. MacLeod and Stamper, both 37 years old, both from Portsmouth, Ohio, met for the first time in the hot strip mill at Ereğli.

Ereğli's future foreman Hulûsi Derman with Rosenthal.

Worker İbrahim Uluoğlu from Kars -formerly a farmer- today a hooker at Ereğli's hot mill.

work in the mill, too. We rent a house and do our own cooking and washing. I send my pay home."

But not all the Turkish employes come from farms, or must be taught from the ground up. Some have backgrounds that have qualified them for supervisory jobs. One of these future foremen is Hulûsi (Hank) Derman, 33, who works with Canadian Bill O'Connor, hot strip mill assistant foreman. Hank-a name his American bosses gave him



Metin Ergir, foreman counterpart in the cold mill, with Robert Sandles, who has worked 30 years in steel mills.

which pleases him—is the son of a pharmacist in Karabük and attended the American School at Kayseri where he learned to speak English.

He has worked in Turkey's other steel mill, the government-owned Karabük mill, and for auto repair and construction companies. He is on a salary of 2,275 lira per month (about $252). Of this, he pays, 400 lira monthly rent for an apartment in Ereğli where he lives with his wife and 9-year-old son.

Another Turk in a supervisory capacity is young Metin Ergir, former employe of an İstanbul importing firm. Ergir, a foreman counterpart in the cold mill, speaks English, French and German. He lives in Ereğli with his mother, wife and three-month-old son and is a weekend artist. He came to work for the steel mill a year ago after writing to Koppers Associates.

"I am actually making less than I did in İstanbul," Ergir said in discussing his monthly salary of 3,475 lira. "But I believe I have a brighter future with Ereğli."

Ergir works with a grizzled veteran of steel making, Robert H. (Bob) Sandles, who put in 30 of his 56 years with U.S. Steel in the Gary, Indiana, sheet and tin mills. Sandles is an expert in annealing, one of the heating processes required in producing quality steel.

"I think when the Turkish people learn to run it, this will be a fine producing mill," Sandles says.

With Sandles at Ereğli, producing steel on the shore of the Black Sea as they did on the shore of Lake Michigan, are two other former U.S. Steel foremen from the Gary mill. They are Albert Yurchak, 59, and Joseph Marando, 54. Like Sandles, they are retired from U.S. Steel, and they have found their skills still useful in teaching the Turks to run the electrolyte tinning line, the same jobs they had in Indiana.

"We're all so busy visiting and playing pinochle and seeing the country we don't even think about television at all," they said when asked if they missed America's favorite entertainment. "This has been a good life here," they agree.

George Weaver, 46-year-old engineer from Cleveland, Ohio, enlarges on his comment. Weaver, who says he has worked in "every steel mill in North and South America," considers his

American Ambassador Raymond A. Hare, planting the traditional tree of friendship at Ereğli on dedication day, called attention in his earlier remarks to the relationship of development and steel. He said:

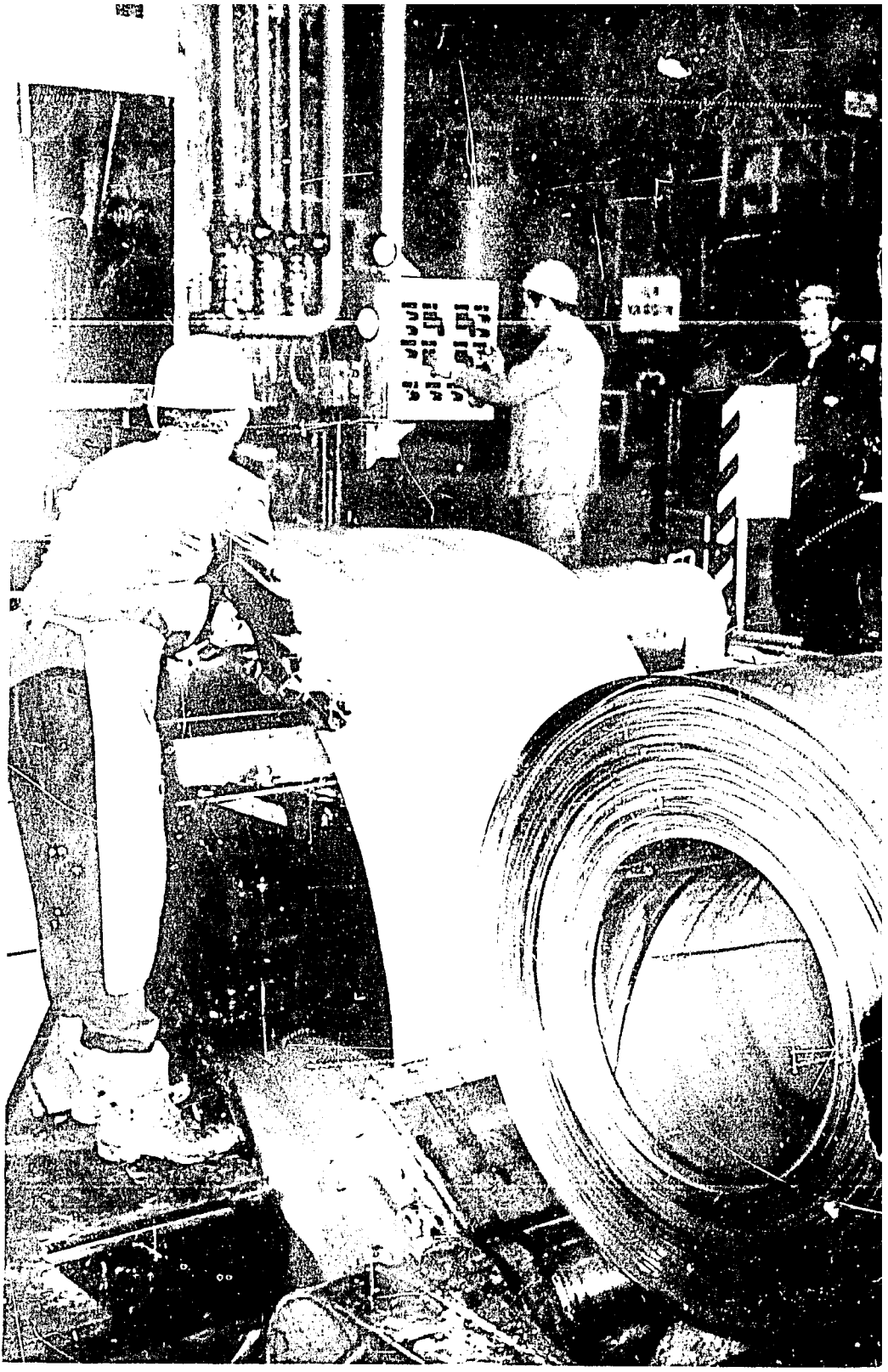
"...For development and steel go hand in hand. Without development there is no requirement for steel. Without steel, development will stagnate. Together, development and steel spell progress.

"This is why Ereğli is important to Turkey. This is what explains the effort which has been put into this project by the Turkish and American Governments in cooperation with Turkish and American private enterprise and technical assistance. It is this which accounts for the fact that the loan made for this plant was and remains the largest ever made by the United States Agency for International Development or its predecessors for any project anywhere in the world..."

work at Ereğli "stimulating."

"I like it," he says. "It's creative. It's stimulating to see the way the Turks are learning to use equipment and machinery they never knew existed. I turned down a contract to go to South America to stay here. This is a good project. The Turks are learning well. How well they learn may have a profound effect on the future of Turkey."

The capacity of the Ereğli mill is now 500,000 metric ingot tons annually. This is steel Turkey has had to buy from other

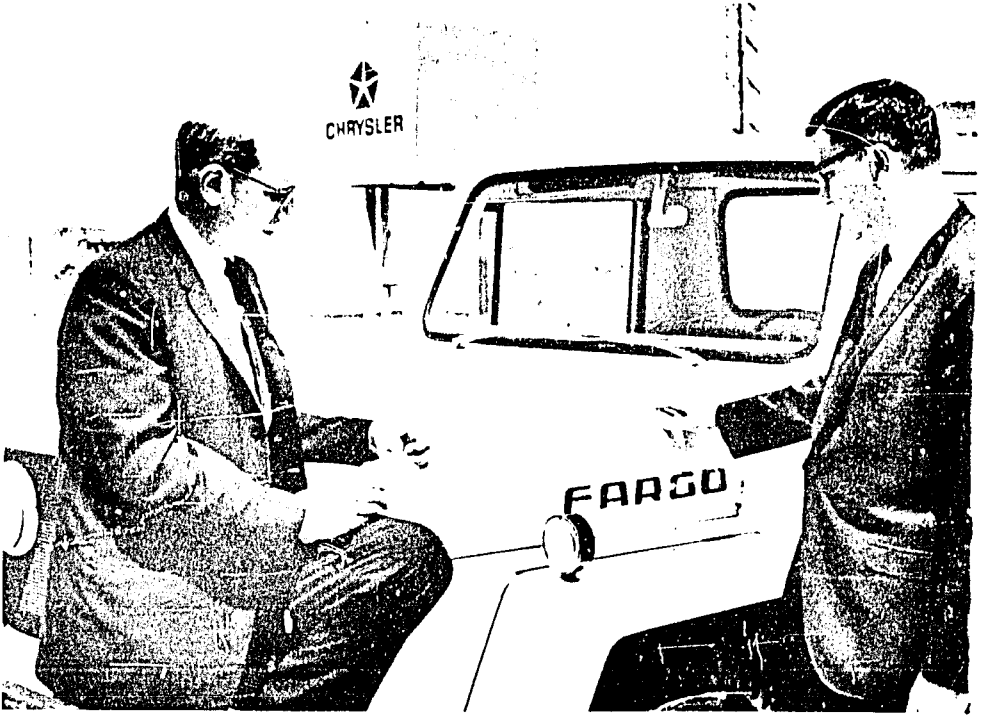


countries in the past, and has posed a problem for the country's strained economy.

But now the Ereğli plant can help ease this situation. As an example, the new Chrysler truck plant near Istanbul depends on a supply of steel from Ereğli. Manufacturers of household goods, steel piping, ship hulls, and the food processing industry also look to Ereğli for a steady supply of steel to fill their needs. Also, many by-products from the Ereğli operation will help to bring Turkey's foreign exchange into better balance.

Trucks are among hundreds of products needed to build a better life for the Turkish people. The men and money and ideas of Ereğli—American and Turkish together—are playing a basic role in this effort.

Steven M. Hegedus, General Manager of Chrysler Sanayi A.Ş., explaining to AID's Jerry Rosenthal how and where Ereğli steel is used in the building of Fargo and DeSoto trucks at the Chrysler factory.



Ereğli's cold mill.

Twenty-five Thousand

VILLAGE LEADERS

A CHANGE ...

AN EVOLUTION ...

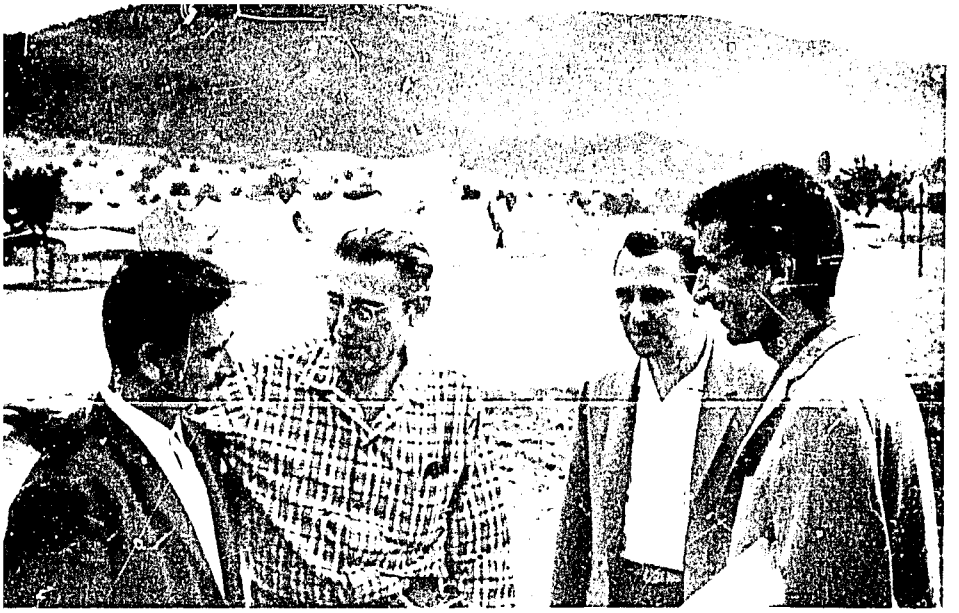
AN AWAKENING ...

"We began in 1961," said Yıldırım Gürgân, "and now I do not think that we could stop even if we wanted to."

Yıldırım Gürgân, who is Assistant Director of the Training, Personnel and Information Department of Topraksu, was speaking about the Agricultural Training Camps which Topraksu first opened in 1961 with AID financial and technical help.

An AID participant, Gürgan accompanied a *Participant Journal* team which contacted hundreds of Topraksu Agricultural Training Camp graduates in different parts of the country.

"This year we opened another 55 camps," said Gürgân, "which brings the total up to 236 camps since 1961. In these camps we trained over 25,000 potential village leaders. These men in turn, trained hundreds of



Merlût Şaşmaz, Training Camp Manager at Bolu; Ralph Lewis, U.S. AID advisor; Yıldırım Gürgân, the Assistant Director of the Training, Personnel and Information Department of Topraksu; and Kâmil Teken, Director of Training Camps for the Ankara Region discuss plans for the 1965 Agriculture training camp at Bolu.

thousands of others."

Everyone in Topraksu is in agreement that the Agricultural Training Camp project has been one of the most successful self-help projects undertaken in modern Turkey.

This year 55 camps have been opened. They will tackle 80 projects of irrigation, drainage, terracing and other necessary Topraksu activities in several sectors of the country. Before 1961 all these projects would have been placed on bid to contractors. Eighty contractors would have profited. This year about 5,500 farmer-trainees will do the job and receive this money. At the same time, these future 5,500 farm leaders will learn to help themselves and to help others.

On the following pages are only a few stories about Topraksu training camp trainees. They are stories telling of a change—of an evolution—of an awakening. They are stories of a really big thing in Turkey—the story of the twenty million farmers who are learning to help themselves.

HOW TO SAVE A PROVINCE

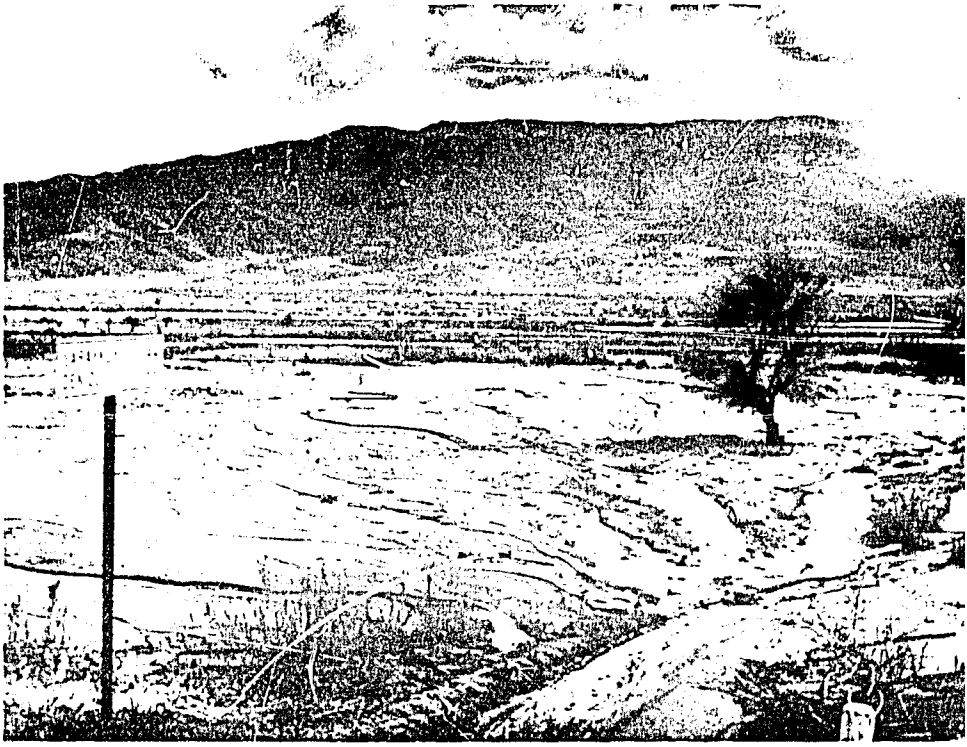
Aydın province with its 500,000 people and 560 villages is nearly as big as Israel. It is one of Turkey's richest agricultural sectors. It is also one in the greatest peril.

In Aydın, 33 rivers and rivulets converge in the Great Menderes River, and take with them some of the richest agricultural soil in Turkey.

The Topraksu, DSI, Forestry and Technical Agricultural Directorates work in planned and close collaboration to avert the calamity of soil erosion in several regions of Aydın province. It is not nature alone these men have to fight. They also have to fight against ancient habits of the people.

Habit is a terrible master. But the farmers of Aydın, once shelled up in their traditional conservatism, suddenly awoke to their danger and realized that if they did not help themselves, they would soon become people living on dead lands.

The Şerabat River . . .

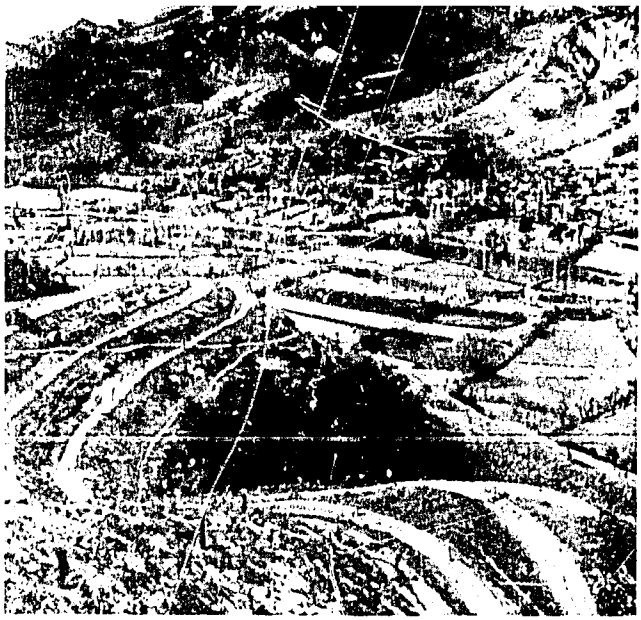


. . . and its victim.

Şerabat (Badwaters) River is the typical villain. Until the engineers of Topraksu and DSI, aided by the farmers trained in Topraksu's Agricultural Training Camps, put an end to the free rein of this river, the saline waters destroyed thousands of decares of once rich arable land. The owners of these lands have migrated elsewhere. Now the rocks dragged from the mountains by this torrential river stand like the tombstones of nature, an awful reminder of the magnitude of the negligence of the past.

The first soil conservation project in Turkey was carried out in the Agricultural Training Camps of Aydın. The people were shown how to save themselves. Said Muhtar Yusuf Karakaya of Çobanisa village, the village most hurt and endangered by the Şerabat River: "We did not realize the danger we were in. We did not know that our lands were dying. We had to see to believe. We had to learn so that we could save ourselves."

Of the 1,100 people of Çobanisa village, 85 young men



Proper terracing in Kolçak village in Aydın province.

attended the Topraksu Agricultural Training Camp opened near their village. "If there is a new camp this year," says Muhtar Karakaya, "more than 100 men from this village will volunteer." Everyone of the Topraksu trainees from Çobanisa village has worked voluntarily on the reclamation work on the lands ruined by the Şerabat River.

Çobanisa village is typical of the big change. The level of village initiative has been low in most rural sectors of Turkey. On the other hand, the only way a village can develop is through the initiative shown by the village leaders. Çobanisa—with 1,100 people—now has 85 village leaders. Çobanisa and all other villages like Çobanisa have succeeded in development because there has been a general willingness to change, a willingness to follow accepted leadership, and an eagerness to work better so as to live better.

Topraksu trainees of Çobanisa village with Çobanisa's Muhtar, Yusuf Karakaya.

TRAINING THE FARMERS TO HELP THEMSELVES

Topraksu, now a part of the Ministry of Village Affairs, first became an independently functioning directorate in 1960 within the framework of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Topraksu's 16 regional directorates have been organized and set up primarily to check erosion of lands suitable for agriculture; to prevent accumulation of flood waters; to conserve the water in the soil and thus secure the continuity and improvement of soil yields; improve wild olive groves, heath and scrub lands; render suitable for agriculture alkaline, acid, stony, turfy lands; level lands suitable for agriculture; arrange field irrigation intakes; adopt on-farm irrigation practices; and, most important of all, teach and train young farmers all over the country to carry on these practices themselves.

This training of farmers to help themselves became one of the major activities of Topraksu in 1961. With financial and technical help from U.S. A.I.D. in 1961 and 1962, agricultural training camps were opened in several agricultural areas of Turkey. And, since then, hundreds of farm leaders have returned home to play a major role in the big change.

The first Topraksu Regional Directorate was opened in İzmir for the Aegean sector. There are

Topraksu's Atıf Attilâ with Halit Ortakçı, one of earliest Topraksu Training camp trainees, inspecting a graft on a wild olive tree.

Zeynel Şehitler of Topraksu shows villagers of Gümüşsu, İzmir, how to fight a pest that is endangering their citrus trees.

seven U.S. A.I.D. participants in this Directorate. The first agricultural training camps opening their doors to the future village leaders were the camps opened in the five provinces of Aydın, Denizli, Manisa, Muğla, and İzmir. The camps were controlled by the İzmir Regional Directorate.

"The Aegean sector," said participant Atıf Attilâ, the agronomist advisor of Topraksu's İzmir Directorate, "has the richest agricultural soil in Turkey. It also has the most worn out soil."

While on a field trip with a *Participant Journal* team, Atıf Attilâ stressed that the lands of the Aegean had been used and misused for milleniums. Areas where once 30-40,000 people lived could now scarcely suffice for the needs of 3-4,000 people.

"The reflexes of the Turkish farmers are weak," said Attilâ, and added: "but once you get them going there is no way of stopping them. Today, the newly awakened enthusiasm of the farm people by far surpasses our imagination."

On that day, wherever Attilâ took us to meet former Topraksu Agricultural Training Camp trainees, we saw change. We saw foremost a new understanding and belief. Even in areas where erosion was at its worst, we did

not meet with resignation or apathy. We saw 19-year-old camp trainees teaching 60-year-old farmers how to set up terracing, how to graft wild olive trees, how to work better so as to live better.

"These Topraksu Camp trainees can often achieve more than we engineers," said Atif Attilâ, "for they are a part of the village. They are only one rung higher on the ladder. With them the farmer feels at home."

Topraksu trainee Recep Ateş teaching students of Yeşildere Primary School, İzmir, how to plant a tree.

ONE TOPRAKSU TRAINEE TEACHES SEVEN HUNDRED

What one man can do for many was strikingly apparent at the Foça Agricultural Penitentiary. There, one former Topraksu training camp trainee, loaned to the prison authorities by Topraksu, was teaching over seven hundred inmates better agricultural methods and techniques.

The men serving time in one of Turkey's five agricultural penitentiaries, of which Foça in İzmir is one, are released after serving half of their sentences. The inmates are all men from agricultural areas. Here men do not brood about their pasts. They work for their tomorrows.

Foça Agricultural Penitentiary's Warden Abidin Aygün; Topraksu Agricultural Engineer Şahin Yücetürün; and Topraksu trainee Hasan Kırcalı, studying this year's program.

Inmates work and learn on 15,000 decares of land.

One man teaches seven hundred.

"The one man who makes this possible," says Warden Abidin Aygün, "is Hasan Kırcalı, the foreman from Topraksu."

In 1962, at the request of the prison director, Topraksu opened an agricultural training camp within the prison lands. The camp was a great success. But to continue the good work on the prison's 15,000 decares, the prison needed a foreman. Hasan Kırcalı, a former Topraksu camp trainee, was sent to Foça.

"Hasan Kırcalı is my right arm," says Warden Aygün. "Without him we could never—in a short two years—have become the most successful rehabilitation institution in the country."

Hasan Kırcalı is a villager from Balıkesir who, with his four brothers, inherited 15 decares of arable land from his father. He had to leave home to make a living. Topraksu gave him a chance and a profession. And today while he is helping himself, he is also helping 700 others.

The Foça prison, which is the newest of the agricultural penitentiaries, closed its books in the year 1964 with a 60,000 T.L. profit, a feat until now unseen in any prison in Turkey. The inmates work on fruit and vegetable cultivation, olive tree growing, terracing, irrigation, poultry, bee keeping, livestock breeding and even fishing. Hasan Kırcalı helps where he can, teaches where he can, shows where he can.

This is what one man can do – what one man has done.

Everything Hasan Kırcalı learned in the Topraksu Training camp he now teaches the men in Foça.

COOPERATION AT ITS BEST

The Abdullahağa Military Engineering Training Brigade Center, near İzmir, is one of the most progressive military establishments in Turkey. Recently, through the initiative of one officer, and the great enthusiasm this initiative brought forth among the other officers and among the ranks, Abdullahağa has become the springboard of a venture that promises to become a countrywide and national help-yourself project.

A major at Abdullahağa, a country boy himself, decided that the soldiers in his battalion could probably use some of their idle hours in building terraces around the olive trees in the restricted area of the Abdullahağa command. He put his men, his officers, and himself to work.

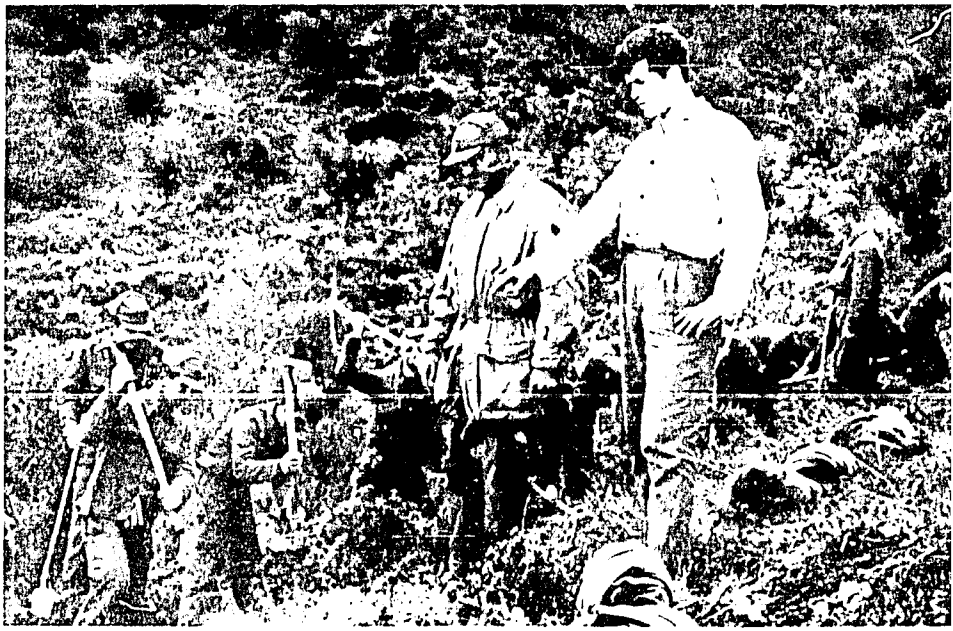
The Deputy Commander of Abdullahağa, a hydrobiologist, watched with interest. He commended the major for trying but criticized him for having tackled the problem in the wrong way. "If we do it, we must do it right," he told the major.

The Deputy Commander contacted the Commander of Abdullahağa. They both agreed to get

This venture promises to become a countrywide and national help-yourself project. Every soldier at Abdullahağa learns how to farm better because of the six Topraksu trainees assigned to the Command.

Abdullahağa soldiers work and learn.

Servet Sarışın (left), Topraksu Technician Supervisor of Topraksu trainees acting as foreman at Abdullahağa, and Topraksu Engineer Şahin Yücetürün (right), watch soldiers learn how to do terracing.



Topraksu foreman Hakkı Topuz at work.

Topraksu foreman Rüstem Fincan.

They work to learn how to help themselves.

in touch with Topraksu in İzmir.

Thus began a cooperation between the army and a civilian organization that bears great promises for the future. Said the Commanding Officer: "We asked Topraksu to help. They sent us six of their agricultural training camp trainees. Since the very first day these young trained farmers have come to Abdullahağa, every officer and every soldier has voluntarily spent every spare hour on the fields within the boundaries of our command."

It was an impressive sight, three thousand soldiers in four teams, headed by their officers, guided by the Topraksu trainees, doing terracing, grafting wild olive trees, planting new trees.

"Our primary duty," said the Brigade Commander, "is to teach these men how to fight. We teach them that. Now, we also teach them how to work better, how to fare better, how to live better, how to help themselves. This is our pleasure and our pride."

The six Topraksu foremen at Abdullahağa – Halil Serbest, Rüstem Fincan, Mehmet Fincan, Hakkı Topuz, Yahya Yolmaz, Necati Ergun – are all trainees from the Agricultural Training Camp of Ayrancılar. Topraksu Study Control Technician Servet Sarışın, who controls the work of the six trainees at Abdullahağa, proudly says: "In the largest camp we trained a maximum of two hundred farmers. Here six of the men we trained are training several thousand. This is indeed a change, a change of which we at Topraksu are unusually proud."

The Abdullahağa initiative has been contagious. Several other army units have followed suit, and a few Topraksu trainees are now training thousands of soldiers in many parts of the country.

Cooperation at its best.

NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE

The willingness to change was evident in nearly all the villages the *Particpant Journal* team visited. In only a few villages did we still meet reserve. In the village of Mordoğan we observed distrust and doubt.

Zeynel Şehitler, İzmir Topraksu Technician, who accompanied us to Mordoğan, had been camp director of the Mordoğan Agricultural Training Camp. When, at the coffeeshop in Mordoğan village, we asked who had attended the camp, the answer was total silence. Prodding got us only negative answers. Apparently, no one from this village had been in Mordoğan Camp.

The man most astonished was Topraksu's Zeynel Şehitler, for he had recognized several of those present as camp trainees. Why this negativism? We soon learned the answer. Some untrue rumors had reached this village

Mordoğan villagers first were negative ...

that farmers trained by Topraksu would subsequently be charged for the training they had received. Zeynel Şehitler had the men soon convinced that this was not true.

In a few minutes several young and old men had joined us. We learned that twelve from the village had received training at the Mordoğan Camp. At the coffeehouse the central figure was Muhtar İsmail Korova. He was an angry Muhtar. "It is these twelve men who, through what they had been taught at the Topraksu Agricultural Training Camp, have saved our village from complete erosion. It is these twelve men who have stopped our lands from eroding into the sea. It is these twelve men who today teach us all how to work better and live better."

On another day, again with Topraksu's Zeynel Şehitler, we visited another village: Kınık's Poyrazcık village. One of the largest, most progressive and most prosperous villages of the Aegean, Poyrazcık, has a population of 5,000; is a municipality; and has electricity, schools, and two olive factories.

...but when Topraksu's Zeynel Şehitler explained the reason for the visit, young and old welcomed their AID visitors.

In 1961, eight men from Poyrazcık village had attended the Ayrancılar Topraksu Agricultural Training Camp. "We were so keen that others get a similar chance," said Mesut Şenocak and Veysel Dükkâncı, both trainees from Ayrancılar, "that we convinced Muhtar İbrahim Sürüç to put in a request that Topraksu open a camp at Poyrazcık."

COVER — Topraksu Technician Zeynel Şehitler and Poyrazcık village's Muhtar, İbrahim Sürüç, explaining progress in their village to a Participant Journal *team.*

As a result of this request a 100 man camp was opened at Poyrazcık in 1964. Twenty men from Poyrazcık entered the camp. "If," said the Muhtar, "another camp would open this year, there would be at least 100 applications from our village alone."

"The Poyrazcık Camp," said Topraksu's Zeynel Şehitler, who was director of this camp, "has been a social, a cultural and a psychological investment."

Poyrazcık — one of the most progressive villages in the country.

"The Ayrancılar Camp," said Muhtar Sürüç, "had been an eyeopener. Foremost we learned how little we knew. We saw that terracing could increase output of olive trees by about 30 percent. We saw that terracing and the use of fertilizer made olive trees bearing every second year become productive every year."

An old man walked up to our table. He had been listening. "For nearly eighty years I have watched this village grow," he said, "but only now have we reached real maturity. In six months in a Topraksu camp, my grandson learned more about agriculture than I did in eighty years."

Friendly villagers gather to say farewell to members of Participant Journal *team.*

Dr. Ömer Baykan, a lecturer on Soil Science at Erzurum's Atatürk University, with Dr. Ted H. Doane, Professor of Agricultural Extension, showing farmers of Ova-Çevirme village of Hinis, Erzurum, how to use a mixture of ammonium sulfate and super phosphate. Dr. Baykan is one of twenty-four U.S. A.I.D. participants actively engaged in teaching at Atatürk University.

ACADEMICIANS IN BOOTS

In an area covering one third of Turkey, a handful of dedicated professors are tramping over the remote farm fields of a thousand ancient villages. Their goal is to help the farmers help themselves.

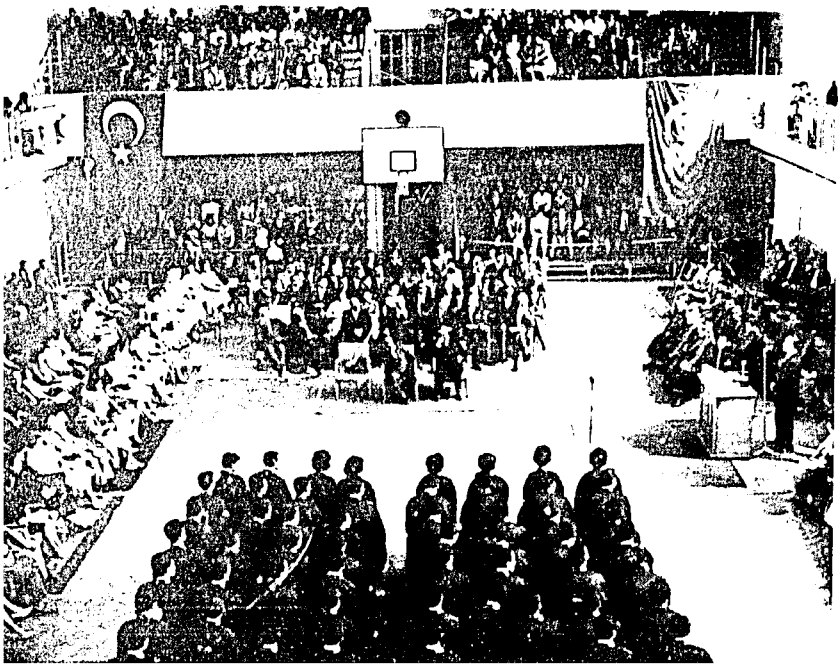
"Atatürk University," said Osman Çilingiroğlu, head of Erzurum's Chamber of Commerce and Industry, "was one of the grand ideas, one of the great dreams of Atatürk." Today this dream is a reality, and the grandeur of the idea is attested to by the extensive interest and the cooperation of Turkey's leaders in government, industry, and business. Also attesting to its importance is the yearly increase of interest shown by the farmers of eastern Turkey. The University is carrying 20th century know-how to the remote villages of this area, and farm habits centuries old are suddenly in the process of a dynamic change.

It was on June 6, 1957, that the law was passed in the Grand National Assembly to establish Atatürk University in Erzurum. Assistance was granted by the United States, and the University of Nebraska was assigned the task. This was a good choice, as the University of Nebraska is itself a land-grant college and was established in the United States in 1869, serving the needs of a developing America just as Atatürk University is serving here. To date, twenty-five Nebraska professors and eight administrative assistants, consultants and secretaries have served in Erzurum. And serving also are Turkish professors and assistants who were trained in United States universities under the U.S.A.I.D. Participant Training Program.

In November, 1958, the University began its curriculum with two faculties – Agriculture and Science and Letters. The third faculty, Medicine, will begin enrolling students in April 1966.

Today, nearly 1,000 students are enrolled with 700 in the Agriculture Faculty. Each student must specialize in one

The first class graduated in 1962. There were 123 diplomas awarded.

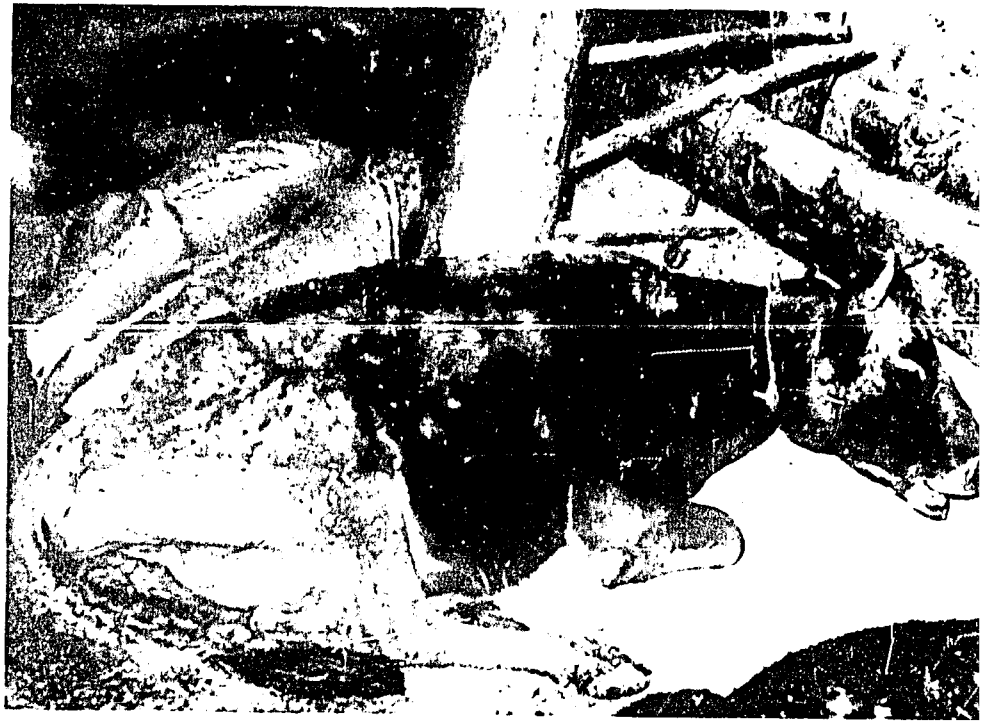


of the five major areas now taught there: Plant Science, Animal Science, Soil, General Agriculture and Agricultural Economics. Three classes—246 students—have been graduated from Atatürk to date.

The Atatürk University at Erzurum is a boon to Turkey for two solid reasons: it has the potential capability of solving one of Turkey's toughest problems—that of enlightening the inhabitants of thousands of remote and ancient villages in the nineteen provinces of eastern Turkey—and, secondly, this enlightenment

Atatürk's Rector Osman Okyar says: "These men are not the old type of teachers of theory alone. These men are teachers in the University and farmers in the fields. They are academicians in boots."

Atatürk University students with Dr. John L. Weibing, Professor of Plant Science, and U.S. A.I.D. Participant Associate Professor Dr. Fahrettin Tosun. They discuss methods for controlling the ravages of blue mold on Black Sea tobacco.



A Problem Understood

becomes the direct route toward full utilization of approximately 100,000 square miles of land. In short, the solution to the problem is more than merely a solution; it carries a prize invaluable to Turkey's expanding economy.

At present, 70 percent of the people of these eastern provinces rely on livestock for their livelihood; and, of the approximately 80 million cattle and sheep in Turkey, many of these are concentrated in these provinces. By means of improved breeding; housing; feeding; improved livestock health; improved farming and marketing, in the foreseeable future the eastern part of Turkey may be able to supply much of the demand for meat. If Turkey will continue to improve in the management of the meat packing industry and expand handling facilities, meat could be a sizable export product.

To this end, the Atatürk University is conducting intensive research in breeding, crossbreeding, soil improvement, plant

improvement, forage and pest control; is conducting demonstrations both at the University's own experimental farms and at farms in remote areas; is maintaining continuous "open house" for the farmers who, more and more, are coming of their own accord to the University for help and instruction; is graduating more and more agricultural engineers who, in turn, will carry forward the work so ably begun.

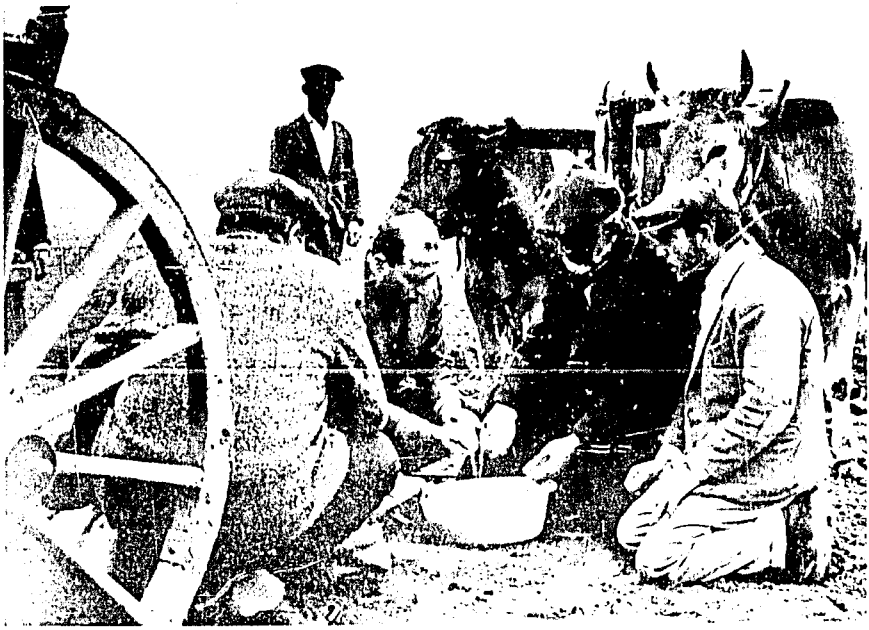
One of the most impressive ways that has been found to communicate modern techniques to the farmers is for the academicians of Atatürk University to put on boots and go directly out into the farmers' own fields, where demonstrations of modern fertilizers, demonstrations of crop rotation and other techniques of vital importance to the welfare of the land and its crops can most dramatically carry the message of the University.

One recent example of this sort of demonstration is a trip made to six farms near the village of Ova-Çevirme, in the province of Erzurum. Working in close cooperation with the Turkish Extension Service, Dr. Ted H. Doane, professor of Agricultural Extension at Atatürk; Dr. Ömer Baykan, U.S.A.I.D. participant, a lecturer on Soil Science, and soon to become Associate Professor at Atatürk; and Harold L. Allen, Chief Advisor and Team Leader from the Nebraska Group, went there to demonstrate the value of a new fertilizer.

The demonstration was made on six patches of 100 square

A Problem Solved

Artificial fertilizer is applied to 100 square meter batches of land belonging to farmers of the Ova-Çevirme village of Hinis. In a few weeks these farmers "will understand with their eyes" what fertilizer can do for them. . .



. . . They will also understand what the academicians in boots of Atatürk University are trying to do for them. These farmers are grateful to these men who are trying to teach the farmer to help himself.

U.S. A.I.D. Participant Dr. Ali İştar, Lecturer on Plant Science.

All the knowledge obtained from research made by all the academicians in boots at Atatürk University is evaluated at the Research Institute of the University. From here information on breeding, cross-breeding, soil improvement, forage, pest control, rotation, seeds tried in the eastern region is passed on to the farmer through the Extension Service of the University which collaborates closely with the Extension Service of the Ministry of Agriculture.

U.S. A.I.D. Participant Dr. Şaban Karataş, Associate Professor of Animal Science.

meters each—two of which were wheat, two barley, one corn, and one potatoes. The patches were picked indiscriminately at the request of the six farmers who owned the fields. A mixture of ammonium sulfate and super phosphate was applied to the patches, and the farmers were told that in a few months they would be able to see the results for themselves—"They will understand with their eyes," as Dr. Baykan put it. "They will be able to see for themselves the difference in output between the fertilized and the unfertilized areas of their fields. It is after they see with their own eyes that farmers such as these begin to understand what we are trying to do for them at the University and begin coming of their own accord for further information and aid."

In addition to the specific information and aid that the farmers come for, they are introduced to the exciting adventure of many other aspects of modern farming and livestock raising; also to some of the "miracles"

U.S. A.I.D. Participant Dr. Hasan Yüksel, Associate Professor of Plant Science.

U.S. A.I.D. Participant Dr. Fahrettin Tosun, Head of Research Institute.

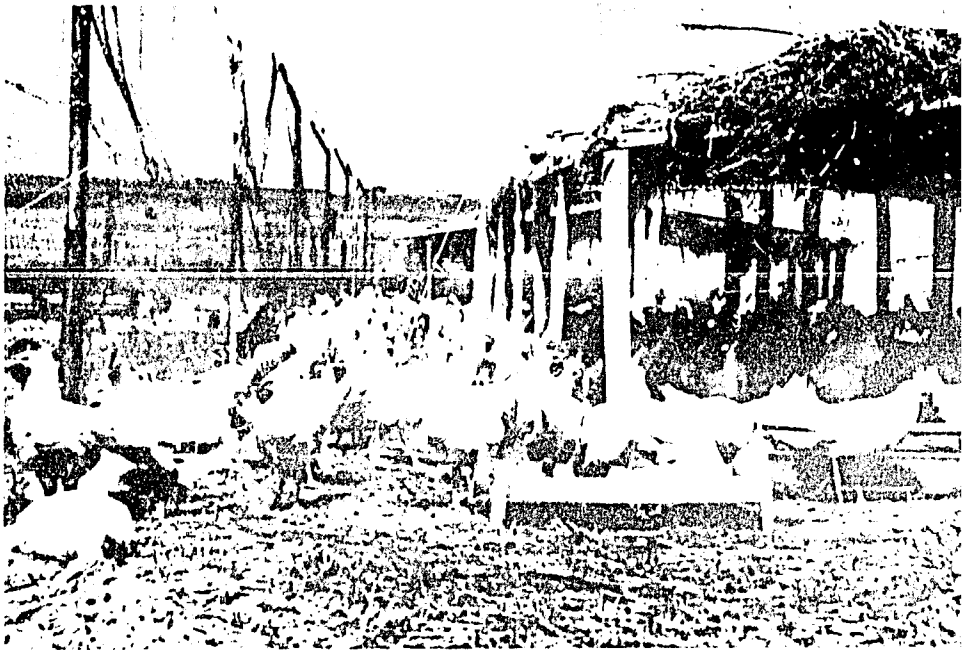
of research and experiment. For example, a farmer coming in from his village today would see some of the results of cross-breeding Merino and local Karaman sheep.

The farmer would also see cattle, sheep, and poultry raised scientifically. He would see several new types of barns, and sheds. He would be given the opportunity to discuss these things with the University's professors and other experts.

The University is working very closely with Ministry of Agriculture agencies responsible for farmer programs. They use every available means to communicate effectively with the farmers of Eastern Turkey—through newsletters, field days, seminars, and films, as well as by demonstrations and personal contacts. The basic philosophy at Atatürk is that the farmer who profits most is the farmer who has been helped to help himself. This, they have persistently endeavored to do and in this they have been successful.

The farmers are learning how to improve the feeding of their livestock, and the building of their barns and sheds; they are learning how their animals can be raised in open-air sheds—even in the severest winters; how they can protect their animals from contagious diseases, how they can get healthier calves and get more wool from their sheep; how they can get more

The farmers have "understood with their eyes" how animals can be raised in open-air sheds—even in the severest winters.

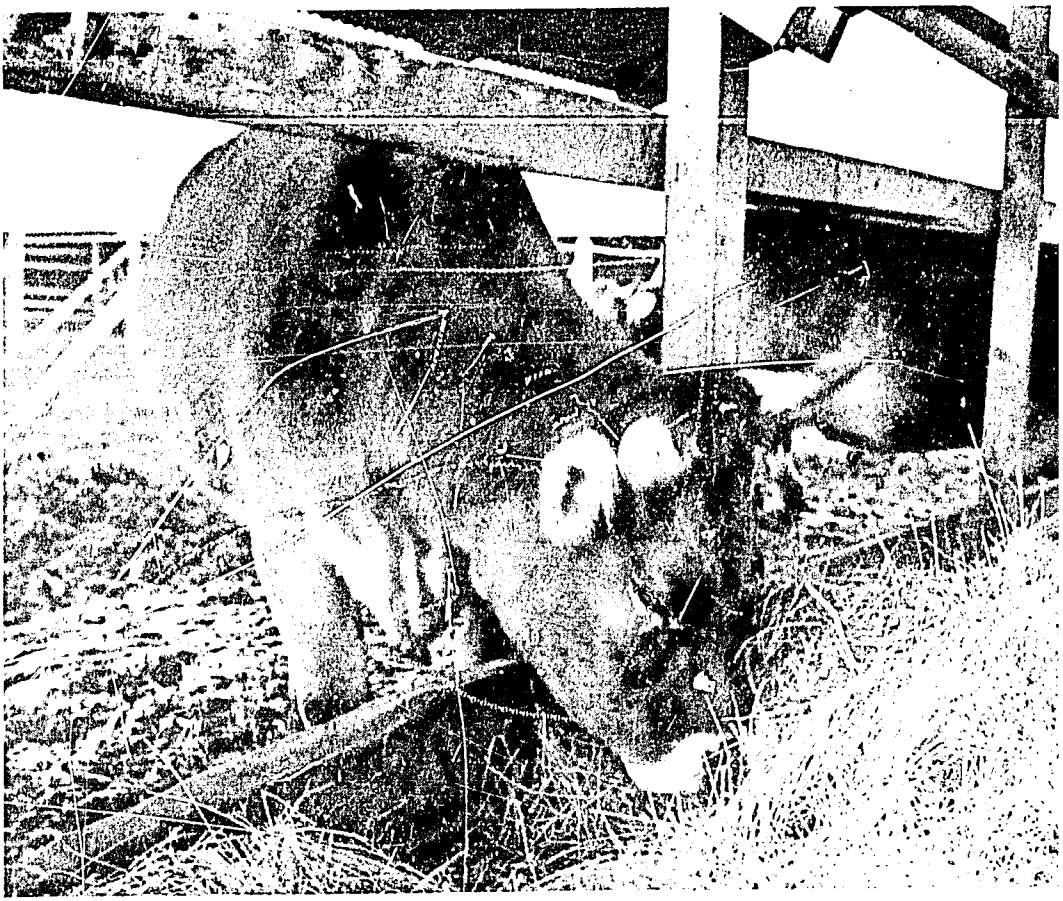


Legborn hens are bred at Atatürk University.

Merino sheep are bred and cross-bred here.

In three generations of cross-breeding between local Karaman sheep and the Merino breed, Eastern Turkey will have a sturdy cross-breed Merino type of its own. Even the results of one year's cross-breeding (see picture left) have proven satisfactory. Picture shows Merino, cross-breed Karaman-Merino, and Karaman lambs.

Atatürk University helps the farmers in two principal ways. First, it aids the farmer to improve his feeding techniques for livestock and acquaints him with the proper use and construction of barns and sheds. Second, Atatürk is educating students who, following graduation, will communicate their know-how to farmers of Turkey.



eggs from their hens; and how generally to keep their poultry stock alive and healthy.

Every farmer who learns to help himself by means of this newly acquired knowledge not only advances himself but also advances the work of the University. For each successful farmer becomes in effect an agricultural extension agent on his own—fast multiplying the successful efforts of Atatürk University and solidly fulfilling the Atatürk dream.

YASSIHÖYÜK

A Village Study

By Aptullah Kuran
Dean, Faculty of Architecture,
Middle East Technical University

In 1961 the Faculty of Architecture of the Middle East Technical University decided to conduct a series of socio-economic surveys in Turkish villages. The project was primarily conceived as an academic and educational exercise for the graduate students of the then newly-established Department of City and Regional Planning. It was felt that in a country in which 80 percent of the population lives in villages, rural studies could not be ignored in a department of planning, nor for that matter in a country like Turkey could urban and rural studies be divorced from each other. The village projects would give the students and the faculty an opportunity to familiarize themselves with rural life and conditions and to begin devising the methodology for village research. To conduct the proposed surveys in one particular area would have been practical and simple. But the Faculty chose to take a more complex path; Turkey was divided into sixteen regions showing different climatic, economic, sociological and demographic traits and it was decided to survey one village each year in a new region.

During the past four years, the Department of City and Regional Planning has studied four villages in four of the sixteen regions specified in the plan of operation. The first one was the village of Hayriye near İnegöl in Bursa—a mountain vil-

lage located on the southern slopes of Uludağ in the South Marmara region. The second was the plateau village of Yassihöyük of Polatlı in West Central Anatolia. The third was the village of Ildırı near Çeşme in İzmir, located on the shores of the Aegean Sea where the Ionic city of Eritrea once stood. And the fourth, where the Department of City and Regional Planning is currently at work, is the village of Gölevi in Ordu, a mountain village in the east Black Sea region.

The policy of the Faculty of Architecture with regard to village studies is as follows: students of planning go to the village during the academic year, collect the required data, and formulate their findings; the architectural students then spend eight weeks in the same village during the following summer erecting a small building as part of their construction training. With each passing year and another village surveyed, more material is collected and the knowledge of rural conditions increases. Naturally the aim is to share this knowledge and experience with all who are academically or professionally involved with the problems of rural development.

The policy declaration states: "However, in the past, the publication of the reports with our own meager resources proved a harder task than the collection of data, the preparation of charts, and the coordination of material. After three years of struggle we have only recently been able to put the report on the village of Hayriye in mimeographed form and then only in limited quantity. We are therefore greatly indebted to the United States Agency for International Development which has taken an interest in our village projects, and extended its facilities to have the second report published in English."

Research into the life and living conditions of Turkey's many villages is a necessary first step toward the total understanding of Turkey and her people.

On the following pages are seected photographs taken by AID photographer M. Attilâ Torunoğlu, which comprise a visual documentation of life in the village of Yassıhöyük.

"Yassıhöyük, A Village Study" was prepared through the cooperation of the Middle East Technical University and the United States Agency for International Development in Turkey. The book will soon be printed in Turkish. It is an analysis in depth of the life and activities in a rural Turkish village.

Over one hundred years ago four families settled on land next to a hillside near ancient Gordium. This land is now the village of Yassıhöyük...

. . . in this village 355 men, women and children now live and work.

The size of the 75 families in Yassıhöyük varies from one through thirteen people. The average size is 4.67 people per family and the number increases with the rising economic standards of the family group.

The people of Yassıhöyük make their livelihood from agriculture and their livestock. Many of the men also work in the nearby Gordium excavations.

Fifty-six percent of the male working population are employed in the Gordium excavations during the four-month season.

73 of Yassıhöyük's 355 people are students in the village school.

On feast days the old bless the young...

...and all the village enjoys itself

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE TURKISH THEATER

Göksel Kortay

During the past ten years numerous advancements have been noted in the Turkish theater.

In earlier days, theaters were found only in large cities such as Ankara and İstanbul. Performers were trained only through actual experience.

Today, there are theaters throughout Turkey and many performers as well as directors and playwrights have substantial education in their profession.

Mr. Güngör Dilmen, assistant to the General Director of City Theaters in İstanbul, observes that the role of public interest toward the theater has influenced this advancement. He says that increased attendance and appreciation for the theater has encouraged the acceleration of this movement.

Mr. Dilmen, a Fulbright grantee, returned to Turkey in 1964 after studying stage direction at the Yale School of Drama for two years. He has written and directed a number of plays, including "The Ears of Midas," one of the most popular plays in recent years.

To achieve a higher standard of theater in Turkey, Mr. Dilmen believes in the necessity of

a drama school offering a university level of education and training, and with his strong belief in this project he may become a pioneer toward founding such an institute on the order of that at Yale.

During recent months, theater goers in İstanbul enjoyed another grantee's work: the leading lady in the Turkish play, "Pembe Kadın," on the Kent Players stage. She is Miss Göksel Kortay who studied on a Fulbright grant at Boston University in 1960-64, obtaining an M.A. in communication arts. As a partial requirement for the master's degree, Miss Kortay translated the Turkish play, "Cengiz Khan's Bicycle," into English and directed its performance.

In addition to her career as an actress, Miss Kortay is organizing a new program for Radio Ankara and preparing a series of radio shows which will be a novelty for Turkish radio listeners.

Another Fulbrighter is serving the Turkish theater as a playwright. He is Mr. Turan Oflazoğlu who studied play writing and contemporary Anglo-Saxon poetry at the University of Washington in Seattle in 1963-64.

During his studies in the U.S., Mr. Oflazoğlu sought to introduce Turkish plays and poetry to Americans. One of his plays in English about a Turkish village girl named Kezban, reflecting the social aspects of village life, was performed by the drama school in Seattle last year. The Turkish version of the same play appeared in Turkey on Türk Dili Dergisi and was performed by the radio theater in Ankara.

Mr. Oflazoğlu is of the opinion that as "plays in verse or poetic prose were the origin of drama, eventually drama should return to its origin." Mr. Oflazoğlu's intention is to harmonize prose and poetry and therefore he has written all his plays in verse. Through application of modern techniques to Turkish themes, Mr. Oflazoğlu has introduced a new style into the Turkish theater.

It is now a common feeling that the advancements noted in the Turkish theater will continue at an increased rate through the contributions of these educated and trained young members to their art.

ARMY COMPUTER CENTER BEING ESTABLISHED

Computer technology has expanded rapidly in Europe and the United States during the past 20 years, with this growth spreading to Turkey where a number of organizations have acquired computers for modernizing their data processing systems.

The Electronic Computing Center Nucleus of the Land Forces Command, for example, has assigned a technical committee to do a feasibility study for establishment of an automatic data processing system. Project officer for the study is Dr. Okan Gürel who, when the project began, was a reserve lieutenant. Working with him is Olcay Göksu, a reserve lieutenant.

Continuation of the work is possible through use of reserve officers in the ECC Nucleus recruited by interview from the reserve component of the army every six months.

One of the participants is Lieutenant Uluğ Çapar, former Fulbright grantee who obtained an M.S. degree in mechanics

from Brown University where he worked as a research assistant in 1960-63. Use of electronic computers in his research work provided him the knowledge and experience essential to this project.

At Land Forces Command, Lieutenant Çapar and his associates have prepared the background for formation of the future electronic computing center. Their main work has been in system analyses with studies conducted at several departments of Land Forces. These system analyses seek to determine the data processing areas in which automation is desirable. After completion of the studies, equipment requirements of the command are determined.

Lieutenant Çapar says computer technology owes its rapid advance to the obvious advantages over the older data processing systems. Computers work faster, more accurately. They do considerably more work and in the long run save money through personnel reductions.

Aside from the military, Lieutenant Çapar points out the areas of computer applications are numerous, such as in space projects and business accounting. Computers have made complete automation possible in certain industries. Some airlines utilize computers to automate their ticket reservation systems. A computer has been purchased by the Turkish State Highway organization for engineering computations. Several universities plan to purchase computers for research and training usage. The General Directorate of Tapu Kadastro is purchasing a computer which is expected to be helpful in implementing the land reform program.

The Turkish Armed Forces expect to use computers in stock control and accounting applications and the reserve officers in Land Forces hope that the computing center will be expanded to meet the needs of all the armed forces.

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