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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS
EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY AND THE SOVIET
BLOC

Turkish Reply to the Questionnaire

Question 1.

The policy of the Turkish Government regarding exchanges with Soviet Russia has been summarized in the NATO document AC/52-D/224/10. A similar line of conduct has been adopted as regards the East-West exchanges in general.

Questions 2 and 3.

There is no permanent or semi-permanent body set up to arrange official East-West exchanges. Each individual case is processed through appropriate channels.

Questions 4 and 5.

No proposals have been put forward by the Turkish Authorities to Soviet Bloc officials regarding exchanges.

Questions 6 and 7.

There has been a consistent drive on the part of Soviet Russia and the Satellites to increase cultural and sports exchanges with Turkey. A great many of the proposals regarding exchanges having political connotation have been declined or left unanswered, consistent with the policy of the Turkish Government designed to refrain from manifestations of a spectacular character.

The list of cultural and sports exchanges with the Soviet Bloc during the year 1957 is attached at Annex. All proposals for these exchanges have come from the Soviet Bloc and were processed on an official level.

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Question 8.

In the opinion of the competent Turkish Authorities exchanges such as sports teams, artistic and theatrical groups, which may have a limited propaganda value, do not yield useful information. However, exchanges of technical and professional personnel tend to yield beneficial information due to the intelligent observation capacity of the participants.

The Turkish Authorities are of the opinion that exchanges with the Soviet Bloc carried out in a prudent and intelligent manner may prove to be useful in obtaining information and data within the Soviet Bloc, on the one hand, and in injecting the way of life and the ideals of the Free World into this Bloc.

Questions 9 and 10.

The Turkish Authorities are ready to communicate any information gained as a result of such contacts and will be pleased if any such information is supplied to them.

The same authorities have no objection that the substance of discussion in the Committee be shared, with due caution, with friendly countries.

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIIe.

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EXCHANGES WITH THE SOVIET
BLOC DURING 1957

Soviet Russia

1. David Oistrach gave violin recitals in Ankara and Istanbul in April 1957.
2. Some Russian delegates participated in the International cotton conference held in Istanbul in May 1957.
3. Dr. Tefvik Saglam, a Turkish Professor of Medicine, participated in the Tuberculosis conference held in Moscow in June 1957.
4. A series of football matches were held in Russia between a Turkish football team and some Russian teams in June 1957.
5. A Russian wrestling team took part in free style wrestling world championship held in Istanbul in June 1957.
6. Four Russian scholars took part in the "Turkish Language Conference" held in Ankara in July 1957.
7. A Soviet folk song and dance ensemble comprising six persons gave two performances in Izmir in September 1957 on the occasion of the International Izmir Fair.
8. Football matches were held in Istanbul between the Russian team "Spartak" and a Turkish team in October 1957.
9. Ayla Erduran, a young Turkish violinist went to Moscow to study under Oistrach.
10. Two Turkish specialists of gynaecology visited Moscow in December 1957 on the invitation of Russian authorities.

Poland

1. Mrs. Barbara Hesse - Bukowsha, a Polish pianist, gave recitals in Ankara in March 1957.
2. A football match was held in Warsaw in May 1957 between the national Turkish and Polish football teams.
3. Polish wrestlers took part in free style wrestling world championship held in Istanbul in June 1957.

4. Polish athletes took part in an international athletic competition held in Istanbul in June 1957.
5. A Polish scholar took part in the "Turkish Language Conference" held in Ankara in July 1957.
6. Football matches were held in Istanbul in December 1957 between the Polish team "Legia" and a Turkish team.
7. Aylâ Arduran, a young Turkish violinist participated in the international violin competition held in Poznan in December 1957.

Czechoslovakia

1. A Slovakian folk dance and song ensemble gave performances in Ankara in February 1957.
2. The Czechoslovakian national volleyball team took part in international volleyball tournament held in Istanbul in May 1957.
3. Some Turkish boxers took part in the European boxing championship held in Prague in May 1957.
4. A Czechoslovakian scholar took part in the "Turkish Language Conference" held in Ankara in July 1957.

Hungary

1. Matches were held in Istanbul in March 1957 between the Hungarian football team Ujpest and some Turkish teams.
2. Hungarian wrestlers took part in free style wrestling world championship held in Istanbul in June 1957.
3. Three Hungarian scholars took part in the "Turkish Language Conference" held in Ankara in July 1957.

Roumania and Bulgaria

Geographically Bulgaria and Roumania being situated very close to Turkey various matches were held between Turkish teams and the teams of these countries in different fields of sport in the year 1957 (9 matches with Bulgarian teams and 8 matches with Roumanian teams).

Bulgarian and Roumanian wrestling teams took part in free style wrestling championship held in Istanbul in June 1957.

Bulgaria and Roumania took part in an international athletic competition held in Istanbul in June 1957.

The mayor of Ankara visited Sofia in June 1957.

A Roumanian dance and song onsemble gave performances in Ankara and in Istanbul in July 1957.

A wrestling competition was held in Ankara in October 1957 between the wrestling teams of Bucarest, Sofia and Stuttgart.

Bulgaria participated in the boxing competition held in Ankara in October 1957 between the teams of Sofia, Rome, Ankara and Istanbul.