

Turkish Officials Spend Week in Torrance

Stronger Sister City Program Goal of Visit

By JERRY REYNOLDS
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Six members of a Turkish government study team left Torrance early yesterday for Washington, D.C., on the final leg of a six-week tour of the United States.

The group, which included the Mayor of Konya, Turkey, spent all of last week in the city. Konya is one of Torrance's sister cities.

Headed by Fethi Tansuk, undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior for Turkey, the six-man team is in the United States to study the relationships between various levels of government and the structure of governmental agencies.

Highlight of the visit to Torrance was a formal farewell banquet held last night.

During the visit, members of the team visited schools

and industrial facilities in the Torrance area and spent two days in Las Vegas where they inspected the mammoth Hoover Dam power generating station and several tourist spots.

Hosts for the week-long visit included officials of TRW Systems, Inc., Hi-Shear Corp., and the Harvey Aluminum Co., Inc., as well as the city and the school district. Plans for the visit were coordinated by the city's Sister City Committee.

Members of the Turkish study team, in addition to Tansuk, included Ahmet Hilmi Nalcaci, mayor of Konya; Ali Dirimtekin, general director of personnel for the Ministry of Interior; Osman Meric, governor of Eskisehir; Ali Cahit Betil, governor of Konya, and Huseyin Meydanoglu, governor of Kocaeli.

During his visit, Nalcaci called for stronger sister city

ties between the city and Konya and urged that exchanges between schools, service clubs, and private citizens be encouraged. He said Konya has established committees to work for a stronger sister city program and promised his "full support" to the program.

Tansuk, in comments early in the week, praised the city for its warm welcome and said one of the greatest treasures his group would take back to Turkey would be "the feeling of kindness and closeness of the American people to Turkey."

What impressed the visitors most?

First, Tansuk said, the structure and relationships of various government agencies. Second, he said, is the tremendous size of the traffic problems faced by cities and the methods used to solve the problems — freeways.



THE DELEGATION . . . Members of a Turkish government study team pose for the camera before touring facilities at TRW Systems, Inc., in Redondo Beach. Pictured are (from left) Fikret Karayalcin, an interpreter who works with the U.S. AID Mission in Ankara, Turkey; Ali Cahit Betil, governor of Konya; Osman Meric, governor of Eskisehir; Fethi Tansuk, undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Interior

and leader of the team; Robert Rypinski, representing TRW Systems, Inc.; Huseyin Meydanoglu, governor of Kocaeli; Ali Metin Dirimtekin, general director of personnel for the Ministry of Interior; Suat Demiray, an interpreter with the U.S. Department of State; David R. Freeman, with TRW Systems, Inc.; and Ahmet Hilmi Nalcaci, mayor of Konya.



ON ARRIVAL . . . Members of a six-man Turkish government study team which visited Torrance this past week are greeted at Torrance Municipal Airport by city officials. Identified in the picture (from left) are Ali Cahit Betil, shaking hands with Councilman J. A. Beasley, Fethi Tansuk, undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Interior and leader of the team, and Vernon W. Coil, city clerk. The Torrance Area Youth Bands greeted the Turkish officials at the airport with an arrangement of the Turkish national anthem.



FIRST MEETING . . . Mayor Albert Isen talks with Fethi Tansuk (at left), undersecretary of the Turkish Ministry of Interior, and Ahmet Nalcaci (right), mayor of Konya, shortly after the Turkish officials arrived here last Sunday. Isen headed a civic delegation which met the Turkish officials at Los Angeles International Airport and escorted them to Torrance.

(Press-Herald
Photos
by
Jerry Reynolds)



WITH EXCHANGE STUDENT . . . Miss Selda Ufertunali, an exchange student at West High School, talks with Governor Osman Meric (at left) and Ali Metin Dirimtekin, director of personnel for the Turkish Ministry of Interior, during a tour of West High. Miss Ufertunali is from the province of Eskisehir and spent most of one day with the six-man study team from Turkey. Meric is governor of the province of Eskisehir.



IN LANGUAGE LAB . . . Ali Cahit Betil, governor of Konya province in Turkey, tries the earphones during a visit to a language laboratory at West High School. The six-man team was given an extensive tour of school facilities in Torrance during a week-long visit which ended yesterday.

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