

# COVER FEATURE

## JUSMMAT AND TURKEY: HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

By

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[This and the accompanying two articles were prepared in Ankara at the Joint U.S. Military Mission for Aid to Turkey (JUSMMAT). All photographs were taken by LTC Bernath.]

Although the United States has had a military commitment to Turkey since 1947, what most Americans know about Turkey would probably fill very little more than a postcard. If you want proof of this theory, all you have to do is get orders assigning you to Turkey, sit back, and wait for advice from "knowledgeable" friends.

Now forget what those knowledgeable friends have told you and get ready for the facts:

1. Turkey is a country rich in history, filled with beauty, and populated by an extremely industrious, honest, and warm people.

2. A quick look at a world map reveals Turkey's importance, politically and militarily, to the United States and the NATO alliance. Surrounded by Communist Bulgaria and Russia, and hot spots like Syria, Iraq, and Iran, Turkey is one of the few stabilizing influences in this part of the world.



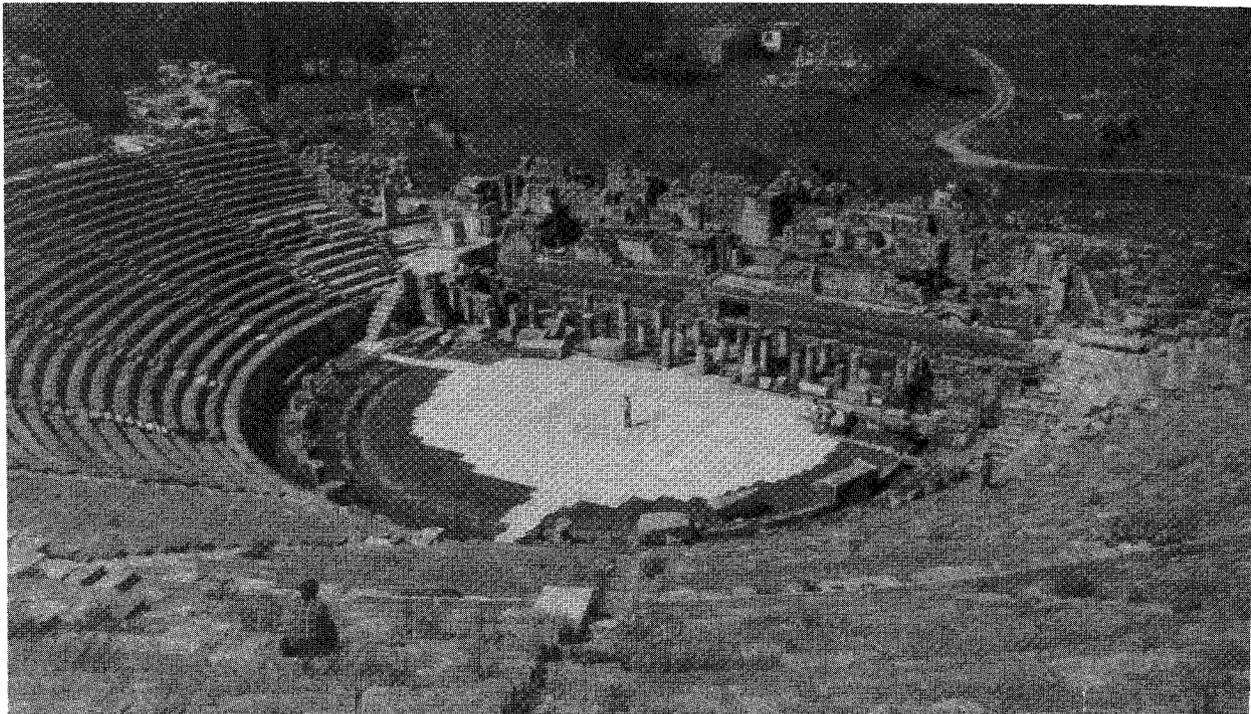
3. Since February 18, 1952, when Turkey became a full member of NATO, Turkey has been a staunch ally--even through difficult political periods. Today, Turkey maintains the largest European military force in NATO, second only to the United States. It does so despite a troubled economy and very limited resources.

4. An assignment to JUSMMAT provides an opportunity to contribute to a real-world mission: assisting this important ally in modernizing its armed forces so it can better meet current and future threats to the free world.

Let us now put some perspective on the historical role that Turkey has played in world affairs.

### Historical Overview

Although the ancestors of the Turks can be traced back to 2000 B.C., the starting point of Turkish history is generally considered to be the Great Hun Empire, founded by Teoman Yabgu, who united various Turkish tribes in about 220 B.C. In the early days, the Turkish States carried the names of the Turkish tribes which dominated a particular ruling dynasty, such as the Huns, Avars, Kirghiz, Karluks, and the Oghuz. The Kok Turks, who reigned from 552-745 A.D., first coined the term "Turk," and they extended the Turkish empire to 18 million square kilometers. At its height, the Ottoman Empire extended to the three continents of Asia, Africa, and Europe. Ottoman rule lasted from 1281-1922, a total of 641 years as a major world force. For perspective, remember that the United States celebrated its 200th birthday only 10 years ago.



Some of the world's best-preserved ruins are at Ephesus in western Turkey. Saint Paul delivered a sermon at this theater.

People are often surprised to find that many of the events mentioned in the Bible actually occurred in Turkey. For example, Saint Paul's sermon to the Ephesians took place at Ephesus, in western Turkey. Paul and John both preached there, and the outdoor theater where they preached still stands. After the crucifixion, John took Mary to live on a mountain just outside the city; a small church now marks the location. Also, many historians and theologians believe that Noah's ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat in eastern Turkey. Modern expeditions still search the mountains for the ark's remains.



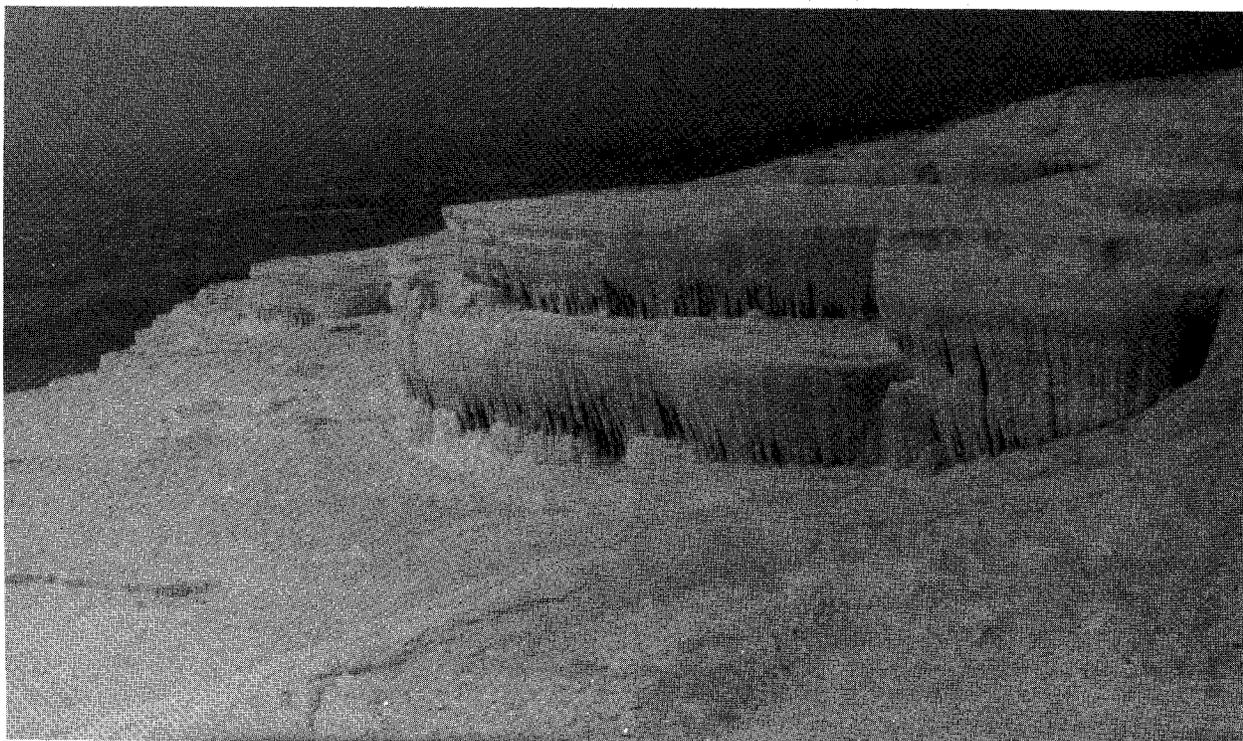
Burial Site of Saint John at Ephesus.

Of course, the historic sites and events are too numerous to list. Almost every major power and civilization can be found represented within Turkey's history, and many well-preserved ruins stand as majestic reminders of the country's rich past.

World War I brought an end to the old order and the beginning of a new one to Turkey. In 1914, the Ottomans joined with the Central Powers in World War I and following their defeat by the Allies, they signed an armistice at Mondros on 30 October 1918. This signalled the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Following the armistice, they then signed the Sevres Treaty (10 August 1920) which aimed at dividing the lands of the Empire. In protest to the Mondros Armistice and the Sevres Treaty, the Turkish peoples, under the command of Mustafa Kamal Ataturk, initiated a war of independence. After the victory, The Turkish Grand National Assembly in Ankara abolished the imperial office of Sultan on November 1, 1922, thereby concluding 641 years of Ottoman rule in the World.



The well-preserved ruins of an ancient library at Ephesus.



The rock formations at Pamukkale are unequalled on earth.

## Modern Turkish History

In a pamphlet written to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, General Necip Torumtay (former Deputy Chief of the Turkish General Staff, and currently Commander of the 1st Army in Istanbul) wrote: "Ataturk created today's modern Turkey from the ruins of the Ottoman Empire. He is the able architect of today's Turkey." Thus, to understand modern Turkey, one must know something of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. Born "Mustafa" in 1881 in Thessalonica, a part of the Ottoman Empire, he was given the additional name "Kemal" by a military instructor who was also named Mustafa. After becoming the first President of Turkey, he was given the name "Ataturk" which means "Father of the Turks."

Ataturk first came to national attention as a result of the Gallipoli War in 1915-16. Gallipoli is on a peninsula north of the Dardanelles where the Aegean Sea joins the Sea of Marmara. The Sea of Marmara separates the Bosphorus and Dardanelle straits, providing the passage between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. Control of these Straits, then as now, is a key strategic issue. In 1915, the mission of defending the straits against allied attack--after Turkey closed them to Russian shipping--fell to LTC Mustafa Kemal and his 19th Division. At the time of the attack, his division was in a reserve posture south of Gallipoli. Within an hour of the allied landing, he realized the threat to the key area of Kocacimen Hill and, without orders, moved his division to defend the hill. His historic orders to his men were "I don't order you to attack; I order you to die. In the time it takes us to die, other troops and commanders can come and take our places." Although many losses were suffered on both sides, Mustafa Kemal survived. On January 9, 1916, England withdrew in defeat from the Gallipoli Peninsula.

Following Turkey's eventual defeat in World War I, various treaties divided the country among the Allies. Its armies were disbanded and disarmed. Great Britain occupied Western Anatolia and the Greeks landed in Izmir in 1919.

It was under these circumstances that Mustafa Kemal began to erect a new nation--under the motto "Freedom or Death!" To do so, he would have to fight not only external enemies, but also the forces of the Sultan's government. Against odds most people thought were overwhelming, he drove out the occupation forces, set the current boundaries of Turkey, established a new government, and introduced sweeping reforms in culture, education, and national policies that still exist. As General Torumtay notes, "Despite the . . . years since his death, and a most terrible world war followed by crises everywhere, the Republic of Turkey marches on with sound and vigorous steps on the path originally drawn up by Ataturk, side by side with the nations of the free world and as an honored and respected member of the NATO Alliance."

## Events Leading to the Formation of JUSMMAT

The United States first established official representation in Turkey in 1831 with the posting of a charge d'affaires to Istanbul; the post was not raised to ambassadorial rank until 1906.

On 12 March 1947, after the British Government informed Washington that the United Kingdom could no longer shoulder the burden of militarily supporting Greece and Turkey, President Harry S. Truman delivered a historic address to Congress, the main points of which were to become known as the Truman Doctrine. President Truman said it was in the U.S. national interest to help free nations like Greece and Turkey become strong enough to resist communist aggression, and he proposed an emergency \$400 million military and economic aid program for the two nations, which Congress subsequently approved. In addition to this emergency assistance, the 1948 Marshall Plan, designed to reconstruct the war-ravaged economies of Western Europe, opened the door for large scale economic assistance to Turkey. These programs required a greatly increased American presence in Turkey.

After considerable bargaining, U.S. and Turkish representatives signed an aid agreement in Ankara on 12 July 1947, which called upon the Americans to be discreet in their activities. The American Ambassador, rather than a specially designated U.S. administrator, became Chief of the Aid Mission.

On 10 August 1947, MG Horace L. McBride (US Army) was appointed as the Chief of a newly formed Joint American Military Mission for Aid to Turkey (JAMMAT). This tri-service organization was one of the first of the military assistance and advisory groups (MAAGs) that the U.S. was to organize in many countries to administer the distribution of American military equipment and to help train foreign military personnel. By 1951, JAMMAT had 1,250 military and civilian personnel and was the largest U.S. MAAG.

The primary goal of JAMMAT was the rapid modernization of Turkey's armed forces along American lines to build a credible national defense capacity against potential aggression from the Soviet Union. U.S. military grant aid (equipment and training) totalled more than \$3 billion by 1970, after which sales replaced grants as the main form of assistance. By 1978, the U.S. had provided Turkey with \$3.2 billion in grant aid and \$746 million in credit.

Since JAMMAT reported directly to HQ USEUCOM, the Chief of JAMMAT became the United States Commander in Chief Europe (USCINCEUR) Contact Officer for Turkey (USCCOT) on 13 April 1954. As such, he exercised certain specified authority over activities of all U.S. forces in Turkey and worked directly with the American Embassy, the Turkish General Staff and other agencies.

In 1958, JAMMAT was renamed JUSMMAT (pronounced "Juice-Mat")--the Joint United States Military Mission for Aid to Turkey. The Chief, JUSMMAT also became the U.S. Country Representative for Turkey of the Commander-in-Chief, United States Air Forces in Europe (CINCUSAFE), with responsibility for foreign criminal jurisdiction. Additionally, he assumed duties as JCS area coordinator and as DOD Defense Representative for Turkey (USDRT).

In 1965, the Turkish General Staff provided JUSMMAT a building located off Ankara's Inonu Boulevard. The American presence in Ankara peaked in 1967 with more than 5,000 military personnel and dependents and 1,000 government civilians in Ankara. By the end of 1977, however, JUSMMAT had only 78 Americans assigned, all in Ankara.

## Turkey and NATO

The Government of Turkey (GOT) sought to become a charter member of NATO when the organization was formed in April 1949; however, some of the northern European countries wished to keep NATO a regional pact. Nevertheless, the Mutual Defense Assistance Act of 1949, which authorized aid to certain non-NATO countries, including Turkey and Greece, allowed Turkey to maintain an association with the alliance. In the meantime, Turkey continued its efforts to join NATO.

In September 1950, the North Atlantic Council invited Turkey and Greece to participate in NATO military planning for the Mediterranean area. Both Turkey and Greece accepted, and the two countries thereby became associate NATO members.

During the Korean War, Turkey provided a brigade to support the United Nations effort; and the Mutual Security Act of 1951, which broadened and better organized the American security assistance program, further involved the U.S. with Turkey's defense. On 15 May 1951, the U.S. proposed full NATO membership for both Turkey and Greece, which they were accorded on 18 February 1952.

Two combined Greek-Turkish regional NATO headquarters were then established in Izmir in western Turkey: the Allied Land Forces Southeast Europe (LANDSOUTHEAST), activated on 8 September 1952; and the Sixth Allied Tactical Air Force (SIXATAF), activated on 14 October 1953. In December 1977, following 3½ years without Greek participation in either headquarters, NATO decided to place Turkish general officers in command of both regional headquarters, with American generals serving as deputies. This change actually occurred on 30 June 1978.

## JUSMMAT Today

JUSMMAT today is nowhere near the size it was 10 years ago, but its role in Turkey has greatly increased. This is due in great part to Turkey devoting great energy to modernization--not only militarily, but in many areas.

"Turkey's doing a great many things at one time," said MG Elmer D. Pendleton, Jr., Chief, JUSMMAT. "Everywhere you look, Turkey is doing something. Building a bridge. Building a power plant. Modernizing tanks. Building highways and roads. All these things are going on simultaneously."

The same energy toward modernization is applied within the Turkish armed forces. JUSMMAT's job is to help them. To get an idea of the magnitude of that job, envision an army, navy, and air force supplied and armed with a considerable amount of Korean War vintage equipment. Further, picture that country surrounded by potentially hostile countries on most sides, armed with modern, sophisticated weaponry. Now, conceive that armed force trying to modernize, not only technologically, but also logistically, operationally, tactically, and administratively. Add to this a very limited

resource base and the need to stretch every dollar as far as it can possibly go. This is the current situation confronting Turkey and JUSMMAT.

MG Pendleton puts Turkey's problem in clear perspective:

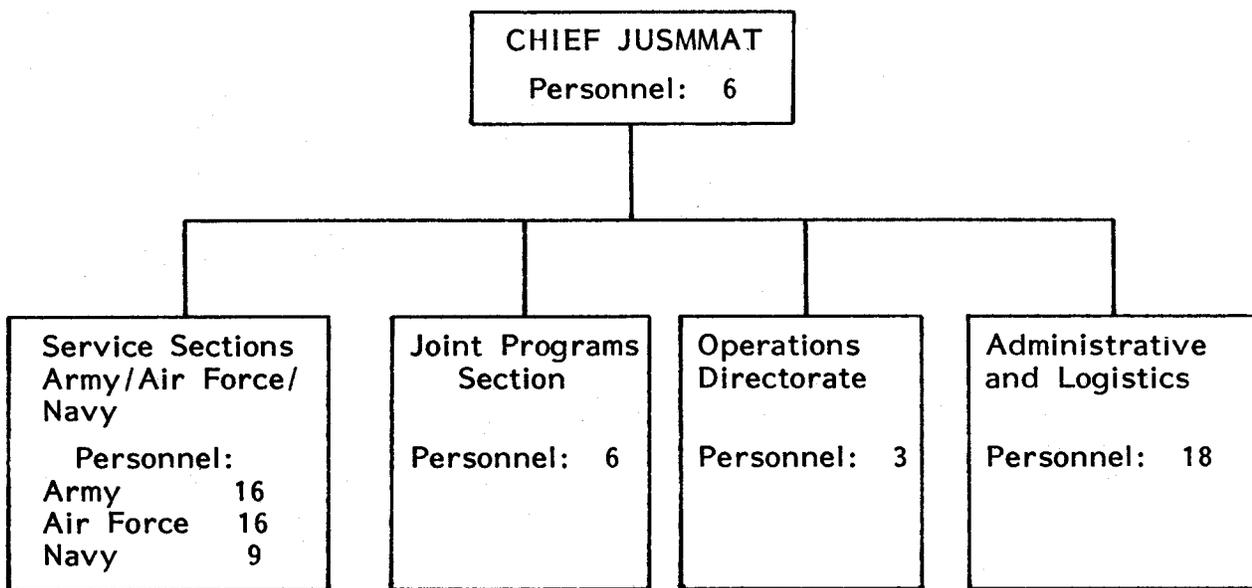
To a certain extent, the better you are, the more problems you face because you have a better understanding of what has to be done. So Turkey doesn't have a greater need today than it did two years or five years ago. They understand it better and they've made more progress towards achieving what has to be accomplished. So you can put it in better focus now than you could two years or five years ago.

### JUSMMAT Organization

JUSMMAT is organized as shown in Figures 1 and 2. Figure 1 shows the security assistance organization and Figure 2 shows the manning authorized under one of Chief, JUSMMAT's other hats--the USCINCEUR Contact Officer, Turkey (USCCOT).

FIGURE 1

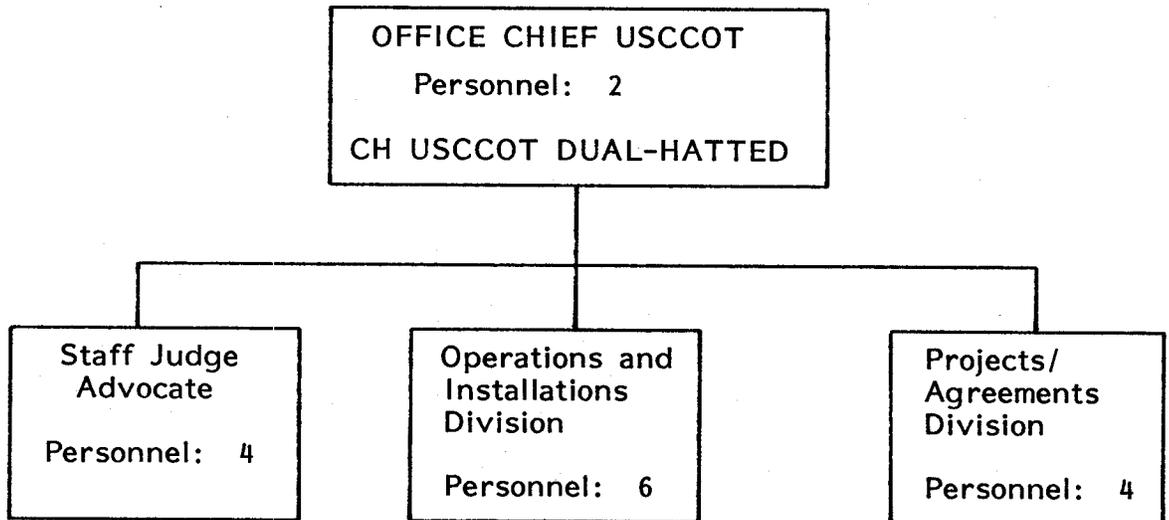
JUSMMAT Organizational Chart  
Security Assistance



Total Personnel: 74

FIGURE 2

Organizational Chart  
USCINCEUR Contact Office, Turkey



Total Personnel: 16

Chief, JUSMMAT, MG Pendleton, commands the SAO and is responsible for planning, formulating, supervising, and implementing the U.S. security assistance program in Turkey. As Chief, JUSMMAT, he advises and assists the Armed Forces of Turkey on organizational, administrative, logistical, and training matters, in accordance with U.S. doctrine and procedures. He also serves as the senior military member of the Country Team in Turkey (i.e., the members of various USG agencies assigned to the diplomatic mission in Turkey), keeping the Country Team informed of appropriate information pertaining to the Security Assistance Program. Further, he executes the policies of the U.S. Ambassador relating to mutual security in those areas which are the responsibility of the Department of State.

Under his USCCOT hat, MG Pendleton serves as the single point of coordination in Turkey for the Commander-in-Chief, Europe, and his subordinate commanders, in dealings with the U.S. Ambassador and members of the Country Team, the Turkish government, the Turkish military, and non-U.S. European Command U.S. military units and agencies in Turkey. He is also responsible for effecting initial contact by DOD elements with the U.S. Ambassador and the Turkish government and military.

Under a third hat, Chief, JUSMMAT serves as the U.S. Defense Representative in Turkey. In this position, he is charged with improving the interface between noncombatant DOD elements in Turkey, the U.S. Ambassador, and the Turkish defense establishment. His major activities here include participation in the High Level Defense Group and in Defense Industrial