

## APPENDIX

### CONDENSED MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION AND POINTS OF VIEW OF THE LEAGUE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF ANATOLIA AND RUMELIA

I. Our league was not in existence when the Sublime Porte signed the armistice of September 30, 1918.

After the conclusion of the convention on the basis of the principle of nationalities formulated by President Wilson, our nation firmly entertained the hope that it would obtain a just peace and was eagerly looking forward to such a continuation. As a matter of fact, the carrying out of the armistice gave arbitrarily rise on the part of the Entente Powers to daily increasing transgressions and violations of its clauses.

The non-Moslem elements with which we have had a joint existence ab antique, encouraged by the favor shown to the Entente Powers, broke into open attacks on the dignity and rights of the nation and State.

Istanbul, the seat of the caliphate and throne, was occupied by the forces of the Entente Powers in a brutal and oppressive form. The police and gendarmerie having been placed under the control of the occupying powers. This constituted a de facto interference with the administration of the capital and the independence of the country.

The regions of Adana and Adalia were occupied right up to Koniah. The cession of Smyrna and the surrounding territory as well as of Thrace to Greece and the creation of an extensive Armenian State to eastern Anatolia on the one hand, and of a Republic of the Pontus along the Black Sea shore of the Empire on the other hand, began to be seriously discussed.

It was natural under these circumstances, that the Turkish nation should feel deeply affected by these operations directed against the integrity of its territory and independence as well as against its dignity and other legitimate rights.

On the other hand the Chamber of Deputies, in session at Istanbul, having been dissolved, the cabinets which came to power in succession and were composed of incapable individuals did not derive their authority from the national forces and escaped the control of the representatives of the nation. Presently it was realized that these cabinets were

not only lacking in the necessary qualities for defending the rights and dignity of the nation, but that they actually lent themselves to the satisfaction of the ambitions of the foreign powers, principally England, in whose hands they had become simple toys.

Thus it came to pass that the nation, which began to feel seriously concerned about its existence, felt the necessity of manifesting directly its power and administrative action by its personal intervention.

As a consequence, national organization sprang up spontaneously in every part of the country.

Of these national organizations the following are principal: The Erzeroum Association for the Defense of the Fatherland; The Diarbekir Association for the Defense of the Fatherland; The Cilicia Association for the Defense of National Rights; The Smyrna Association for the Defense of National Rights (this association latterly assumed the name of "Association for Defending the National Rights and Preventing Cession of Territory"); The Thrace and Pasha İli Association (this association having combined with the association of Western Thrace adopted the general denomination of "Association of Thrace"). A number of associations were also formed in İstanbul, of which the National Unity Association is the principal.

These associations have no connection whatsoever with the existing political parties or those in formation. On the contrary, they are entirely free from all political ambition and owe their existence exclusively to the common aim of safeguarding the territorial integrity and other rights of the Nation and State. They are all acting under the same influences and causes.

II. It was while these associations formed throughout the country were busy extending their organizations in a perfectly orderly and peaceful manner—they were looking forward with confidence to the assertion of the principles of right and justice—that the Greeks occupied Smyrna and the environing country under the patronage of the Entente Powers and committed on this occasion untold atrocities. The Greek troops and the local Greeks who had joined them in arms started a general massacre of the Mussulmen population in which the officials and Ottoman officers and soldiers as well as the peaceful inhabitants were indiscriminately put to death and subjected to forms of torture and savagery worthy of the Inquisition and constituting in any case a barbarous violation of the laws of humanity.