



League of Nations: The Grand Salvation of Hatay

Agenda Item A:

Salute the Scars of the Great War in order to construct a new global order based on principles of justice and independence and to develop effective solutions to the socio-economic difficulties resulting from the Turkish War of Independence.

Agenda Item B:

Fate of Hatay together with The Turkish National Oath

Under Secretary General:

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1- Welcoming Letters

1.1 Letter from the Secretary General

Esteemed Participants,

It is our paramount pleasure to welcome you to the second installment of Yükseliş Model United Nations Conference 2025. We, Neva Nas Aydın and Ramazan Yandı, will be serving you as your Secretary General's in the upcoming three days. Our executive team has put not only the best academic team but the best organization team so that you can enjoy creating memories in our conference.

Essentially Model United Nations Conferences are great opportunities to improve your debating capabilities, your confidence, your foreign language level and understand how policy is implemented. We can state that Model United Nations Conferences helped us both in our academic and social lives. For this reason it is our duty to transfer these experiences to the next generations and ensure that they affect them in a similar way.

We hope you have one of the best MUN experiences of your lives in YKMUN 2025!

Sincerely,

Neva Nas Aydın & Ramazan Yandı

1.2 Letter from the Under Secretary General:

Dear participants of Yükseliş Private High School Model United Nations Conference, it is my honour and absolute pleasure to welcome you to our League of Nations committee. First of all, our main goal in the idea of this committee and in the process of preparing the study guide was to make this committee a fun and memorable experience that will leave a mark on the lives of the delegates who choose this committee and will always remain in the back of their minds, so remember to have fun while writing your directives or discussing strategies with each other and be careful to be respectful to both your fellow academy members and each other. Regardless of your prior MUN experience, English Level, or current procedural knowledge, you will be able to succeed and develop due to the structure of Joint Crisis Committees. For this reason, don't be scared to try new things, engage with others, or get in touch with us. We'll do everything we can to make this committee a memorable event, so relax and enjoy yourself when it starts!

Erdem Demirci

Under Secretary General

1.3 Letters from the Academic Assistants:

Dear delegates,

Here is Dağhan. I am the academic assistant of the League of Nations committee. -as you already know- I would like to say that I am happy that you all participated in this valuable conference. At the same time, it is also a pride that you have joined this committee, which is undoubtedly the best committee of the conference. As my friends have mentioned, we have prepared an extraordinary committee and committee functioning for you. Do not doubt its flow and the rest about the committee. But of course, the only condition for experiencing these is to have fully internalized the guide. PLEASE READ THE GUIDE UNTIL THE END. Since we will be together throughout the entire guide, do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have any questions about the guide or the committee. I hope I am not the only one who is dying with excitement for the committee! I wish you a wonderful day...

Best regards...

Dağhan Aras Karanfilci

05417281289 - daghanaras00@gmail.com

Dear participants of Yükseliş Private High School Model United Nations Conference, it is our honour and absolute pleasure to welcome you to our committee. I am also the academic assistant of the League of Nations committee. First and foremost, our main goal in this committee is to provide an unforgettable experience for the delegates in this committee, both in terms of entertainment and academics. I hope that with both our efforts and yours, this committee will be one of the best experiences for you. Therefore, please make sure that you do sufficient preparation before the committee. After all, the fate of your countries is now in your hands. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Elif Yılmaz

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2) Procedure:

Even if you have been in a Joint Crisis Committee before, we kindly request that you scan over the following procedural passages to refresh your memory, or if you have not, please try to comprehend the required procedural material prior to the committee so that you can feel at ease and enjoy it once it begins. On paper, it is definitely impossible to understand all the mentioned topics and procedures of the committee; hence, do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. This section will cover and provide all the theoretical information delegates are going to need for the committee; anything else can only be learned through experience.

2.1) What is an ADHOC:

The functioning of the committee: Unlike a CC, delegates within the committee will be divided into parties due to states and will fight each other outside of the crises of that period to achieve their own goals. Unlike other committees, this committee will have one board known as advisors of these states' ministers for each state - a total of four - and will act as advisors to each party.. We will be able to start conflicts, and even wars within the scope of excessive or insufficient speeches made by the delegates, well the same logic applies to crises resulting from directives. Sessions and motions in other crisis committees will continue, though in a more semi-moderated manner, the Tour de Table and in irregular sessions where we will allow Cross Talking, states will write directives, press releases, and treaties among themselves. Each state will have its own characteristics (statuses).

Why ADHOC: Because it is the type of committee that provides the structure that can accommodate the procedure that will serve our purpose from every type of committee within MUN. It is also the type of crisis that allows us to most easily reflect the era we are dealing with and discuss Hatay.

i) Directive:

Directives are the main materials of ADHOCs; they are what distinguish a ADHOC from the General Assembly. As the name implies, the term "directive" refers to an order or instruction. On the committee, any realistic and feasible action can be taken by writing directives. Consequently, it is guaranteed that the majority of the time spent on the committee will be devoted to writing directives (Triumphs are attained through concrete actions, rather than mere speeches or campaigns.) Unlike the GA procedure, it is unnecessary to encourage, suggest, or demonstrate any ideas to make it happen; only a decent directive is required. There are several types of directives depending on what one wants to do, and they will be discussed in the latter section.

To summarize, directives are written when one wishes to accomplish or do something. Writing a directive allows one to take any realistic action, therefore instead of long discussions and talking sessions to execute your ideas and progress in the committee, directives will be written.

ii) Updates:

1- Updates are the outcomes of directives, which are either granted or rejected based on how precisely one wrote and phrased the directive. The Crisis Team evaluates whether they are adequate or not; every conference with crisis committees includes a Crisis Team that reads and inspects directives.

2- Updates can also come as a result of a new occurrence in your cabinet. For example, if the other cabinet launches a successful attack on one of your cities and captures it, an update will come. If the directive only concerns your cabinet, such as building a new military base in your country, then the update will only come to your cabinet, but if it is a conflict that both sides participate in, then the update will come to both cabinets.

3- The update doesn't necessarily have to be the result of a directive; for instance, if you are in the Hundred Years' Wars committee during the 14th century, then the Crisis Team may bring a plague update that will infect the majority of soldiers. Hereupon, it can be understood that the update may also be a *crisis*.

iii) Crisis:

Crises emerge when one submits an insufficient directive, the other cabinet successfully affects you in a negative way, or temporal crises occur depending on the Crisis Teams' wishes. To clarify:

1- In order for a sufficient directive to be written, there are a few rules and necessities that must be followed; failing this, an inevitable crisis will occur based on what was wanted to be done in the directive.

2- If a cabinet were to create a virus and spread it to the other cabinet's people, the update would be a crisis that must be handled promptly. It does not necessarily have to be a virus or a plague; anything that affects one or one's cabinet negatively can be a crisis.

3- Finally, depending on how the committees' actions progress, a periodic crisis like a plague or a political disagreement may arise and affect a cabinet adversely.

a. Directive Types and How To Write Them

In an ADHOC committee, there are six types of papers that can be submitted. Each type has its own purpose, advantages, and disadvantages. Unless it is a top secret directive, directives should be given to the chair, who will then send them to the crisis team via admins.

i) Personal Directive:

Personal directives are written when an action is within your character's authority or is possible due to their abilities. Now take a look at how to write a Personal Directive: Firstly, there is a format for writing directives; thus, one has to write who is sending the directive and to whom (from, to). After that, which cabinet is sending the directive, then the real-world time and the current date of the committee. Lastly, the type of your directive and the headline of it. And that's it; this is all the format one needs to know to write a directive. The only thing left is the content of the directive, and the method by which one writes it is fairly straightforward; it is written by addressing the WH questions, which are what, why, when, who, where, and, most importantly, how. Write down the action you want to take by answering the WH questions, then detailing and explaining it as much as possible to ensure that your plan is as comprehensive as possible. Also, the use of the future tense is critical, try to use it whenever possible. Here is how a directive looks on paper:

From: Menelaus

Personal Directive

Date:

1192BC May 3

To: Related Authorities

Capturing Tiryns

Time: 12.34

(Spartan Cabinet)

What: I will capture Tiryns with my 5,000 agoge men stationed on the Tiryns frontline. My soldiers will kill and destroy any enemy forces they come across, as well as any enemy military bases. Women and children in the city will not be murdered unless they attack the soldiers.

Why: Tiryns plays a crucial role in the war, and it must be captured in order to cut the enemy's supply lines.

When: Soldiers will charge at 02.00 a.m. to catch the enemy off guard.

Who: I will be operating this attack, and if I fall during the war, my right-hand man, Analus, will take over. 5,000 agoge soldiers will assault the enemy under his command.

Where: 2,500 of my soldiers will charge from the southeast frontline, and the other 2,500 will charge from the west to capture Tiryns.

How*: To reduce noise, the 5,000 agoge soldiers will be divided into 50 groups, with 100 soldiers per group. Soldiers will check and control their weapons before charging. Each group will have a commander, and the commanders will be the best warriors among their groups. They will be well-armed with their hoplons, xiphos, and dorus (Spartan agoge soldiers' shields, spearheads, and small swords). Each group will apply the doctrine properly to face the fewest casualties. If needed, 3 soldiers from each group will bring supplies to their own group from the frontlines, and these 3 soldiers will be picked randomly from the commanders. They will take the safest route and avoid the enemy. Our men will take the safe paths suggested by our spies. They will pray, remember how brave they are, and then honour their nation and gods by demolishing the enemy. They will not disobey their commander's orders and apply the doctrine as they say. To avoid being affected by attrition, our soldiers will study their geographical situation as well as the enemy's to use it in their favour. They will not be wearing inappropriate armour and clothing, only those that will fit the current climate. Any careless mistakes shall not be forgiven and the commanders of the groups will eliminate the soldiers who made the mistake such as sleeping on a night's watch. If by any chance a soldier catches a disease that may spread he will be killed if there are no precautions that can be taken in order to heal him without letting it spread. If the siege and the road take unusually long to take and pass they will shave properly to prevent any lice growing, mating and distracting the soldiers. Soldiers will use an offensive phalanx formation when I order

them to charge, and they will slaughter each enemy troop they face. They will use the offensive formation until they face a larger enemy force to quickly capture as many critical areas as possible. If they face a larger enemy force, to be exact, 1.5 times larger than them, they will quickly change to a defensive phalanx formation and wait for recruitment while defending themselves. Their priority will be killing the enemy rather than cutting supply lines. In mountain areas, they will use the highlands in their favour and quickly oppress the enemy to finish them. Once they reach the city, their priority will be killing the cabinet members of Tiryns. If possible, they will defenestrate them to entertain themselves. Meaning of mercy will disappear from their minds and any offers made by the enemy will be rejected for they have disrespected our Nation. After the military bases and the city are captured, soldiers will go to the possible conflict areas to recruit other soldiers. Even though we've sent spies before, our soldiers will be vigilant for any kind of trap. Their main objective is to capture the city, and for that purpose, they will sacrifice themselves without hesitation.

Once one gets used to it, it is quite simple and straightforward to write. While it lacks details and additional information, the directive nicely illustrates its format. As one keeps writing and contributing to their cabinet's goals, in no time one will witness that the directives one has written have already surpassed that one above. And to write such a directive, here are a few tips and tricks:

- For every action that is written in the directive, it has to answer all the WH questions.
- The longer and more detailed, the better.
- Drawing your war doctrine, charging plan, or strategy may significantly increase the directive's preciseness and effectiveness. The success rate of the directive will grow in proportion to how clear your action and directive are.
- Do not use abbreviations such as "etc."; instead, detail the directive explicitly.
- WH questions are not necessarily broken into paragraphs (one can write the directive like a book), but if you are a beginner, doing so will dramatically improve the quality of your directive, hence, I strongly recommend it.
- In ADHOCs, one should not try to impose their ideas or policies on others but rather to achieve a specific goal, such as destroying the other cabinet; therefore, do not be hesitant to ask for help from other cabinet members or your chair, you are all in this together.

- If you are positive that there is no impostor in the cabinet, directives should be written separately because it will be much faster. If you need the authority of another cabinet member, simply ask that person to add their name to the "from:" section. That way, eight people will be working on eight different tasks, and it will save quite a lot of time.
- Precise information, like troop counts, is critical; do not forget to write them down.
- If needed, fake names can be used for strategic persons in the directives, like Coxus, the Naval Commander.

ii) Joint Directive:

Directives written by more than one individual are considered joint directives. Joint directives are written when one can only achieve the purpose of the directive by utilising the authority of other cabinet members. Consider the scenario where one is a commander responsible for capturing Warsaw. Recognising the insurmountable challenge of achieving this objective without air superiority, a collaborative effort can be initiated by writing a joint directive with the Air Force general. In this case, the "from" field of the directive would include the commander's name alongside the name of the air force general, and instead of a personal directive, you write Joint Directive at the top of the directive. Everything else is the same.

iii) Committee Directive:

A committee directive is written when one wishes to use everyone's authority or when one is about to deliver their final directive (in most cases). Delegates frequently ask, "How are we meant to write a committee directive with the other cabinet?" However, this concern stems from a widespread misunderstanding. The committee directive is essentially formulated collaboratively within the confines of your cabinet, with the members of your cabinet. Although it is formally referred to as a "Committee Directive," its essence remains akin to that of a cabinet directive. So, simply writing Committee Directive in the "from:" part will do.

iv) Intelligence Directive:

Intelligence directives are written when one wants to acquire the necessary information about their country/cabinet/character. The format is exactly the same, except for the "WH Questions" part. For example:

From: Winston Churchill

Intelligence Directive

Date: 1942 May

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To: Crisis Team

Our Troop Counts

Time: 16.21

(The Great Britain Cabinet)

How many troops does our country have? Do we possess any nuclear weapons? How many of our military factories are assigned to manufacture infantry weapons, and what kind of weapons are they producing?

When one wants to acquire a piece of information, one must write "To: Crisis Team" but when one wants to take action, one must write "To: Related Authorities". The reason behind this is that the crisis team is not the people who will cause the action to happen; hence, "Related Authorities" must be written.

v) Top Secret:

Top Secret directives are those that your chair is not allowed to read. Top secret directives are directly handed to the admin. They are written precisely the same, but one must fold the paper and write "TOP SECRET" on the back side of it. The major reason for writing a Top Secret Directive is treason, a diabolical strategy to crash one's own cabinet or switch sides. For instance, if a person secretly kills his cabinet members and becomes dictator, the winning condition changes and only that person wins, whereas the cabinet loses. But I do not recommend writing Top Secret Directives unless you're planning on writing a brilliant 10-page directive, because failing to do so will backfire much worse. If one fails to accomplish their nefarious plan and gets busted, one will earn their cabinet's distrust and may die and be given an insignificant character. Additionally, updates to the Top Secret Directives are only sent to the person who sent them unless they directly affect other cabinet members.

vi) Press Release (Declamation):

Press Releases are written when one wants to make a declaration, a speech, or a notice. When one writes a press release, depending on the era of the committee, the other cabinet members may hear it or not. In our case, there are no printers, social media, or

newspapers, so it is very unlikely to hear other cabinets' press releases. The format is once again exactly the same, except for the "WH Questions" part. For example:

From: Erwin Smith	Press Release	Date: 845 July 23
To: Related Authorities (Wall Maria Cabinet)	Hyping Up the Soldiers	Time: 18.17

Everything that you thought had meaning: every hope, dream, or moment of happiness. None of it matters as you lie bleeding out on the battlefield. None of it changes what a speeding rock does to a body, we all die. But does that mean our lives are meaningless? Does that mean that there was no point in our being born? Would you say that of our slain comrades? What about their lives? Were they meaningless?... They were not! Their memory serves as an example to us all! The courageous fallen! The anguished fallen! Their lives have meaning because we, the living, refuse to forget them! And as we ride to certain death, we trust our successors to do the same for us! Because my soldiers do not buckle or yield when faced with the cruelty of this world! My soldiers push forward! My soldiers scream out! My soldiers RAAAAAGE!

A Press Release like that might be written before a conflict to increase the motivation and morale of soldiers, or it could be written in any way one wishes, depending on their goal. Since one is addressing your people rather than the Crisis Team, the language can be informal. Plus, press releases can prevent crises, especially those related to the public; they can be used for propaganda, making promises, or spreading misinformation. This is a different form of press release that could be submitted:

From: Rollo	Declamation	Date: 802 August 28
To: Related Authorities (Frankish Kingdom Cabinet)	Standing our Ground	Time: 10.27

All of my life and all of your lives have come to this point. There is nowhere else to be but here. Nowhere else to live or die but here. To be here now is the **only** thing that matters. So, gather yourselves. Gather all of your strength, all of your sweetness into an iron ball. For we will attack again and again until we reach and overcome their king or die in the attempt! We will attack! Attack! Attack! Blow the horns! Beat the drums! And have courage! For there will be no turning back. Only victory! Or death!

Based on one's creativity, press releases may vary just like directives and can be used for almost any purpose. And for this committee, we will allow you to write Declamation instead of Press Release because declamation is a more accurate term for the ninth century.

b. Procedure of the Committee

i) Roll call: When your character's name is called out during a roll call, you can respond with "I", "present", or simply by raising your placard.

ii) Tour de Table: Tour de Table is an introduction, similar to the opening speech. Following the roll call, it can be done at the beginning or end of the sessions, depending on the chair's initiative. Delegates are expected to briefly introduce themselves and voice their goals or vision for their cabinet.

iii) Semi-moderated Caucus: Unlike moderated caucuses, delegates in a semi-moderated caucus are allowed to speak without the chair's permission, as long as they do not interrupt other cabinet members and treat each other with respect.

iv) Unmoderated Caucus: In an unmoderated caucus, delegates are free to draft any kind of paper they want to achieve their goals, and support others. The majority of the cabinet's time should be spent on unmoderated caucuses rather than semi-moderated.

Unlike the General Assembly Committees, at an ADHOC Committee, the sessions proceed with Semi-Moderated caucuses and Unmoderated caucuses. The reason for that is to have a more smooth experience. Since the participants of a ADHOC have already had a few experiences with how committees and MUN conferences proceed, semi and unmoderated

caucuses are to advance the efficiency of debates, thus making crucial and quick decisions. It was mentioned earlier, but directives are the primary reason that a ADHOC's procedure is so unique. So later on with the sessions based on your chair's initiative you need not take one or two semi-moderated caucuses before an unmoderated caucus to write directives, directly voting for an unmoderated caucus before moderated will be allowed to continue writing directives.

On an ADHOC committee, after the roll call and Tour de Table, delegates take semi-moderated caucuses to discuss future actions, strategies and plans. After determining their move, delegates write down the designated act to put into practice. There isn't a General Speakers' List, resolution paper, or opening speech.

3) Introduction to the committee:

3.1 Definition and function of the League of Nations:

The League of Nations was the first worldwide intergovernmental organisation whose principal mission was to maintain world peace. It was founded on 10 January 1920 following the Paris Peace Conference that ended the First World War. In 1919 US President Woodrow Wilson was to win the Nobel Peace Prize for his role as the leading architect of the League. The onset of the Second World War showed that the League had failed its primary purpose, which was to prevent any future world war.

The League of Nations was the forerunner of the United Nations. It was established under the Treaty of Versailles, the peace treaty that formally ended World War I. The Treaty of Versailles was signed on 28 June 1919. Part I of the Versailles Treaty, i.e. the Covenant of the League of Nations, was the constitutional document of the League. According to this constitution, the League's purpose was "to promote international co-operation and to achieve international peace and security". The main organs of the League were the Assembly, the Council and a permanent Secretariat, headed by a Secretary General. The Assembly was the global deliberative organ, the Council the global executive, and the Secretariat acted somewhat like a global bureaucracy. Both Council and Assembly were mandated to deal with any matter within the sphere of action of the League or affecting the peace of the world. The League was based at Geneva, Switzerland. The Covenant also included the establishment of a

Permanent Court of International Justice. Even though the League managed to contain various international disputes, the League ultimately failed to prevent World War II, and was formally abolished in 1946.

To elaborate a little more: The creation of the League of Nations marked a new era of multilateral cooperation. The Covenant bound its Member States to try to settle their disputes peacefully. By joining the League, Member States also renounced secret diplomacy, committed to reduce their armaments, and agreed to comply with international law. Each state pledged to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of all members of the League. By establishing a bond of solidarity between Member States, the League is considered the first attempt to build a system of collective security. This principle relied on a simple idea: an aggressor against any Member State should be considered an aggressor against all the other Member States.

The League of Nations was also in charge of supervising the Mandate system. The “mandated territories” were former German colonies and Ottoman territories placed under what the Covenant called the “tutelage” of mandatory powers until they could become independent states.

Although the Covenant focused on conflict prevention and the peaceful settlement of disputes, some articles referred to the role of the League in promoting international cooperation in areas such as health, drug trafficking, transit, freedom of communications, and human trafficking. The efforts in these fields became increasingly important over the years and, in some cases, paved the way for the creation of United Nations entities, such as Specialized Agencies and UN Funds and Programmes.

Some responsibilities were assigned to the League by other international instruments, such as the peace treaties signed in Paris. In 1920, the Saar territory was placed under the League’s administration until a plebiscite was held to decide on its future. The League also supervised the Constitution of the Free City of Danzig and the implementation of the minority treaties. The treaties were signed after the Peace Conference in Paris and drastically changed the borders in Europe.

3.2 Historical Context of Hatay:

The 1930s were a period of great political turmoil around the world, with ideologies becoming more polarised and power struggles between states intensifying. However, Hatay remained an important region throughout history, independent of these developments.

Due to its location, Hatay held great geopolitical importance as it was situated on routes extending east-west and north-south. Furthermore, the Belen Pass, with its location extending east to the Amik Plain and west to the Mediterranean Sea, connecting Mesopotamia, Iraq, and Egypt to the Mediterranean Sea via the Iskenderun Port, was of great importance. Additionally, its location, stretching from the Belen Pass in the east to the Amik Plain and the Iskenderun Port on the Mediterranean in the west, made it a strategic link connecting Mesopotamia, Iraq, and Egypt to the Mediterranean. For the continuity of east-west trade relations, the shortest and most economical route passed through this region by sea. With this feature, Hatay was essential for a state seeking to dominate Anatolia to maintain control over east-west relations.

Hatay, which came under the rule of the Ottoman Empire in 1517, gained importance with France's close interest in the region since the 18th century. At the same time, Tsarist Russia was also interested in Iskenderun and its surroundings with the aim of reaching the warm seas, one of its most important imperial strategies, and this situation caused competition between France and Tsarist Russia. France, whose industry was mainly based on textiles, sought to gain a foothold in the cotton-rich Iskenderun and Hatay regions in order to break its dependence on England for cotton. At the Paris Peace Conference held in early 1919, it was decided to establish a commission to determine the views of the local community regarding the territories to be separated from the Ottoman Empire. In July 1919, the commission members arrived in Hatay, guided by the '14 Principles' of then-U.S. President Woodrow Wilson. On the other hand, there was disagreement between France and England regarding policies towards the Ottoman Empire. France, concerned that England was beginning to grow closer to the Ottoman Empire, decided to change its political stance towards the Ottomans. In this context, in October 1919, DeFrance, the French High Commissioner in Istanbul, wrote a telegram stating that Cilicia, which included the present-day geography of Osmaniye, Adana, Mersin and Hatay, was not Arab or Syrian, but Turkish.

On 9 October 1936, Turkey requested that the Sanjak of Alexandretta be granted independence, as had been done for Syria and Lebanon. Atatürk emphasised the importance Turkey attached to this issue in his opening speech to the Grand National Assembly on 1.

November 1936 in his opening speech to the Grand National Assembly: “At this time, the main issue that preoccupies our nation day and night is the future of Iskenderun-Antakya and its surroundings, which truly belong to the Turks. We must address this issue with seriousness and determination. This is the sole and major issue between us and France, with whom we have always placed great importance on friendship.’ The day after this speech, Atatürk told Tayfur Sökmen: ‘From today onwards, the case has been officially taken up. The name of the Antakya-İskenderun region and its surroundings will henceforth be Hatay. Change the name of your society to the ‘Hatay Sovereignty Society’ and conduct your activities under this name.”

4- Background of the Hatay Issue

4.1 The fall of the Ottoman Empire and the French Mandate in Syria

With the end of World War I, the Ottoman Empire had reached the end of its long reign. The Mondros Armistice Agreement signed on 30 October 1918 left the Ottoman territories open to occupation by the Allied Powers. The Ottoman Empire's authority continued to weaken, especially in the Arab provinces. Even before the war, the Sykes-Picot Agreement, a secret agreement signed between Britain and France, had determined how the Ottoman Empire's territories in the Middle East would be divided. According to this agreement, Syria and Lebanon would be left to France.

This agreement was formalised at the Paris Peace Conference held after the war. At the San Remo Conference held on 18-26 April 1920, the administration of Syria and Lebanon was handed over to France under the mandate of the League of Nations. As a result, these lands, which had been under Ottoman rule for many years, officially passed to France. When establishing the mandate administration, France implemented both administrative and military structures in the region.

Hatay was considered part of Syrian territory during this period. With the Ankara Agreement signed by Turkey and France in 1921, Hatay remained within Syria's borders, but certain guarantees were provided for the protection of Turkish cultural heritage. According to the agreement, the language, culture and educational institutions of the Turkish people in the region would be protected, and Turks would be represented in local government. However, under French mandate rule, these guarantees were often violated.

For the reasons we mentioned earlier, France attached particular importance to this region. After all, Hatay was located at the entrance to the Eastern Mediterranean, making it valuable both commercially and militarily. The people of the region, however, showed differences in both ethnic and religious terms. Turks, Arabs, Armenians, Alevis, Sunnis and Christian communities had been living together here for centuries. The French administration sometimes used this ethnic diversity to its advantage in an attempt to consolidate its rule over the region.

From the late 1920s onwards, the Republic of Turkey's growing interest in the region laid the foundations for the Hatay issue to become an international problem in the years to come. Although Turkey was unable to officially acquire Hatay in the Treaty of Lausanne, it continued to pursue its claim to these lands, which it considered to be within the borders of the Misak-ı Milli, through diplomatic channels.

4.2 The awakening of Turkish nationalism and Atatürk's beliefs

Although the collapse of the Ottoman Empire after World War I caused deep sadness among the people, it also created unity, solidarity, and a strong will to recover. The War of Independence began in 1919 under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Pasha. Its goal was to free not only the lands of Anatolia but all Turkish homelands within the borders of the Misak-ı Milli. During this period, Turkish nationalism strengthened the people's shared identity and commitment to independence.

At that time, it was clearly stated that Hatay was within the borders of Misak-ı Milli. Mustafa Kemal Pasha also emphasized at the start of the War of Independence that Hatay was an integral part of the Turkish nation. During the Lausanne Agreement in 1923, he made

diplomatic efforts to secure Hatay's union with Turkey. However, the international balance of power at the time meant that Hatay's status remained within Syria's borders, to be resolved at a later date.

Mustafa Kemal always believed that this situation was temporary. He thought the will of the Turkish nation was a reality that went beyond political obstacles. Atatürk stated, "The Turkish homeland, which has existed for forty centuries, cannot remain captive in the hands of enemies," referring to Hatay. He highlighted both the historical Turkish identity of the region and the goal of independence.

From the late 1920s onward, the Turkish people of Hatay, who were living under French mandate rule, began to face oppression. They experienced restrictions on their cultural rights, interference in educational institutions, and difficulties in political representation. This situation strengthened nationalist feelings in the region and deepened emotional connections with Turkey.

Atatürk's fundamental desire was for the Hatay issue to be resolved diplomatically rather than by force of arms. Even in the final days of his life, Atatürk continued to prioritise the Hatay issue, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to this cause.

4.3 Ethnic composition and demographics of Hatay

Now, let's examine Hatay's culture one by one. First, its geographical structure, which is of great importance to us: 46% of the land is mountain, 33% plain and 20% plateau and hillside. The most prominent feature is the north-south leading Nur Mountains and the highest peak is Mıgırtepe (2240m), other peaks include Ziyaret Mountain and Keldag (Jebel Akra or Casius) at 1739 m. The folds of land that make up the landscape of the province were formed as the land masses of Arabian-Nubian Shield and Anatolia have pushed into each other, meeting here in Hatay, a classic example of the Horst-graben formation. The Orontes River rises in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon and runs through Syria and Hatay, where it reserves the Karasu and the Afrin River. It flows into the Mediterranean at its delta in Samandağ. There was a lake in the plain of Amik but this was drained in the 1970s, and today Amik is now the largest of the plains and an important agricultural center. The climate is typical of the Mediterranean, with warm wet winters and hot, dry summers. The mountain areas inland are drier than the coast. There are some mineral deposits, İskenderun is home to Turkey's largest

iron and steel plant, and the district of Yayladağı produces a colourful marble called Rose of Hatay. At the same time, due to its geographical structure Hatay has a Mediterranean climate which has very hot, long and dry summers with cool rainy winters.

Is it enough? Of course not. Now, the demographic structure. Majority of population adheres to Islam belonging to either Alawi branch of Shia Islam or Sunni Islam. But other minorities are also found including Syriac Orthodox, Syriac Catholics, Maronites, Arab (Greek-Orthodox) and Armenian communities. The village of Vakıflı in the district of Samandag is Turkey's last remaining rural Armenian community while Arabs form the majority in three districts out of the twelve: Samandag (Suwaidiyyah) (Alawi), Altınözü (Qusair) and Reyhanlı (Rihaniyyah) (Sunni). Unlike most Mediterranean provinces, Hatay has not experienced mass migration from other parts of Turkey in recent decades and has therefore preserved much of its traditional culture; for example, Arabic is still widely spoken in the province. To celebrate this cultural mix, in 2005 "Hatay Meeting of Civilisations" congress was organised by Dr Aydın Bozkurt of Mustafa Kemal University and his "Hatay Association for the Protection of Universal Values". Hatay is traversed by the north-easterly line of equal latitude and longitude.

At the same time, depending on this structure, many language differences have emerged... Until annexation, Turkish and Arabic were both spoken, after Ataturk's Reforms, however, the use of Arabic began to decline. Some Arabic speakers will deny being "Arab," a term that can be derogatory in Turkey. Turkey's policies on language have focused on imposing homogeneity. The degree of imposition peaked in 1983, when the military government introduced a law prohibiting (to varying degrees) languages other than Turkish. For speakers of some languages (those not using a first official language of a country recognized by Turkey), the law forbade the use of those languages, even during private conversation. (Rumpf, 1989) Although the law was repealed in 1991, the Constitution still prohibits any institution from teaching a language other than Turkish as a mother tongue. 85% of Arabs in Hatay believe that the use of Arabic is decreasing, however, 15% who hear it on a daily basis, disagree that such is happening in the region. The Arab Christian minority has the right to teach Arabic under the Treaty of Lausanne, however they tend to refrain from doing so in order to avoid sectarian tensions as the treaty does not apply to the Muslim majority.

Did someone say culture and demographics? I'm already feeling hungry. My stomach is growling... When it comes to culture and different nationalities, it's impossible not to mention food. Hatay is warm enough to grow tropical crops such as sweet potato and sugar cane, and these are used in the local cuisine, along with other local specialities including a type of cucumber/squash called kitte. Well-known dishes of Hatay include the syrupy-pastry künefe, squash cooked in onions and tomato paste (sihlmahsi), the aubergine and yoghurt paste (Baba ghanoush), and the chick-pea paste hummus as well as dishes such as kebab which are found throughout Turkey. In general the people of Hatay produce lots of spicy dishes including the walnut and spice paste muhammara), the spicy kofte called oruk, the thyme and parsley paste Za'atar and the spicy sun-dried cheese called Surke. Finally, syrup of pomegranate (nar eksisi) is a popular salad dressing particular to this area.

And finally, so many nations have come and gone. Is it possible they didn't leave a trace? We can see four important traces in Hatay:

World's second-largest collection of Roman mosaics in Antakya museum

Rock-carved Church of St Peter in Antakya, a site of Christian pilgrimage.

Gündüz cinema, once parliament building of the Republic of Hatay.

Titus Tunnel of Vespasian, in Samandağı, built as a water channel in the 2nd century.

5- Important events regarding the Hatay Issue

5.1 Armistice of Mudros

On 30 October 1918 an armistice was signed with the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire, bringing an end to the Turkish Army's participation in the war. The armistice was signed on board HMS Agamemnon at Port Mudros, on the island of Lemnos, on 30 October 1918. Vice-Admiral Arthur Calthorpe, Commander-in-Chief of the British sector in the Mediterranean, signed on behalf of the Allies; Hussein Raouf, Turkish Minister of Marine, Rechad Hikmet, Turkish Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and Lieutenant Colonel Saadullah, signed under the authority of the Turkish Government.

TWENTY-FIVE. Hostilities between the Allies and Turkey shall cease from noon, local time, on Thursday, 31st October, 1918.

Signed in duplicate on board His Britannic Majesty's Ship "AGAMEMNON" at Port Mudros, Lemnos, the 30th October, 1918.

Arthur Jagt
Hussein Raouf
Michael Nikitich
Loran Day

-Signatories of Armistice of Mudros

Of course, before this armistice was signed, the three great powers held a meeting in the Palace of Versailles. The meeting began discussing peace and other remaining issues. Everyone was pursuing their own interests, trying to stay a few steps ahead. The greed for land, profit, money, and spoils blinded all participants. Some were wondering how to pull their country out of this quagmire, while others were trying to profit even from the mire they had already plunged their enemies into. A slightly more modern version of this meeting:

M. PICHON said that the armistice proceedings had failed to partake of an allied character.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE said that the British had always been in command of the North Aegean. When it had been a question, in the naval attack on the Dardanelles, of leading 9 or 10 battleships, the French had been very willing to leave the command in British hands.

M. CLEMENCEAU said that in these matters, the question of national susceptibility arose which could not be put aside.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE said that when questions of national dignity and susceptibility were raised, France was the last nation that ought to complain.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE pointed out that except for Great Britain no one had contributed anything more than a handful of black troops to the expedition in Palestine. He was really surprised at the lack of generosity on the part of the French Government. The British had now some 500,000 men on Turkish soil. The British had captured 3 or 4 Turkish Armies and had incurred hundreds of thousands of casualties in the War with Turkey. The other Governments had only put in a few black policemen to see that we did not steal the Holy Sepulchre.

When, however, it came to signing an armistice all this fuss was made. There had been no great desire to share our efforts against Turkey. He had applied again and again to the French Government to participate in the campaign in Palestine and Syria. The French Government had invariably refused. The moment, however, there was a question of signing an armistice. There was all this rush to take part.

M. CLEMENCEAU said that France was invaded during this period.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE said that The British also had at this time been maintaining two-millions of men for the defence of France.

M. CLEMENCEAU said that France had all the same been holding four-fifths of the Western front.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE regretted that when the Conference were making so much progress with other matters this minor question had been raised.

M. CLEMENCEAU said that he had not raised it.

M. PICHON said that the French Government had always recognised that the armistice must be signed by the Commander-in-Chief. If Marshal Foch signed it, this would be as General-in-Chief on the Western front. If General Diaz signed it, it would be in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the Italian front. Admiral Calthorpe, however, was not the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean.

MR. BALFOUR pointed out that the Dardanelles, Bosphorous, and Sea of Marmara were not in the Mediterranean. It was true that Lemnos, where the armistice was to be signed, was in the Mediterranean. The locality with which the armistice dealt, however, was not in the Mediterranean.

M. PICHON said that, after a few minutes conversation with M. Clemenceau and Baron Sonnino, that they would accept the fait accompli.

And they actually achieved what they wanted. Or rather, they imposed it on the Ottoman Empire. So as a result of this armistice, under the terms of the armistice, the Ottomans surrendered their remaining garrisons in Hejaz, Yemen, Syria, Mesopotamia, Tripolitania, and Cyrenaica; the Allies were to occupy the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, Batum (now in southwest Georgia), and the Taurus tunnel system; and the Allies won the right to occupy “in case of disorder” the six Armenian provinces in Anatolia and to seize “any strategic points” in case of a threat to Allied security. The Ottoman army was demobilized, and Turkish ports, railways, and other strategic points were made available for use by the Allies.

5.2 San Remo Conference Decisions

The San Remo conference was an international meeting of the post-World War I Allied Supreme Council as an outgrowth of the Paris Peace Conference, held at Castle Devachan in Sanremo, Italy, from 19 to 26 April 1920. The San Remo Resolution passed on 25 April 1920 determined the allocation of Class "A" League of Nations mandates for the administration of three then-undefined Ottoman territories in the Middle East: "Palestine", "Syria" and "Mesopotamia". The boundaries of the three territories were "to be determined (at a later date) by the Principal Allied Powers", leaving the status of outlying areas such as Zor and Transjordan unclear.

The conference was attended by the allies, the US representative joining the meeting later in an observer capacity:

British Empire:

- David Lloyd George, Prime Minister
- Lord Curzon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
- Robert Vansittart
- Colonel Walter H. Gribbon
- Secretaries: Maurice Hankey, Lieutenant-Colonel L. Storr

France:

- Alexandre Millerand, President of the French Council of Ministers
- Philippe Berthelot
- Albert Kammerer

Italy:

- Francesco Saverio Nitti, Prime Minister
- Vittorio Scialoja
- Secretaries: Signor Garbasso, Signor Galli, Signor Trombetti, Lieutenant Zanchi.

Japan:

- Matsui Keishirō
- Secretaries: Mr. Saito, Mr. Sawada.

Interpreter:

- Gustave Henri Camerlynck

United States of America (as observers):

- Robert Underwood Johnson, US Ambassador in Rome
- Leland Harrison
- T. Hart Anderson, Jr.

So, what topics were covered? The peace treaty with Turkey, the granting of League of Nation mandates in the Middle East, Germany's obligations under the Versailles Peace Treaty of 1919, and the Allies' position on Soviet Russia.

And as a result of all the discussions, many agreements were reached. Among the agreements reached Asserting that not all parts of the Middle East were ready for full independence, mandates were established for the government of three territories: Syria, Mesopotamia and Palestine. In each case, one of the Allied Powers was assigned to implement the mandate until the territories in question could "stand alone." Great Britain and France agreed to recognize the provisional independence of Syria and Mesopotamia, while claiming mandates for their administration. Palestine was included within the Ottoman administrative districts of the Mutasarrifate of Jerusalem together with the Sanjak of Nablus and Sanjak of Akka (Acre).

The decisions of the San Remo conference confirmed the mandate allocations of the Conference of London. The San Remo Resolution adopted on 25 April 1920 incorporated the Balfour Declaration of 1917. It and Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations were the basic documents upon which the British Mandate for Palestine was constructed. Under the Balfour Declaration, the British government had undertaken to favour the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine without prejudice to the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country. Article 22, para.4 of the Covenant, classified certain populations as "communities formerly belonging to the Turkish Empire" as having "reached a stage of development where their existence as [an] independent nation can be provisionally recognized" (the Class A mandates under the League of Nations), and tasked the mandatory with rendering to those territories "administrative advice and assistance until such time as they are able to stand alone". Britain received the mandate for Palestine and

Iraq; France gained control of Syria, including present-day Lebanon. Following the 1918 Clemenceau–Lloyd George Agreement, Britain and France also signed the San Remo Oil Agreement, whereby Britain granted France a 25 percent share of the oil production from Mosul, with the remainder going to Britain and France undertook to deliver oil to the Mediterranean. The draft peace agreement with Turkey signed at the conference became the basis for the 1920 Treaty of Sèvres. Germany was called upon to carry out its military and reparation obligations under the Versailles Treaty, and a resolution was adopted in favor of restoring trade with Russia.

Whilst Syria and Mesopotamia were provisionally recognized as states which would be given Mandatory assistance, Palestine would instead be administered by the Mandatory under an obligation to implement the Balfour Declaration and Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations.

And at the end of all these agreements, the articles that were thought to be best for everyone were finally decided:

It was agreed —

(a) To accept the terms of the Mandates Article as given below with reference to Palestine (below) or, on the understanding that there was inserted in the procès-verbal an undertaking by the Mandatory Power that this would not involve the surrender of the rights hitherto enjoyed by the non-Jewish communities in Palestine; this undertaking not to refer to the question of the religious protectorate of France, which had been settled earlier in the previous afternoon by the undertaking given by the French Government that they recognized this protectorate as being at an end.

(b) That the terms of the Mandates Article should be as follows:

The High Contracting Parties agree that Syria and Mesopotamia shall, in accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 22, Part I* (Covenant of the League of Nations), be provisionally recognized as independent States, subject to the rendering of administrative advice and assistance by a mandatory until such time as they are able to stand alone. The boundaries of

the said States will be determined, and the selection of the Mandatories made, by the Principal Allied Powers.

The High Contracting Parties agree to entrust, by application of the provisions of Article 22, the administration of Palestine, within such boundaries as may be determined by the Principal Allied Powers, to a Mandatory, to be selected by the said Powers. The Mandatory will be responsible for putting into effect the declaration originally made on the 8th [2nd] November, 1917, by the British Government, and adopted by the other Allied Powers, in favor of the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

La Puissance mandataire s'engage à nommer dans le plus bref delai une Commission speciale pour etudier toute question et toute reclamation concernant les differentes communautes religieuses et en etablir le reglement. Il sera tenu compte dans la composition de cette Commission des interets religieux en jeu. Le President de la Commission sera nommé par le Conseil de la Societé des Nations. (The Mandatory undertakes to appoint in the shortest time a special commission to study any subject and any queries concerning the different religious communities and regulations. The composition of this Commission will reflect the religious interests at stake. The President of the Commission will be appointed by the Council of the League of Nations.)

The terms of the mandates in respect of the above territories will be formulated by the Principal Allied Powers and submitted to the Council of the League of Nations for approval.

Turkey hereby undertakes, in accordance with the provisions of Article [132 of the Treaty of Sèvres] to accept any decisions which may be taken in this connection.

(c) The officers chosen by the principal allied Powers are: France for Syria and Great Britain for Mesopotamia and Palestine.

In reference to the above decision the Supreme Council took note of the following reservation of the Italian Delegation:

parts of Ottoman territory to France, the United Kingdom, Greece and Italy, as well as creating large occupation zones within the Ottoman Empire. It was one of a series of treaties that the Central Powers signed with the Allied Powers after their defeat in World War I. Hostilities had already ended with the Armistice of Mudros.

The treaty was signed on 10 August 1920 in an exhibition room at the Manufacture nationale de Sèvres porcelain factory in Sèvres, France.

The Treaty of Sèvres marked the beginning of the partitioning of the Ottoman Empire. The treaty's stipulations included the renunciation of most territory not inhabited by Turkish people and their cession to the Allied administration.

The ceding of Eastern Mediterranean lands saw the introduction of novel polities, including the British Mandate for Palestine and the French Mandate for Syria and Lebanon.

Below are some of the articles of the Treaty of Sèvres;

Article 27.

...

I. In Europe, the frontiers of Turkey will be laid down as follows (see annexed map No. 1) :

(1)The Black Sea:

from the entrance of the Bosphorus to the point described below

(2)With Greece: ' . From a point to be chosen on the Black Sea near the mouth of the'Biyuk Dere, situated about 7 kilometres northwest of Podima, southwestwards to the most northwesterly point of the limit of the basin of the Istranja Dere (about 8 kilometres northwest of Istranja), a line to be fixed on the ground passing through Kapilja Dag and Uchbunar Tepe ;

thence southsoutheastwards to a point to be chosen on the railway from Chorlu to Chatalja about 1 kilometre west of the railway station of Sinekli,

Chatalja about 1 kilometre west of the railway station of Sinekli, a line following as far as possible the western limit of the basin of the Istranja Dere :

Dere : thence southeastward to a point to be chosen between Fener and Kurfali on the watershed between the basins of those rivers which flow into Biyuk Chekmeje Geul, on the northeast, and the basin of those rivers which flow direct into the Sea of Marmora on the southwest,

a line to be fixed on the ground passing south of Sinekli ;
thence southeastwards to a point to be chosen on the Sea of Marmora about 1 kilometre southwest of Kalikratia, a line following as far as possible this watershed.

...

(2) With Syria :

From a point to be chosen on the eastern bank of the outlet of the Hassan Dede, about 3 kilometres northwest of Karatash Burun, northeastwards to a point to be chosen on the Djaihun Irmak about 1 kilometre north of Babeli, a line to be fixed on the ground passing north of Karatash ;

thence to Kesik Kale,

the course of the Djaihun Irmak upstream ;

thence northeastwards to a point to be chosen on the Djaihun Irmak about 15 kilometres eastsoutheast of Karsbazar,

a line to be fixed on the ground passing north of Kara Tepe ; thence to the bend in the Djaihun Irmak situated west of Duldul Dag,

the course of the Djaihun Irmak upstream ;

thence in a general southeasterly direction to a point to be chosen on Emir Musi Dag about 15 kilometres south-south-west of Giaour Geul, a line to be fixed on the ground at a distance of about 18 kilometres from the railway, and leaving Duldul Dag to Syria ;

thence eastwards to a point to be chosen about 5 kilometres north of Urfa, a generally straight line from west to east to be fixed on the ground passing north of the roads connecting the towns of Baghche, Afintab, Biridjik, and Urfa and leaving the last three named towns to Syria;

thence eastwards to the south-western extremity of the bend in the Tigris about .6 kilometres north of Azekh (27 kilometres west of Djezire-ibn-Omar), a generally straight line from west to east to be fixed on the ground leaving the town of Mardin to Syria ;

thence to a point to be chosen on the Tigris between the point of confluence of the Khabur Su with the Tigris and the bend in the Tigris situated about 10 kilometres north of this point, is point, the course of the Tigris downstream, leaving the island on which is situated the town of Djezire-ibn-Omar to Syria.

(8) With Mesopotamia: Thence in a general easterly direction to a point to be chosen on the northern boundary of the vilayet of Mosul,

a line to be fixed on the ground ;

thence eastwards to the point where it meets • the frontier between Turkey and Persia,

the northern boundary of the valayet of Mosul, modified, however, so as to pass south of Amadia.

...

Article 94

The High Contracting Parties agree that Syria and Mesopotamia shall, in accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 22, Part I (Covenant of the League of Nations), be provisionally recognised as independent States subject to the rendering of administrative advice and assistance by a Mandatory until such time as they are able to stand alone.

A Commission shall be constituted within fifteen days from the coming into force of the present Treaty to trace on the spot the frontier line described in Article 27, II (2) and (3). This Commission will be composed of three members nominated by France, Great Britain and Italy respectively, and one member nominated by Turkey ; it will be assisted by a representative of Syria for the Syrian frontier, and by a representative of Mesopotamia for the Mesopotamian frontier.

The determination of the other frontiers of the said States, and the selection of the Mandatories, will be made by the Principal Allied Powers

Article 112.

Turkey renounces all claim to the tribute formerly paid by Egypt. Great Britain undertakes to relieve Turkey of all liability in respect of the Turkish loans secured on the Egyptian tribute.

These loans are :

The guaranteed loan of 1855 ;

The loan of 1894 representing the converted loans of 1854 and 1871 ;

The loan of 1891 representing the converted loan of 1877. The sums which the Khedives of Egypt have from time to time undertaken to pay over to the houses by which these loans were issued will be applied as heretofore to the interest and the sinking funds of the loans of 1894 and 1891 until the final extinction of those loans. The Government of Egypt will also continue to apply the sum hitherto paid towards the interest on the guaranteed loan of 1855.

Upon the extinction of these loans of 1894, 1891 and 1855, all liability -on the part of the Egyptian Government arising out of the tribute formerly paid by Egypt to Turkey will cease.



FIGURE II. TURKEY IN 1920

Compiled by
Col. Lawrence Martin

-Borders according to Treaty of Sèvres

As is quite clear, the Treaty of Sèvres was essentially a 'death warrant' for the Ottoman Empire. Although the Ottoman Empire accepted this treaty, Mustafa Kemal rejected it and demonstrated his determination to fight against it by waging the War of Independence.

5.8 Ankara Agreement

The Ankara Agreement was signed on 20 October 1921 at Ankara between France and the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, ending the Franco-Turkish War.

The signatories were French diplomat Henry Franklin-Bouillon and Turkish foreign minister Yusuf Kemal Bey. Based on the terms of the agreement, the French acknowledged the end of the Franco-Turkish War and ceded large areas to Turkey. However other French units in Turkey were not affected, in return for economic concessions from Turkey. In return, the

Turkish government acknowledged French imperial sovereignty over the French Mandate of Syria. The treaty was registered in the League of Nations Treaty Series on 30 August 1926.

Below are some of the articles of Ankara Agreement;

ARTICLE 3.

Within a maximum period of two months from the date of the signature of the present agreement, the Turkish troops shall withdraw to the north and the French troops to the south of the line specified in article 8.

ARTICLE 7.

A special administrative régime shall be established for the district of Alexandretta. The Turkish inhabitants of this district shall enjoy every facility for their cultural development. The Turkish language shall have official recognition.

ARTICLE 8.

The line mentioned in article 3 is fixed and determined as follows:- The frontier line shall start at a point to be selected on the Gulf of Alexandretta immediately to the south of the locality of Payas and will proceed generally towards Meidan-Ekbez (leaving the railway station and the locality to Syria); thence it will bend towards the south-east so as to leave the locality of Marsova to Syria and that of Karnaba as well as the town of Killis to Turkey; thence it will join the railway at the station of Choban-bey. Then it will follow the Bagdad Railway, of which the track as far as Nisibin will remain on Turkish territory; thence it will follow the old road between Nisibin and Jeziret-ibn-Omar where it will join the Tigris. The localities of Nisibin and Jeziret-ibn-Omar as well as the road will remain Turkish; but the two countries shall have the same rights to the use of this road.

The stations and sidings of the section between Choban-bey and Nisibin shall belong to Turkey as forming parts of the track of the railway.

A commission comprising delegates of the two parties will be constituted, within a period of one month from the signature of the present agreement, to determine the above-mentioned line. This commission shall begin its labours within the same period.

ARTICLE 9.

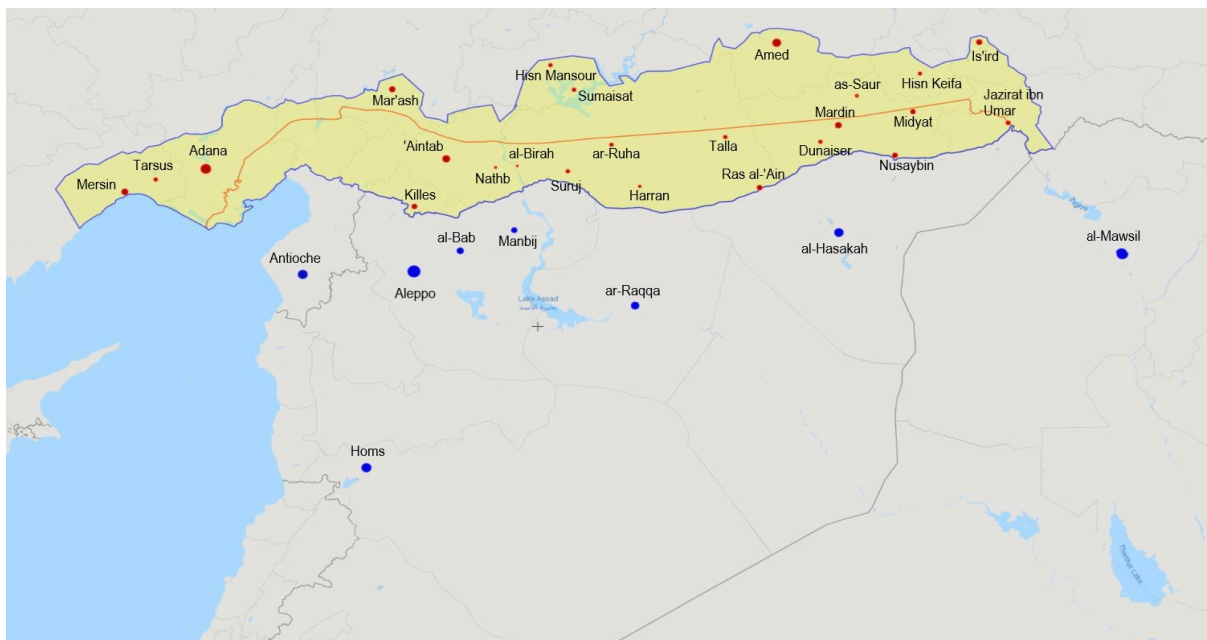
The tomb of Suleiman Shah, the grandfather of the Sultan Osman, founder of the Ottoman dynasty (the tomb known under the name of Turk Mezari), situated at Jaber-Kalesi shall remain, with its appurtenances, the property of Turkey, who may appoint guardians for it and may hoist the Turkish flag there.

ARTICLE 10.

The Government of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey agrees to the transfer of the concession of the section of the Bagdad Railway between Bozanti and Nisibin as well as of the several branches constructed in the vilayet of Adana to a French group nominated by the French Government, with all the rights, privileges and advantages attached to the concessions, particularly as regards working and traffic.

Turkey shall have the right to transport troops by railway from Meidan-Ekbez to Choban-bey in Syrian territory and Syria shall have the right to transport troops by railway from Choban-bey to Nisibin in Turkish territory.

In principle no differential tariff shall be levied over this section and these branches. However, should a case arise, the two Governments reserve the right to examine by mutual agreement any departure from this rule which may become necessary. Failing agreement, each party will resume its liberty of action.



-Northern Syrian Sanjaks ceded to Turkey by France in the Franco-Turkish Agreement 1921

The sanjak of Alexandretta in Syria was given a special administrative status, with official recognition of the Turkish language and provision for the cultural development of the Turkish inhabitants, who were the largest single ethnoreligious group. According to Article 9 of the treaty the Tomb of Suleyman Shah (the burial place of Suleyman Shah, the grandfather of Osman I, the founder of the Ottoman Empire) in Syria "shall remain, with its appurtenances, the property of Turkey, who may appoint guardians for it and may hoist the Turkish flag there".

5.5 Treaty of Lausanne

The Treaty of Lausanne was a peace treaty signed in Lausanne, Switzerland on 24 July 1923. It officially ended the state of war that had existed between Turkey and the Allied British Empire, French Republic, Kingdom of Italy, Empire of Japan, Kingdom of Greece, Kingdom of Romania, and Serb-Croat-Slovene State since the onset of World War I. It was the result of a second attempt at peace after the failed Treaty of Sèvres, which was signed by all previous parties but later rejected by the Turkish national movement who fought against the previous terms and significant loss of Anatolian territory. The Treaty of Lausanne ended the conflict and defined the borders of the modern Turkish state except for its border with Iraq. In the treaty, Turkey gave up all claims to the remainder of the Ottoman Empire and in return the Allies recognized Turkish sovereignty within its new borders.

Below are some of the articles of the Treaty of Lausanne;

ARTICLE 2.

From the Black Sea to the Aegean the frontier of Turkey is laid down as follows: (I) With Bulgaria:

From the mouth of the River Rezvaya, to the River Maritza, the point of junction of the three frontiers of Turkey, Bulgaria and Greece:

the southern frontier of Bulgaria as at present demarcated;

(2) With Greece:

Thence to the confluence of the Arda and the Maritza:

the course of the Maritza;

then upstream along the Arda, up to a point on that river to be determined on the spot in the immediate neighbourhood of the village of Tchorek-Keuy:

the course of the Arda;

thence in a south-easterly direction up to a point on the Maritza, 1 kilom. below Bosna-Keuy:

a roughly straight line leaving in Turkish territory the village of Bosna-Keuy. The village of Tchorek-Keuy shall be assigned to Greece or to Turkey according as the majority of the population shall be found to be Greek or Turkish by the Commission for which provision is made in Article 5, the population which has migrated into this village after the 11th October, 1922, not being taken into account;

thence to the Aegean Sea:

the course of the Maritza.

ARTICLE 3.

From the Mediterranean to the frontier of Persia, the frontier of Turkey is laid down as follows:

(I) With Syria:

The frontier described in Article 8 of the Franco-Turkish Agreement of the 20th October, 1921

(2) With Iraq:

The frontier between Turkey and Iraq shall be laid down in friendly arrangement to be concluded between Turkey and Great Britain within nine months.

In the event of no agreement being reached between the two Governments within the time mentioned, the dispute shall be referred to the Council of the League of Nations.

The Turkish and British Governments reciprocally undertake that, pending the decision to be reached on the subject of the frontier, no military or other movement shall take place which

might modify in any way the present state of the territories of which the final fate will depend upon that decision.

ARTICLE 14.

The islands of Imbros and Tenedos, remaining under Turkish sovereignty, shall enjoy a special administrative organisation composed of local elements and furnishing every guarantee for the native non-Moslem population in so far as concerns local administration and the protection of persons and property. The maintenance of order will be assured therein by a police force recruited from amongst the local population by the local administration above provided for and placed under its orders.

The agreements which have been, or may be, concluded between Greece and Turkey relating to the exchange of the Greek and Turkish populations will not be applied to the inhabitants of the islands of Imbros and Tenedos.

ARTICLE 17.

The renunciation by Turkey of all rights and titles over Egypt and over the Soudan will take effect as from the 5th November, 1914.

ARTICLE 34.

Subject to any agreements which it may be necessary to conclude between the Governments exercising authority in the countries detached from Turkey and the Governments of the countries where the persons concerned are resident, Turkish nationals of over eighteen years of age who are natives of a territory detached from Turkey under the present Treaty, and who on its coming into force are habitually resident abroad, may opt for the nationality of the territory of which they are natives, if they belong by race to the majority of the population of that territory, and subject to the consent of the Government exercising authority therein. This right of option must be exercised within two years from the coming into force of the present Treaty.



-Borders according to Treaty of Lausanne

The Treaty of Lausanne led to the recognition of the sovereignty of the new Republic of Turkey as the successor to the now defunct Ottoman Empire in the international arena. Indeed, the status of Hatay remained unchanged in the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne as long as France's mandate over Syria continued.

5.6 Franco-Syrian Treaty

In 1934, France attempted to impose a treaty of independence that was heavily prejudiced in its favor. It promised gradual independence but kept the Syrian Mountains under French control. The Syrian head of state at the time was a French puppet, Muhammad 'Ali Bay al-'Abid. Fierce opposition to this treaty was spearheaded by senior nationalist and parliamentarian Hashim al-Atassi, who called for a sixty-day strike in protest. Atassi's political coalition, the National Bloc, mobilized massive popular support for his call. Riots and demonstrations raged, and the economy came to a standstill.

The new Popular Front-led French government then agreed to recognize the National Bloc as the sole legitimate representative of the Syrian people and invited Hashim al-Atassi to independence negotiations in Paris. He traveled there on 22 March 1936, heading a senior

Bloc delegation. The resulting treaty called for immediate recognition of Syrian independence as a sovereign republic, with full emancipation granted gradually over a 25-year period.

The treaty guaranteed incorporation of previously autonomous Druze and Alawite regions into the region of Syria, but not Lebanon, with which France signed a similar treaty in November. The treaty also promised curtailment of French intervention in Syrian domestic affairs as well as a reduction of French troops, personnel and military bases in Syria. In return, Syria pledged to support France in times of war, including the use of its air space, and to allow France to maintain two military bases on Syrian territory. Other political, economic and cultural provisions were included.

Atassi returned to Syria in triumph on 27 September 1936 and was elected President of the Republic in November. *However, the treaty was never ratified by the French Parliament, and therefore it never came into legal force. This is why the complete official text of the agreement is not readily accessible today.*

5.7 Hatay Statue

Now let's look at the Hatay issue again - as if we hadn't done it before - so that we can objectively examine the problem and the newly issued status and constitution.

The Province of Hatay, which was known as the Sanjak of Alexandretta prior to 1938, is an area of approximately 1875 square miles bordering the Gulf of Iskenderun. Its southern border is a part of the Turkish-Syrian frontier. Hatay includes the port of Iskenderun (Alexandretta) and the town of Antakya (Antioch).

Rumors have recently come from Damascus that Syria might soon refer the legality of Turkey's sovereignty over the Hatay to "an international body"--which

would presumably be the United Nations Security Council or International Court of Justice. Although the Syrian Prime Minister has denied the current rumors, the issue remains a very live

The Secretary General of the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs has expressed the opinion that the rumors are Soviet-inspired, and has stated his hope that if Syria should appeal to the Security Council, the United States would oppose the demands upon the territory of a member of the United Nations. He maintains that Turkey is willing to discuss with Syria concessions in the Hatay, but would never consider renouncing sovereignty over the Turkish province.

The 1921 Franco-Turkish Treaty ceded the Ottoman Turkish Territory of Hatay to France, the mandatory power for Syria and Lebanon. The Treaty of Lausanne (1923) confirmed Turkey's renunciation of sovereignty over the territory. When in 1936 France promised Syria and Lebanon full independence after three years, the Turks protested, claiming that the Hatay had been ceded to France as such, not to France as mandatory power, and should also be given independence. The issue was finally referred to the League of Nations, which granted the province quasi-independence from Syria. Although the Turkish population in the Hatay was a minority, the Turks were able to establish an exclusively Turkish provincial government, and in 1938 a republic was proclaimed. The following year the province was incorporated into the Turkish Republic despite the disapproval of the League of Nations. Syria has not recognized Turkish sovereignty over the area.

Besides the strong feeling of nationalism with which both Syria and Turkey view the matter, each country considers the province important to it for economic and strategic reasons. The fruit, olive, grain, tobacco, cotton, and silk crops of the well-watered interior are of considerable value. Furthermore, the Syrians feel that Iskenderun is the natural outlet for northern Syria, and that the country has no

Only limited coordination of this report with departmental intelligence agencies has been attained. Substantial dissent, if any, will be submitted at a later date.

Another port of comparable usefulness. The Turks regard the Gulf of Iskenderun as essential to the defense of Southern Turkey, and believe that Syria is neither strong enough nor reliable enough to maintain security in this area. They also fear that acceptance of the Syrian claims might establish a dangerous precedent and thus serve to reinforce Soviet claims against northeastern Turkey.

An amicable settlement of the potentially dangerous Hatay problem would be a great contribution to the political stability of the Near East. The likelihood of a compromise appears remote, however, because Turkey refuses even to discuss the question of sovereignty while existing nationalistic sentiment in Syria probably will not allow the Syrian Government to negotiate on any basis which implies acknowledgment of Turkish rights. The Turks are willing to consider minor frontier rectifications and the concession of port facilities in Iskenderun harbor. If the two countries could meet in a friendly atmosphere, it is possible that, by using these considerations as a basis for discussion, they might find a satisfactory solution. If, on the other hand, the Syrians do appeal, for example, to the Security Council, they can probably count not only on the support of Arab states, which naturally side with Syria in the dispute, but also on that of the USSR and its satellites. Under these conditions, Western support of Turkey will alienate the Arab states, while support of Syria will weaken Turkish morale and resistance to the USSR. This dilemma would be averted if the raising of the Hatay issue could be postponed until the volatile feelings of the young nationalistic Syrian state have subsided, permitting a calmer atmosphere for bilateral discussion.

Further discussion of the Hatay question is contained in the Enclosure hereto.

Current Situation

Recent rumors originating in Damascus and indicating that the Syrian Government might soon refer the Hatay question (i.e., the legality of Turkey's sovereignty over this area) to "an international body" (presumably either the UN Security Council or International Court of Justice) have been denied by the Syrian

Prime Minister. The denial, however, was worded in such a way as to keep the issue alive. The Prime Minister maintained that "the Syrian Government is very vigilant to protect and defend the country's vital interests."

The Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Turkish press have shown considerable concern about these rumors.. Editorialists, expressing their belief that the rumors are inspired by the USSR, call upon the Syrians to "come to their senses and to stop oppressing the Turks in Northern Syria", although they adduce no real evidence that any such oppression exists. The Secretary General of the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, F. C. Erkin, before the rumors were denied, expressed to US Ambassador Wilson in Ankara the hope that, if Syria were indeed to apply to the Security Council, the US would oppose such demands upon the territory of a member of the United Nations. He also expressed the view that the Turkish-Syrian frontier had been laid down by treaty and that, if such frontiers were to be subject to review by the Security Council, no existing borders could be regarded as secure. It was also Erkin's belief that the USSR was promoting these demands, which, if carried out, would cause very high feeling among the Turks and prompt them to make counter-demands, such as the return of the former Ottoman Turkish city of Aleppo and other regions. Meanwhile, he said that the present status of the Hatay constituted neither a threat to peace nor a situation likely to endanger peace. Erkin maintained that Turkey was quite prepared to discuss with Syria such matters as an offer of facilities in the port of Iskenderun, minor frontier rectifications, and the registration of property titles, but would never agree to consider renouncing sovereignty over the "Turkish territory of Hatay".

Turkish-French Treaty of Ankara 1921. In the Treaty with France drawn up at Ankara on 20 October 1921, the Turkish nationalists (who later founded the Republic) renounced sovereignty over the Ottoman Turkish territory of Iskenderun (Hatay) to France, the mandatory power for Syria and Lebanon. In return, the French agreed to withdraw their troops from Southern Turkey, which they had occupied following Turkey's defeat in World War I. Thus considerable Turkish forces were released to join in combat against invading Greek armies. While the French were

given certain economic concessionary privileges in Turkey, some boundary revisions were agreed upon which were favorable to the Turks because they included in Turkey a long stretch of the East-West railroad line to Iraq via Syria. The French also promised that Turks in the Hatay were to be given privileged treatment.

The French Mandate. France was awarded a mandate over Syria and Lebanon in accordance with the Allied Agreement of San Remo in 1920 and later by consent of the League of Nations (24 July 1922). The terms of the mandate as finally drawn up under League of Nations auspices specify (Article 4) that "the mandatory shall be responsible for seeing that no part of the territory of Syria and the Lebanon is ceded or leased or in any way placed under the control of a foreign power."

Treaty of Lausanne - 1923. In the Treaty of Lausanne, signed on 24 July 1923, which definitively established Turkey's postwar borders, the nationalist Turkish Government agreed to renounce "all rights and titles whatsoever over or respecting the territories outside the frontiers laid down in the present Treaty....."

Turkish-Syrian Convention of Friendship - 1926.

This agreement confirmed the Turkish-French Treaty of Ankara of 1921.

French-Syrian Treaty of 1936. Upon announcement of this treaty, according to which France promised Syria and Lebanon full independence after three years, the Turks at once protested, particularly since the treaty transferred to independent Syria all international commitments assumed by France as mandatory power, on behalf of that State. attitude was that Turkey had given the Hatay to France, as such, not to The Turkish France as mandatory power for Syria. The Turks maintained that by relinquishing the mandate, France created a situation which was not contemplated when the peace treaties were signed, and that the French, in giving Syria and Lebanon their independence, should also and separately free the Hatay. After considerable controversy, both France and Turkey agreed to refer the issue to the League of Nations. On 29 May 1937 a committee appointed by the League produced a Statute and Fundamental Law for the Hatay which both parties accepted. The Hatay was granted

independence, in internal matters, while monetary control and customs administration were to be directed jointly by the Hatay and Syria, the latter state being responsible for the direction of foreign relations. An Assembly was to be formed, composed of 40 members representing the various communities in the Hatay, in accordance with the number of registered voters. The Turks began at once doing their utmost to ensure for themselves a majority in the Assembly.

Through Quasi-Independence to Turkish Sovereignty. registration of voters was being carried out, rioting and strikes oc-

While the Hatay was placed under martial law, Turkish troops being permitted to assist in maintaining order. The French seemed to be conniving in the establishment of full Turkish control; they were apparently more interested in maintaining a friendly Turkey in the Eastern

Mediterranean during this critical period (1938-1939) in world affairs, than in battling for the rights of Syria, over which France had already agreed to withdraw control. The first Assembly met in September 1938 and, although Turks in the Hatay were outnumbered by other groups combined as a result of Turkey's machinations and French connivance an exclusively Turkish Government was elected, and the Republic of Hatay was proclaimed. The Republic lasted less than a year, however, for in 1939 France renounced its interests altogether in the Hatay and on 23 July (without sanction of the League of Nations and, indeed, despite the clearly expressed disapproval of the League) it was incorporated into the Turkish Republic and became as it now remains--a Turkish Province.

Attitude of Syria and the League of Nations. Not only did the League of Nations, through its Permanent Mandates Commission, protest against this settlement, but so also did the Syrians. Partly because of delays in the transmission of documents, however, no positive action was taken, and upon the outbreak of World War II, the whole issue was laid aside. Since Syria has won its independence, no Syrian

Government has recognized Turkey's sovereignty over the Hatay and the Syrian press perennially attacks such sovereignty. Indeed, if any government of Syria were to announce its acceptance of Turkish sovereignty over the area, it would immediately be forced out of office. The Turks, on the other hand, who feel just as strongly that they are in the right, delayed for years their recognition of Syrian and Lebanese independence. When on 2 March 1946 Turkey did finally recognize the independence of both States, the issue of sovereignty over the Hatay was carefully side-stepped.

Since the annexation of Hatay by the Turkish Republic, considerable numbers of Arabs and Armenians have emigrated, chiefly to Syria. It is these emigrants who constitute the chief source of complaints in Syria against continued Turkish sovereignty. An additional source of agitation for removal of Turkish control of the Hatay is the vociferous nationalistic element of the Syrian population. Some Turkish nationals have moved into the Province, chiefly into urban areas, for there has been no large-scale program of rural re-settlement. Though no reliable statistics are available, it is now likely that a majority of the population is Turkish. Turks in the Hatay may be regarded as loyal citizens of the Republic and, due to the equality of treatment accorded Circassians and Turcomans in Turkey, it is probable that many among these two groups would prefer to remain in the Republic and would probably elect to do so if given an opportunity to express their wish by plebiscite. The Arabs and Armenians, however, undoubtedly would prefer Syrian rule, and the Kurdish minority would probably also prefer separation from the stringent control and supervision to which all Kurds are subjected in Turkey, where they form by far the largest minority group in the Republic.

Economic. The port of Iskenderun is of considerable importance to both countries--Northern Syria and South Central Turkey (eastward and northeastward of Adana) are its natural hinterland. It is, however, of particular value to Northern Syria, and the economic development of the Aleppo area must always be seriously retarded as long as it is deprived of this natural outlet. The port's usefulness to Aleppo, Syria's largest city, has been diminished not only by the artificial boundary line which separates Aleppo and the port, but also because the Aleppo market center is not connected with Iskenderun by rail except by a very circuitous route via Toprakkale well north of the

Turkish border. It is quite evident that construction of a direct rail link between Aleppo and Iskenderun, provided Syria enjoys rights to use of the harbor, would be of great benefit to Syria in general and to the Aleppo district in particular.

The strategic importance of Iskenderun to Turkey became most obvious during World War II when, with British aid, the Turks constructed a railroad pier capable of serving ocean-going vessels in the harbor. Since Axis occupation of Greece and some of the Aegean islands effectively closed the Turkish Straits to Allied shipping, Lend-Lease shipments to Turkey were discharged at the ports of Mersin and Iskenderun. The Turks see in Iskenderun not only great logistic value but strategic military importance as well, in that it constitutes a potential route of invasion into South Central Turkey. The British have also shown their interest in the area by assisting the Turks during World War II in the construction of good roads in this vicinity. The fruit, olive, grain, tobacco, and cotton-growing and silk-cultivating country of the Hatay's well-watered interior is of considerable economic importance, although not vitally so to either Turkey or Syria. Claims as to potentially valuable chromite and petroleum deposits have not been substantiated. There are reports, however, that serious consideration is being given in Ankara to a projected program of drilling for oil in the Adana area, a project which might well include the sinking of wells near the Syrian border and in the Hatay itself.

Attitude of Syria and Turkey.

Convinced that they have strong juridical rights to the Hatay, the Syrians will not lightly abandon their claims. They feel that, historically and geographically, Iskenderun is the natural outlet for Northern Syria and the Aleppo hinterland. They also point out that Syria has no other port of comparable usefulness and that its loss, therefore, is of far greater consequence to Syria than to Turkey, which possesses a fair harbor at Mersin, not far to the west. The Syrians feel also that they were cheated out of the Hatay while they were powerless to voice an effective protest, let alone enforce their rights, at a time when the Turkish population was a minority. Above all, they feel that they have an unanswerable argument in that France relinquished the territory to Turkey in direct violation of the mandate and against the vigorous protest of the

League of Nations Permanent Mandates Commission.

The Turks, on the other hand, have attempted to show that there has always been a majority of Turks in the area (a claim which available statistics, however unreliable, do not support) and that there is a larger Turkish majority there now. The late Turkish President, Ataturk, asserted again and again that Turkey would never be reconciled to abandoning territory where a majority of the population are Turks; it would be a bold Turkish Government indeed that would dare to tamper with such a "sacred trust", left to the Turks by their "eternal chief". The Turks insist that the territory was given to France in 1921 as a western power, not as mandatory, and that the Syrians never had and do not now have any rights to it whatsoever.

The Turkish Army General Staff regards the Gulf of Iskenderun and its vicinity as essential for the defense of Southern Turkey, since it is logistically useful and strategically valuable, partially controlling the plains south of the Taurus Mountains. The Turks feel that independent Syria is neither strong enough nor reliable enough to maintain security in this area, while France (at any rate in 1921) was believed capable of doing so. Turkey, on the other hand, is an important factor for peace and stability in the Near and Middle East. Furthermore, the Turks believe that satisfaction of Syrian claims to the Hatay, apart from damaging Turkish national pride and morale, might well provide a disastrous precedent and thus offer the Soviets an opportunity to reinforce their claims on behalf of the Georgian and Armenian Soviet Socialist Republics for annexation of large and strategically valuable areas in northeastern Turkey.

Probable Future Developments.

The Turks appear willing to grant important concessions, but both sides are sure to find compromise extremely difficult because of the point-blank Turkish refusal even to discuss the question of sovereignty. Meanwhile, Turkish attempts to strengthen relations with Arab States to the south are prejudiced, since such States naturally take a sympathetic view of the Syrian case.

The Syrians will tend to rely upon members of the Arab League to support any plea they may decide to make. The Syrian Government has shown no indication that it will

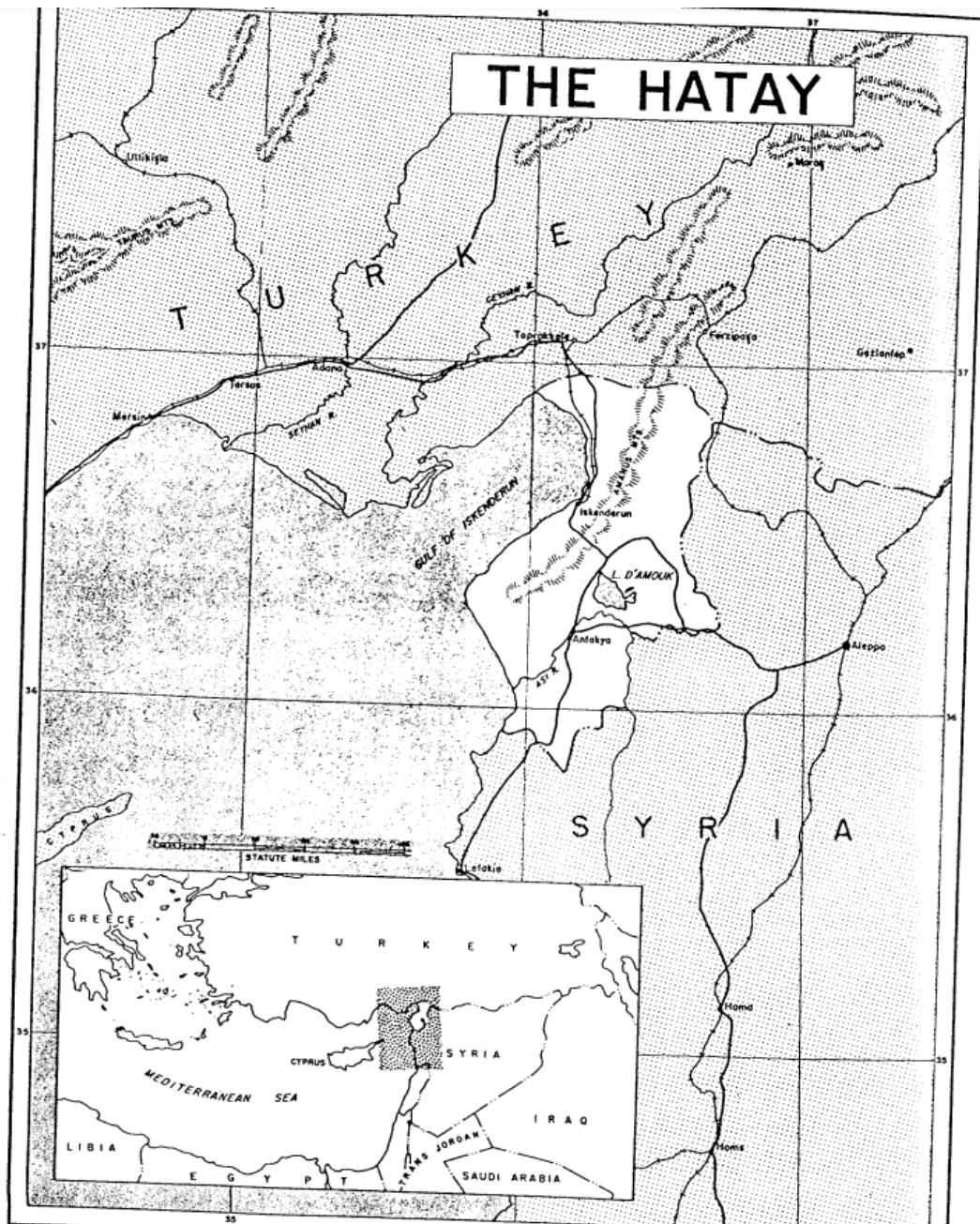
enlist Soviet support in this matter, although (if the case were to be placed before the UN Security Council) the USSR and its satellites may be counted upon to support Syria against Turkey. Meanwhile, the Soviets will doubtless see to it that the issue is kept alive--no difficult task while the Syrian press and public maintain their present indignant attitude. Every Syrian cabinet will take the customary position that it is in favor of "reversion" of the Hatay's sovereignty to Syria, though none has yet attempted officially to advance an energetic claim. If, however, the Syrian Government does decide to appeal to the Security Council, or to submit its case to the International Court of Justice, the Turkish attitude will undoubtedly harden still further. The Turks are more than willing to grant Syria almost any concession or privilege in the Hatay, provided there is no infringement of what they regard as Turkey's territorial integrity.

Unofficially, the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs has indicated that it is prepared to negotiate with Syria not only in regard to minor frontier rectifications but also for the concession of port facilities in Iskenderun harbor. Such a concession is capable of expansion to include special customs and transit privileges, use of bonded warehouses, waiving of harbor dues, and the like, in such a way as to eliminate so far as possible the obstacles inherent in commercial use of a foreign port. A good metalled road already connects Aleppo and Iskenderun, and this can subsequently be supplemented by construction of a new railroad line or of a spur between the port and the Aleppo-Fevzipaşa line. This will become feasible and desirable if the two governments come to terms.

A possible basis of compromise might be provided if Turkey would offer Syria all territory in the Hatay on the left bank of the Asi (ancient Orontes) River. This territory includes the town of Antakya (Antioch), the seat of a Greek Orthodox Patriarch, the great majority of whose adherents are in Syria, Lebanon, and Palestine; the Patriarch himself actually lives in Damascus.

In view of present Syrian public opinion on the subject of sovereignty, it will be very difficult for a Syrian Government to enter into negotiations with Turkey on any basis which would, even by implication, indicate acknowledgment of Turkish rights. There

must first be a diminution in local attempts to stir up nationalistic sentiments and abstention on the part of Soviet or other foreign agents from efforts to keep the issue alive, or at least such insidious activities must be effectively countered. Given time and a calmer atmosphere in which to discuss the problem, representatives of the two nations can meet and perhaps find some formula acceptable to both which will permit removal of this potentially dangerous issue from the international scene. Such a settlement would greatly contribute toward Syrian prosperity and to the political stability of the Middle East.



5.8 Franco-Turkish Agreement

Here we come to our final agreement, which essentially concludes everything. After years of debate and disagreement, it's a real blow to our hearts...

1. The Treaty of Mutual Assistance between Great Britain, France and Turkey, signed October 19, 1939 and re-affirmed by the British and French in 1949, is primarily a guarantee on the part of Britain and France to lend Turkey "all aid and assistance in their power" in case

of aggression against the latter by a European power. In the event of aggression by a European power leading to a *Mediterranean* war involving any of the three countries, Britain, France and Turkey will “collaborate effectively” and will lend “all aid and assistance in their power”. In a sense, therefore, this assistance would be “mutual”. But in point of fact it may be seriously doubted that either France or Britain would provide more than token military support if Turkey were attacked, or that Turkey would do anything to help Britain or France, unless the commitment were part of a larger arrangement such as NATO.

2. A “European power” could be interpreted to include Soviet Russia, but a protocol attached to the treaty stipulates that the obligations undertaken by Turkey cannot compel Turkey to take action “having as its effect, or involving as its consequence, entry into armed conflict with the Soviet Union.” This would appear to give the Turks a wide-open escape door. However, they have indicated that they would be willing to revise the treaty so as to eliminate this protocol if the U.S. adhered to the treaty.

3. Article 3 of the treaty provides that Turkey will give France and Britain “all aid and assistance in her power” should France and

Britain, in fulfillment of their declarations of April 13, 1939 with respect to Rumania and Greece, be called upon to defend those countries against attack. The declarations by the British and French Governments were designed to offset the German occupation of Prague and the Italian occupation of Albania, and promised support if the independence of Greece or Rumania were threatened to such an extent that the Greek or Rumanian Governments considered it vital to resist with national forces. This guarantee to Greece cannot be considered valid today. The Greeks have been realistic enough not to place any reliance on the provisions of Article 3 and the British have just told us that they regard this portion of the treaty of 1939 as having lapsed. There seems no likelihood therefore that the Turks would ever be called upon to give effect to this part of the treaty.

4. The other provisions of the treaty refer to “consultations” and “such common action as might be considered effective” in certain circumstances and do not specify direct assistance. On the whole the Treaty of 1939 would appear to be a rather weak reed to lean upon, if not largely obsolete, for defense of the Eastern Mediterranean. Rather than adhere to this treaty the United States would probably find it preferable to enter into some other form of commitment to Turkey (and to Greece), once it were decided to provide the guarantee which the Turks are seeking.

THE President of the French Republic, His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India (in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), and the President of the Turkish Republic :

Desiring to conclude a treaty of a reciprocal character in the interests of their national security, and to provide for mutual assistance in resistance to aggression, Have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, namely :

The President of the French Republic :

M. Rene Massigli, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Commander of the Legion of Honour ;

His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India (for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) :

Sir Hughe Montgomery Knatchbull-Hugessen, K.C.M.G., Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary ;

The President of the Turkish Republic :

Dr. Refik Saydam, President of the Council, Minister for Foreign Affairs ad int., Deputy for Istanbul ; Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

ARTICLE 1. In the event of Turkey being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression by that Power against Turkey, France and the United Kingdom will co-operate effectively with Turkey and will lend her all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 2. In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to war in the Mediterranean area in which France and the United Kingdom are involved, Turkey will collaborate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power. In the event of an act of aggression by a European Power leading to

war in the Mediterranean area in which Turkey is involved, France and the United Kingdom will collaborate effectively with Turkey and will lend her all aid and assistance in their power.

ARTICLE 3. So long as the guarantees given by France and the United Kingdom to Greece and Roumania by their respective Declarations of the 13th April, 1939, remain in force, Turkey will co-operate effectively with France and the United Kingdom and will lend them all aid and assistance in her power, in the event of France and the United Kingdom being engaged in hostilities in virtue of either of the said guarantees.

ARTICLE 4. In the event of France and the United Kingdom being involved in hostilities with a European Power in consequence of aggression committed by that Power against either of those States without the provisions of Articles 2 or 3 being applicable, the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together.

It is nevertheless agreed that in such an eventuality Turkey will observe at least a benevolent neutrality towards France and the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 5. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 3 above, in the event of either-

(1) aggression by a European Power against another European State which the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties had, with the approval of that State, undertaken to assist in maintaining its independence or neutrality against such aggression, or

(2) aggression by a European Power which, while directed against another European State, constituted, in the opinion of the Government of one of the High Contracting Parties, a menace to its own security,

the High Contracting Parties will immediately consult together with a view to such common action as might be considered effective.

ARTICLE 6 . The present Treaty is not directed against any country, but is designed to assure France , the United Kingdom and Turkey of mutual aid and assistance in resistance to aggression should the necessity arise.

ARTICLE 7. The provisions of the present Treaty are equally binding as bilateral obligations between Turkey and each of the two other High Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8. If the High Contracting Parties are engaged in hostilities in consequence of the operation of the present Treaty , they will not conclude an armistice or peace except by common agreement.

ARTICLE 9. The present Treaty shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited simultaneously at Angora as soon as possible. It shall enter into force on the date of this deposit. The present Treaty is concluded for a period of fifteen years. If none of the High Contracting Parties has notified the two others of its intention to terminate it six months before the expiration of the said period, the Treaty will be renewed by tacit consent for a further period of five years, and so on.

In witness whereof the undersigned have signed the present Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Angora, in triplicate, the 19th October, 1939.

(L.S.) R. MASSIGLI. (L.S.) H. M. KNATCHBULLHUGESSEN. (L.S.) DR. R. SAYDAM.

PROTOCOL No. 1. THE undersigned Plenipotentiaries state that their respective Governments agree that the Treaty of to-day's date shall be put into force from the moment of its signature.

The present Protocol shall be considered as an integral part of the Treaty concluded to-day between France, the United Kingdom and Turkey.

Done at Angora, in triplicate, the 19th October, 1939.

R. MASSIGLI. H. M. KNATCHBULLHUGESSEN. DR. R. SAYDAM.

PROTOCOL No. 2. AT the moment of signature of the Treaty between France, the United Kingdom and Turkey, the, undersigned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised to this effect, have agreed as follows :-

The obligations undertaken by Turkey in virtue of the abovementioned Treaty cannot compel that country to take action having as its effect, or involving as its consequence, entry into armed conflict with the Soviet Union.

The present Protocol shall be considered as an integral part of the Treaty concluded to-day between France, the United Kingdom and Turkey.

Done at Angora, in triplicate, the 19th October, 1939.

R. MASSIGLI. H. M. KNATCHBULLHUGESSEN. DR. R. SAYDAM.

SPECIAL AGREEMENT. THE Governments of .the French Republic, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the Turkish Republic, desiring to regulate, in connexion with the Treaty signed this day, certain questions concerning Turkey of a financial and -economic nature or relative to deliveries of war material, have agreed as follows :

ARTICLE 1. The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom place at the disposal of Turkey a credit of £25,000,000 destined to cover the supplies of war material referred to in Article 2 below.

In this sum are included the credit of 460,000,000 French francs and that of 010,000,000 which the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom have already declared their readiness to place at the disposal of Turkey for the same purpose.

The credit referred to above shall be repaid in 20 years ; it shall carry interest at 4 per cent.

The conditions of repayment shall be the object of a subsequent arrangement ; the elaboration of this arrangement shall not, however, delay the despatch of the material referred to in Article 2 below.

ARTICLE 2. The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom shall supply to Turkey, as soon as possible, the material forming the subject of the credit mentioned in Article 1, paragraph 2.

A commission comprising qualified representatives of the three Governments shall meet as soon as possible in Paris or London in order to draw up the programme of deliveries corresponding to the surplus of the credit stipulated in Article 1.

Without awaiting the completion of this programme, the commission shall determine the supplies the delivery of which shall be effected as a matter of urgency. For this purpose the commission shall have regard to the necessity of placing Turkey without delay in a position to offer effective resistance to an attack which might be directed at short notice against her European frontiers ; it shall equally have regard to the immediate possibilities of the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 3. The stipulations of Articles 1. and 2 above shall not affect any arrangements which may be made between the three Governments in the event of their becoming engaged together in hostilities in execution of the Treaty signed this day, for the purpose of furnishing Turkey with the material which might be recognised as necessary.

ARTICLE 4. The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom shall grant- to Turkey a loan of £ 15,000,000. The equivalent i n gold of this amount: shall be delivered to the Turkish Government at Angora by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom.

This loan shall be repaid within the same period as the war material credit referred to in Article 1 above ; it shall carry interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom agree that the service and amortisation of this loan shall be effected in Turkish pounds which shall be utilised for the purchase of tobacco or, by agreement , of other Turkish products.

ARTICLE 5. The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom shall place respectively at the disposal of Turkey :

the French Government a loan representing the equivalent in French francs at this present date of £1,500,000, and the Government of the United Kingdom a loan of £2,000,000.

The Turkish Government undertake to use these sums in the first place for the transfer of the French commercial credits recorded this day in the Clearing Account to a maximum of the equivalent in French francs of £1,500,000 at this present date and of the British commercial credits recorded this day in the Clearing Account to a maximum of £2,000,000.

These loans shall be subject to the same conditions as regards interest and repayment as the loan referred to in Article 4.

The present Agreement shall be considered as an integral part of the Treaty concluded this day between France, the United Kingdom and Turkey.

It shall enter into force at the same time and in the same conditions as that Treaty.

In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done in triplicate at Angora, this nineteenth day of October, nineteen hundred and thirty-nine.

(L.S.) R. MIASSIGLI. (L.S.) H. M. KNATCHBULLHUGESSEN. (L.S.) DR. R. SAYDAM.

ARRANGEMENT RELATING TO THE CREDIT OF X25 MILLION STERLING AT 4 PER CENT., 1939. AN Agreement having been entered into between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of the French Republic, and the Government of the Turkish Republic for the opening of a credit of 125 million sterling in favour of the Turkish Government designed to cover the provision of «war material.

The above - mentioned Governments have agreed on the following arrangements for the purpose of regulating the technical application of the said credit :-

ARTICLE 1. The credit of £25 million sterling available to the Turkish Government shall be utilised as follows :-

The French Government shall agree to the delivery to the Turkish Government of war material, the arrangements concerning which shall be the object of special agreements to be

concluded between the qualified representatives of the French Government and Turkish Government . As and when they fall due under these agreements, the French Government , in agreement with the qualified representatives of the Turkish Government , shall pay. to the competent French Departments the sums payable under the application of the said arrangements.

The deliveries to be made by the United Kingdom shall be effected either by way of release by the interested Departments or by way of sale by private firms. The manner of these deliveries shall be governed by a special arrangement to be concluded between the diplomatic representatives of the Turkish Republic in London and the Export Credits Guarantee Department, and by the particular contracts with each Department and each firm.

As and when they fall due under this arrangement or these contracts , the Government of the United Kingdom, in accord with the qualified representatives of the Turkish Government , shall pay the amounts due to the interested Departments or firms by the intermediary of a Bank chosen by the Government of the United Kingdom and the Turkish Government . These payments shall be made without charge or commission.

The payments so made by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom for the account of the Turkish Government either by way of payments on account or by way of definitive payments , shall be charged , on the date when they are effected, to an account held in the name of the Turkish Government in pounds sterling , and shall as far as interest and conditions of repayment are concerned take effect from that date.

However, for supplies furnished in the course of the year 1939 the amounts corresponding to the value of these supplies shall, when they shall have been fixed in agreement with the qualified representatives of the Turkish Government, be charged to their account from the dates of delivery and shall take effect both as to interest and conditions of repayment as from those dates.

ARTICLE 2. The Turkish Government shall arrange for the repayment of the amounts charged to their account in the manner laid down in Article 1, as well as the payment of interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum , by means of half-yearly payments in Turkish pounds payable on the 30th June and 31st December in each year starting from the 30th June , 1940, inclusive . These payments shall correspond with the equivalent of the sums in pounds sterling calculated in the following manner:-

1. On the 30th April, 1940, the payments made by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom on account of the Turkish Government up to that date shall be totalled, with the addition of accumulated interest on each payment up to that date. - The total so obtained shall be discounted on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum to its present value as at the 31st December, 1939. The debt thus arrived at shall be repaid by the Turkish Government by means of 40 half-yearly equal payments calculated on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, the first half-yearly payment becoming due on the 30th June, 1940.

2. On the 31st October, 1940, the payments made by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom for the account of the Turkish Government from the 1st May, 1940, to the 31st October, 1940, shall be totalled, with the addition of the accumulated interest on each payment up to the 31st October, 1940. The sum so obtained shall be discounted on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum to its present value as at the 30th June, 1940. The debt thus arrived at shall be repaid by the Turkish Government by means of 40 equal half-yearly payments calculated on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, the first of these half-yearly payments falling due on the 31st December, 1940.

3. The repayment of subsequent advances shall be effected by the same arrangements : each 30th April and each 31st October, as the case may be, the payments made by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom on account of the Turkish Government in the course of the period of six months terminating on the date in question, shall be totalled, with the addition of the accumulated interest on each payment up to that date. The total obtained shall be discounted on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum to its value as at the previous 31st December or 30th June, as the case may be. The debt thus arrived at shall be repaid by the Turkish Government by means of 40 equal half-yearly payments calculated on the basis of the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, the first half-yearly payment falling due on the 30th June or the 31st December, as the case may be, which follows the date on which the debt shall have been determined.

ARTICLE 3.

As each payment becomes due, the Turkish Government shall pay the equivalent in Turkish pounds of the sum in pounds sterling falling due to a Special Account opened in the name of

the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom at the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey. The conversion of the pounds sterling into Turkish pounds shall be made at the buying rate of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey ruling on the day preceding the date on which each payment falls due . The payments in Turkish pounds thus effected shall constitute a full discharge for the Turkish Government.

The balance in the Special Account aforementioned shall be utilised by the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom for the purchase in Turkey of Turkish commodities of all kinds destined to be imported into France and the United Kingdom for the internal consumption of those countries.

ARTICLE 4. The present arrangement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present arrangement.

Done in triplicate in Paris, the 8th January, 1940.

R. H. CAMPBELL. EDUARD DALADIER. M. MENEMENCIOGLU.

ARRANGEMENT RELATING TO THE LOAN OF £15 MILLION STERLING AT 3 PER CENT ., 1939. An Agreement having been entered into between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Turkish Republic for granting to the Turkish Government a loan of £15 million sterling to be delivered in gold at Angora.

The above - mentioned Governments have agreed on the following arrangements with a view to regulating the technical application of the said loan :-

ARTICLE 1. The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the United Kingdom shall deliver to the Turkish Government at Angora as soon as possible , but, in any case, within, maximum period of six weeks from the date of the signature of the present arrangement, the equivalent in gold of £15 million sterling , calculated at the rate quoted by the Bank of England , viz., 168 shillings per ounce of gold.

ARTICLE 2. The Government of the Turkish Republic shall arrange for the repayment of the capital of the loan, as well as the payment of the interest thereon, calculated at the rate of 3 per cent, per annum, by means of forty half-yearly payments in Turkish pounds, each equal to

the equivalent in pounds sterling : £501.406 10s. Od. payable on the 30th June and 31st December of each year commencing on the 30th June , 1940 , inclusive. However, the half-yearly payment payable on the 30th July+c, 1940, shall have deducted from it the amount of interest at 3 per cent. per annum, accumulated from the 31st December, 1939, to the date when the delivery of the gold as indicated in the first article shall have been effectively realised.

ARTICLE 3. The sums due for the service of the loan shall be calculated in Turkish pounds, the buying rate of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey on the day preceding the date on which each payment falls due being taken as the basis of conversion of pounds sterling into Turkish pounds. The amounts thus calculated shall be credited at each date on which they fall due to a Special Account in Turkish pounds opened by the said Bank for the French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom.

These payments shall be a complete discharge for the Government of the Republic of Turkey.

ARTICLE 4. The French Government and the Government of the United Kingdom shall utilise the Turkish pounds put to the credit of their Special Account in accordance with the conditions laid down in the preceding Article, for the purchase of tobacco of Turkish origin destined for the internal consumption of France and the United Kingdom, and of all other commodities destined to the same use as shall be determined by common agreement with the Turkish Government.

ARTICLE 5. The present arrangement shall come into force on the date of its signature.

In witness whereof, the Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present arrangement.

Done in triplicate in Paris, the 8th January, 1940.

R. H. CAMPBELL. EDOUARD DALADIER. N. MENEMENCIOGLU.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT REGARDING A LOAN OF TWO MILLION POUNDS.

THE Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Turkish Republic, desiring to regulate the technical application of the loan

of £2,000 , 000 sterling made by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Government of the Turkish Republic, have agreed as follows :-

ARTICLE 1. The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to place at the disposal of the Government of the Turkish Republic within fifteen days from the date of this Agreement the sum of £2,000,000 sterling by payment to the Bank of England for account of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey.

ARTICLE 2. The Government of the Turkish Republic shall repay the principal of the loan and shall pay interest thereon at 3 per cent. per annum by means of forty six - monthly installments each of which shall be equivalent to 066 , 854 4s. Od. sterling and which shall be payable in Turkish pounds on the 30th June and the 31st December in each year beginning on the 30th June, 1940. It is nevertheless agreed that there shall be deducted from the instalment due to be paid on the 30th June, 1940 , an amount in Turkish pounds equivalent to interest at 3 per cent . per annum on the amount of the loan for the period between the 31st December, 1939 , and the date of the payment to be made in accordance with the provisions of Article 1 of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3. The loan shall be used in the first place for the transfer of United Kingdom commercial debts in respect of which the corresponding amount has been deposited on or before the 19th October, 1939, in the Special Account at the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey opened in accordance with the Anglo-Turkish Trade and Clearing Agreement of the 2nd September, 1936 .(') Such transfer shall be effected in accordance with the terms of the Additional Trade and Clearing Agreement signed this day at Paris between the Contracting Governments.

The balance of the loan shall be at the free disposal of the Government of the Turkish Republic.

ARTICLE 4. The instalments referred to in Article 2 of this Agreement shall be calculated in Turkish pounds on the basis of converting pounds sterling into Turkish pounds at the buying rate of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey on the day preceding the day on which the relevant instalment is due . The amount of each instalment thus calculated shall be paid when due to the credit of an account in Turkish pounds to be opened for this purpose by the

said Bank in the name of the Government of the United Kingdom and payment thereof shall release the Government of the Turkish Republic from further liability in respect of the instalment to which it relates.

ARTICLE 5. The Government of the United Kingdom shall use the Turkish pounds credited as aforesaid to the said account for the purchase of tobacco of Turkish origin intended for consumption within the United Kingdom and of any other such products intended for the same purpose as may be agreed with the Government of the Turkish Republic.

ARTICLE 6. The present Agreement shall come into force on the day of its signature.

In witness whereof the undersigned , duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate in Paris, in the English language, this eighth day of January, nineteen hundred and forty.

A translation shall be made into the Turkish language as soon as possible, and agreed upon between the Contracting Governments.

Both texts shall then be considered equally authentic for all purposes.

(L.S.) R. H. CAMPBELL. (L.S.) N. MENEMENCIOGLU.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC ADDITIONAL TO THE AGREEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 2, 1936, REGARDING TRADE AND CLEARING.

WHEREAS the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Turkish Republic have this day made an Agreement (hereinafter called " the Loan Agreement ") for the purpose of regulating the technical application of the loan of 20,000,000 sterling made by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Government of the Turkish Republic ;

And whereas for this and other purposes the Contracting Governments are desirous of amending the Trade and Clearing Agreement made between them in London on the 2nd day of September, 1936 (hereinafter called " the Principal Agreement "), as amended by a

Supplementary Agreement made between the Contracting Governments on the 27th day of May, 1933 (hereinafter called " the Supplementary Agreement "), and by Exchanges of Notes between the Contracting Governments dated the 23rd day of August, 1939,(- ,Ind the 22nd day of November, 1939;

Now, therefore , the Contracting Governments agree that the Principal Agreement , as so amended , be further amended in the manner hereinafter appearing :

For the purpose of transferring , subject to the discount mentioned below , United Kingdom commercial debts of which the corresponding amount of Turkish pounds has been deposited in the Special Account on or before the 19th day of October, 1939, the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey shall pay to the Controller of the Anglo-Turkish Clearing Office at such times as he may require such part of the amount of the aforesaid loan as may be necessary for the aforesaid transfer. The sums so paid to the Controller of the Anglo - Turkish Clearing Office shall be credited to sub- account A and used for the aforesaid transfer . The payment of the debts in respect of which deposits have been made as aforesaid shall be subject to a discount calculated in accordance with the table below . Each payment so made shall be accepted by the creditor concerned in full disch4 of the relevant debt or debts due to him.

ARTICLE 2. The transfer of United Kingdom commercial debts of which the corresponding amount of Turkish pounds has been deposited in the Special Account after the 19th day of October, 1939, in favour of creditors in the United Kingdom shall be effected through subaccount A and such amount as may be necessary for the purpose shall be transferred from the Account opened under the Exchange of Notes dated the 23rd day of August, 1939 (hereinafter called "the Blocked Account "). The payment of the debts in respect of which deposits have been made as aforesaid shall be subject to a discount calculated in accordance with the table set out below, shall be made in the chronological order of the deposit by the Turkish debtor in the Special Account and shall be accepted by the creditor in full discharge of the relevant debt or debts due to him.

ARTICLE 3. From the date of the coming into force of this Agreement:-

(1) (a) 80 per cent. of all sums credited to the Clearing Account in respect of Turkish goods exported to the United Kingdom in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 or Article 13

of the Principal Agreement as so amended shall be allocated to sub-account C, and (b) the remaining 20 per cent . of all sums so credited shall be allocated to sub-account B, and the provisions of the Principal Agreement as so amended shall have effect accordingly.

(2) (a) the allocation to the Blocked Account of 333 per cent. of the amounts allocated to sub-account B shall cease and any balance remaining in the Blocked Account after all transfers due to be made in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of this Agreement have been effected, shall be transferred to sub-account B,

(b) the provisions of Article 4 (2) (iii) of the Supplementary Agreement and of Article 9 (1) (vii) of the Principal Agreement shall be abrogated , and the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Article shall apply to all sums credited to the Clearing Account in respect of Turkish raisins and figs exported to the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 above, a creditor in whose favour a deposit has been or may be made in the Special Account may by notification in writing lodged with the AngloTurkish Clearing Office not later than the 20th February, 1940, elect to transfer the deposit by the import of Turkish goods into the United Kingdom . The Central Bank of Turkey shall thereupon on notification from the Anglo-Turkish Clearing Office provide the creditor with Turkish pounds up to the equivalent in Turkish pounds of his debt which the creditor shall be free to use for the purchase of the Turkish goods specified in the attached Schedule for importation into the United Kingdom. The provision of such Turkish pounds for the use of the creditor shall constitute a full discharge for the debt in respect of which the deposit was made . The provisions of the Principal Agreement as so amended shall not apply to such imports.

ARTICLE 5. The provisions of the Principal Agreement, as so amended, shall not apply to any Turkish goods imported into the United Kingdom which have been purchased out of any balances of Turkish pounds held by the Government of the United Kingdom in pursuance of any Agreements entered into by the Contracting Governments.

ARTICLE 6. The present Additional Agreement shall enter into force on the 15th January, 1940, and shall remain in force for the same period as the Principal Agreement.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their pals.

Done in duplicate in Paris, in the English language, this 8th dAY) of January, 1940.

A txanlation shall be made into the Turkish language as soon as possible and agreed between the Contracting Governments.

Both texts shall then be considered to be equally authentic for all purposes.

(L.S.) R. H. CAMPBELL. (L.S.) N. MENEMENCIOGLU.

5.9 French Mandate Period

Following the San Remo conference and the defeat of King Faisal's short-lived monarchy in Syria at the Battle of Maysalun, the French general Henri Gouraud subdivided the mandate of Syria into six states. They were the states of Damascus (1920), Aleppo (1920), Alawites (1920), Jabal Druze (1921), the autonomous Sanjak of Alexandretta (1921) (modern-day Hatay), and the State of Greater Lebanon (1920) which became later the modern country of Lebanon.



-Flag of the Syrian Federation (1922-24) and the following State of Syria (1924-30).



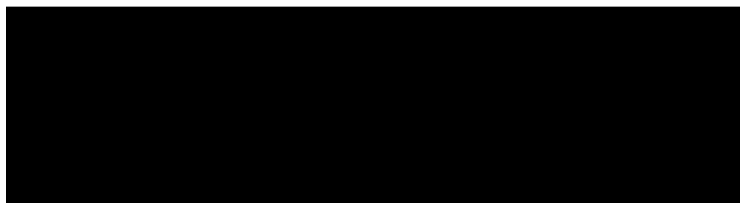
In July 1922, France established a loose federation between three of the states: Damascus, Aleppo, and the Alawite under the name of the Syrian Federation (Fédération syrienne). Jabal Druze, Sanjak of Alexandretta, and Greater Lebanon were not parts of this federation, which adopted a new federal flag (green-white-green with French canton). On December 1, 1924, the Alawite state seceded from the federation when the states of Aleppo and Damascus were united into the State of Syria.

In 1925, a revolt in Jabal Druze led by Sultan Pasha el Atrash spread to other Syrian states and became a general rebellion in Syria. France tried to retaliate by having the parliament of Aleppo declare secession from the union with Damascus, but the voting was foiled by Syrian patriots.

On May 14, 1930, the State of Syria was declared the Republic of Syria and a new constitution was drafted. Two years later, in 1932, a new flag for the republic was adopted. The flag carried three red stars that represented the three districts of the republic (Damascus, Aleppo, and Deir ez Zor).



*-Flag of the Syrian Republic
(1932-58, 1961-63).*



In 1936, the Franco-Syrian Treaty of Independence was signed, a treaty that would not be ratified by the French legislature. However, the treaty allowed Jabal Druze, the Alawite (now called Latakia), and Alexandretta to be incorporated into the Syrian republic within the following two years.

Greater Lebanon (now the Lebanese Republic) was the only state that did not join the Syrian Republic. Hashim al-Atassi, who was Prime Minister under King Faisal's brief reign (1918–1920), was the first president to be elected under a new constitution adopted after the independence treaty.

In September 1938, France again separated the Syrian district of Alexandretta and transformed it into the Republic of Hatay. The Republic of Hatay joined Turkey in the following year, in June 1939. Syria did not recognize the incorporation of Hatay into Turkey and the issue is still disputed until the present time.

With the fall of France in 1940 during World War II, Syria came under the control of the Vichy Government until the British and Free French invaded and occupied the country in July 1941. Syria proclaimed its independence again in 1941 but it wasn't until January 1, 1944, that it was recognized as an independent republic.

On May 29, 1945, France bombed Damascus and tried to arrest its democratically elected leaders. While French planes were bombing Damascus, Prime Minister Faris al-Khoury was at the founding conference of the United Nations in San Francisco, presenting Syria's claim for independence from the French Mandate. Continuing pressure from Syrian nationalist groups and British pressure forced the French to evacuate their last troops on April 17, 1946. In the 1940s, Britain secretly advocated the creation of a Greater Syrian state that would secure Britain preferential status in military, economic and cultural matters, in return for putting a complete halt to Jewish ambition in Palestine. France and the United States opposed British hegemony in the region, which eventually led to the creation of Israel.

6- The League of Nations' Involvement in the Hatay Issue

6.1 Requests by Turkey and France

The Hatay issue became an international problem in late 1936. The Franco-Syrian Independence Agreement, signed during this period but not ratified by the French Parliament, provided for the incorporation of the Sanjak of Alexandretta (later known as Hatay) into Syria. This development seriously concerned Ankara due to the significant Turkish population in the region. Turkey believed that the political and cultural rights of Turks would be endangered under Syrian rule.

Turkey therefore made an official application to the League of Nations for a reassessment of the status of the Sanjak of Alexandretta. Ankara emphasised both its historical claims and the need to protect the rights of Turks living in the region. France, which administered Syria under a mandate, could not ignore these demands. However, instead of making a direct decision, it took the matter to the international arena and appealed to the League of Nations. In this way, France sought to both protect its prestige and prevent a possible conflict with Turkey.

On 14 December 1936, Turkey and France officially brought the Hatay issue to the agenda of the League of Nations Council. The Council, particularly under the influence of British diplomacy, agreed to examine the issue and established a commission of experts to investigate the demographic, political and security dimensions of the region. As a result of the investigations and negotiations, the League proposed that a special status be prepared for the Sanjak.

On 29 May 1937, the League of Nations accepted this status, which granted Hatay autonomy with its own constitution, parliament and administration. According to this status, the Sanjak would remain affiliated with Syria in foreign relations but would gain extensive autonomy in internal affairs. On the same day, Turkey and France signed an agreement guaranteeing that they would mutually recognise Hatay's territorial integrity and special status.

This decision was a compromise that reflected the delicate balance of the time: France retained its mandate responsibilities, Turkey guaranteed the rights of Turks in the region, and the League of Nations presented itself as a mediator and arbitrator. However, this solution was met with opposition in Damascus, as it paved the way for Hatay's separation from Syria. Ultimately, the League's intervention established the legal and political framework that led to Hatay's declaration of independence as a republic in 1938 and its incorporation into Turkey in 1939.

6.2 Role of Minority Rights and International Law

The Hatay issue is one of the most striking examples of how minority rights and international law can have a decisive impact on inter-state border and sovereignty disputes. With the 1921

Ankara Agreement, France granted special administrative status to the Sanjak of Alexandretta and guaranteed the cultural rights of the Turkish population living in the region. According to this agreement, Turkish was accepted as an official language alongside Arabic, and Turks were granted the right to receive education in their own schools. These arrangements attracted attention as one of the early examples of international agreements that explicitly emphasised the protection of the identity and culture of minorities.

In 1936, an independence agreement was signed between France and Syria, but it was not ratified by the French Parliament. This agreement envisaged the annexation of Hatay to Syria, causing serious concerns in Ankara. Turkey believed that this development would jeopardise the political and cultural rights of the Turkish population in Hatay. For this reason, Turkey brought the issue directly to the League of Nations, expressing both its historical claims and the need to protect the cultural existence of Turks within the framework of international law. Thus, the Hatay issue ceased to be merely a territorial issue and became a minority rights case in the international arena.

The League of Nations, particularly under the influence of British diplomacy, examined the Hatay issue in the context of minority rights and international security balances. As a result of the negotiations, a special status was accepted for Hatay on 29 May 1937. Under this status, Hatay would remain affiliated with Syria in terms of foreign relations but would gain extensive autonomy in its internal affairs. Hatay would have its own constitution, parliament and administration. In addition, Turkish and Arabic were accepted as official languages, ensuring the cultural rights of Turks living in the region at the international level. This was a concrete reflection of the important role international law plays in protecting the identities of minorities.

However, this status aimed to protect not only the rights of Turks, but also those of Arabs, Armenians, Christians and other communities living in the region. The League of Nations' intervention demonstrated that minority rights should not be left solely to the initiative of nation states and that international law had become a fundamental tool in protecting these rights. However, this decision was met with intense opposition in Syria; many Syrians believed that this arrangement accelerated the process of separating Hatay from Syria.

Ultimately, this decision by the League of Nations ensured that Turkey would protect the rights of the Turkish population in Hatay, while also demonstrating that minority rights could

be used as a bargaining chip and a means of resolution in international disputes. This status formed the most important international legal framework that paved the way for Hatay to declare itself an independent republic in 1938 and ultimately join Turkey in 1939.

7- Stakeholders and Country Positions

7.1 Turkey

France's announcement in 1936 that it would grant Syria independence within three years made Hatay one of the most important issues on Turkey's foreign policy agenda. During this process, France's decision to grant independence to Syria and Lebanon turned the future of the Turkish population in Hatay into an international issue.

Mustafa Kemal Pasha pursued a quite cautious and diplomatic strategy in response to these developments. Instead of directly demanding territory, he aimed to have the independence granted to Syria and Lebanon extended to Hatay as well. To this end, he envisaged a two-stage process: first, Hatay would gain independent status, and then it would join Turkey.

The political conditions of the time were also in Turkey's favour. The growing tension in Europe before World War II had increased Turkey's international importance. Britain and France considered Turkey's friendship and alliance valuable. Therefore, they could not ignore Turkey's demands.

During this process, Turkey demonstrated that it could use both diplomacy and military force when necessary. However, the issue was resolved through diplomacy without the need for any conflict. The expectation that Germany would disrupt the peace in Europe and that Italy would follow suit, leading to a new war, forced Britain and France to move closer to Turkey.

7.2 France

The year 1936 marked an important turning point in France's policies towards Syria and, consequently, Hatay. The Popular Front government that came to power in France during this period showed a partial softening in its colonial approach and put forward an agreement that would pave the way for Syria's independence. The France-Syria Independence Agreement

signed within this framework provided for the recognition of Syria's independence, while also stipulating that regions that previously had autonomous status – the Druze, Alevis and the Alexandretta Sanjak – be annexed to Syria.

This development was a major source of concern for Turkey. It was thought that the political and cultural rights of the dense Turkish population living in Hatay would be endangered if it became part of Syria. However, France could not ignore the rapidly growing threats in Europe at that time. The rise of Nazi Germany and Italy's aggressive foreign policy made it imperative for France to protect its interests in the Eastern Mediterranean more carefully. For this reason, the French Parliament did not ratify the treaty granting independence to Syria.

France's retreat was directly linked to both the protection of colonial interests and the looming threat of war in Europe. On the one hand, France wanted to maintain its prestige in the region by promising independence to Syria, but on the other hand, it did not want to antagonise Turkey. The possibility that ignoring Turkey's claims on Alexandretta could push it closer to Germany prompted France to act cautiously.

7.3 Syria

Syria continued to display the same attitude it had throughout history. It never, ever wanted to blame anyone, and pursued this principle in every agreement. It sought to forge alliances with other states and strove to prove Türkiye, which claimed Hatay, wrong as best it could. In other words, he actually wanted to further wear down Türkiye, which Syria saw as a weak country that had just come out of the war, with the help of the states Syria considered strong, and to keep the land of Hatay as its own, Syrian land.

But events weren't unfolding exactly as Syria had hoped and intended. Yes, it was initially very pleasant, and it viewed the agreements it had reached as a monumental victory. However, this was nothing more than a fleeting moment of joy, later quelled by the self-serving interests of the states it trusted. Syria viewed the independence treaty signed with

France on September 9, 1936, as a major victory; this development was crucial for Hatay's future. However, France did not ratify the treaty in parliament.

In fact, this sense of victory would be remembered as a huge disappointment for Syria in the events that followed. Because, rather than a victory, it was a path toward an undesirable loss. Who wants to lose their own land? As long as their demands were not met and they were not successful, Türkiye's efforts on this issue were increasing daily. This must be the main thing that would upset Syria. The ongoing uncertainty surrounding Hatay's status and Turkey's initiatives have deeply disappointed Syria. The loss of Hatay has become a more persistent problem in the future.

In short, while Syria was expecting a sweet and easy victory, it reacted to this victory slipping away from its grasp and even turning into a loss. While Syria was advancing towards independence in 1936, it reacted to any change in Hatay's status in favor of Türkiye in Switzerland or the League of Nations and found this development unacceptable.

7.4 United Kingdom

In reality, the United Kingdom didn't have a clear stance in 1936. It pursued a policy of balance and acted more favorably towards those who benefited it. In other words, it pursued its own interests and only entered into agreements. In addition, in the context of France's strategic maneuvers, it can be considered that England may have been indirectly influential in this process, contributing, for example, by seeking balance within the League of Nations.

8.1. When will the committee start, and what will its ongoing process be?

Once all preparations are complete, including training sessions on committee procedures, directive writing, and a review of the rules, delegates will take full control of their assigned roles. From this point on, you will be responsible for making decisions, solving problems, and working with others to handle the challenges ahead. Success will depend on your ability to think creatively, analyze situations critically, and act with confidence. These three skills, creativity, critical thinking, and courage will be your greatest strengths in this committee.

This is not a typical debate. You will need to think fast, adapt to new situations, and make difficult decisions under pressure. You may need to form secret agreements, launch diplomatic or military actions, or create persuasive directives to gain the upper hand. The key is to stay focused, work as a team, and always be prepared for unexpected challenges.

Winning won't be easy, but with determination, smart planning, and strong teamwork, you can shape the outcome of the crisis. Stay sharp, take action, and remember: those who hesitate will fall behind.

8.2. How will your allocation and cabinet affect you?

Your allocation is your identity in this committee, you will have their name, location, strengths, skills and weaknesses. Each allocation has their own count of military, vehicles and firepower. delegates can come together and share their arsenal for a greater purpose.

Your allocation is your identity in this committee. You will take on their name, location, strengths, skills, and weaknesses. Everything you do will be based on the resources and abilities of your assigned role.

Each allocation has its own military forces, vehicles, and firepower, all of which play a crucial role in the committee's strategic decisions. However, no allocation stands alone. Delegates can collaborate, form alliances, and combine their arsenals to achieve greater

goals. Whether through diplomacy, tactical coordination, or sheer force, teamwork can be the key to victory.

Use your resources wisely, assess your strengths and limitations, and work strategically with others to navigate the challenges ahead. The decisions you make will shape the course of the committee and possibly determine its ultimate outcome.

8.3. What are our expectations regarding your performance in the committee?

In war and battle, chaos is inevitable. Cities may erupt in violence, citizens may panic, and destruction will follow. Explosions, ambushes, injuries, and loss of life. The battlefield is unpredictable, and fear will spread.

But a true warrior stays focused. No matter how intense the conflict becomes, you are expected to adapt, strategize, and find a way to victory while minimizing damage and casualties. Every decision you make could determine the outcome of the war. Stay sharp, think ahead, and act with purpose. Because in the heat of battle, only those who can outthink and outmaneuver their opponents will prevail.

9- Conclusion

It's finally over. Right? To be honest, it doesn't seem like it's going to be much fun to read. Let's think about it this way, you don't need any other resources. But to perform well on the committee, it's essential to internalize the guide. After all, as they say, someone who doesn't know their past can't build their future. So, READ THE GUIDE UNTIL THE END.

Now comes the fun part! Embracing your character. You're welcome to dress in character on the committee. As long as it's not overdone or exploited, of course. You all must behave

appropriately. You're not just random people. You're the most important statesmen of your time. There's no need to act inappropriately!

So, as you can understand, you have to take this seriously. Of course, we'll have fun, we'll all have fun together. But that doesn't mean we'll get carried away or overdo it. As I said, you're all among the most famous statesmen and women of your time. This isn't a joke. It seems like the best of you will be determined by how well you've read the guide. So, let's see what the situation in Hatay will be like at the end of the committee...

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