12 October, 1981

Dear Romesh Chandra,

The Coup d'état of 12 September made it impossible for me to attend the World Parliament of Peoples for Peace held in Sofia at the end of September 1980 and to which I had been invited by the Fatherland Front of Bulgaria. For that reason I could not have the opportunity, much as I wished, to meet you personally, and other distinguished representatives of peace forces of other countries.

Because of the oppression exercised by the Junta on our Party, I have come out of the country and am now in Stockholm. From the very first day of my stay in Europe one of the most important aims of the agenda of our Party has been to get in touch with the Direction of the World Peace Council. But the vital primary urgency of realizing the basic arrangements in connection with Party activities under the new conditions made it possible only now to take in hand.

Our Party attaches a great importance to preserving the World peace, developing the détente, encountering the policy of USA imperialism to whip the cold war and condemning the escalation of the arms race due, again, to the aggressive plans and attitude US administration. Our Party considers that the present intense efforts in this field are an integral part of the foremost revolutionary struggle of the forces of the proletarian internationalism and of solidarity between the peoples. Therefore we desire to continue, also during the present difficult period, our existing connection and solidarity with you. I must stress, frankly, that under the present conditions this connection and solidarity has become so much more important for us. With this aim in view we consider that the following subjects could be among those to be taken in hand most urgently:

-The Kilitary Junta in Turkey is a despotic regime and intensely pro-American. Therefore it can easily be made an instrument of the warmongering policy of US imperialism in the Middle-East. As a matter of fact this has been one of the chief motives and aims of the coup d'état. So, by its very nature, the Junta constitutes a great danger for the peace in the region as well as in the whole World. Moreover this Junta has not refrained from making known its expansionist desires (such as coveting petroleum resources in neighbouring lands on the pretext of the Kerkuk Turks in Iraq or the Azeris and Türkmen in Iran) and it is an instrument of the monopoly bourgeoisie which has already in recent history committed such deeds. (i.e. the annexation
of Hatay by Turkey and the invasion of Cyprus.

For all these reasons it is of great importance, for the interests of the world peace, that an end be put to the rule of the Junta in Turkey. Our Party is on the forefront of the forces fighting against the Junta for democracy. It establishes ties and connections with all forces of peace and democracy in the World which can—and should—be in solidarity with this struggle, and it makes resolute efforts to realize their contribution to the struggle in Turkey for freedom, democracy and peace. We believe that in this context the World Peace Council has a very important place.

-Our Party has conveyed its views on the Turkish Junta to several international platforms. Enclosed, you will find our publications dealing with the question. We think that these documents will be useful in appraising the situation in Turkey.

-Before the Coup d'etat we were receiving your publications regularly and were widely republishing them. They had become indispensable sources our own publications. After the Coup, however, we have been deprived of this facility. The organs and other publications of our Party are printed, because of the conditions we are in, outside the country. We would like to have your publications to be sent regularly to the addresses given below.

-According to the resolution adopted by the Peace Committee of Turkey and communicated to me before Coup. during the meeting of the World Parliament of Peoples for Peace in Sofia my membership of the World Peace Council would—with the knowledge. as far as I have been told, of the Direction of the Council—have been proposed. Since I could not attend the meeting, I do not know what development has taken place in this respect. Undoubtedly the membership of the World Peace Council is a great honour for my Party and for myself.

It is our sincere wish to be able to learn your views on all these subjects and, also, on others which you might think would be necessary. I would like to state that in order to realize this, I am ready to visit you in Helsinki.

With my regard,

Ahmet Kaçmaz

President

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