

to Turkey, despite all the talk to the contrary, is the relative indifference of the United States, in practical terms of the possible diversion of military materiel, to the entry of Turkey into what President Roosevelt used to call "the shooting war." Similarly of special interest is the exchange of memoranda, cables and despatches (pp. 113 ff) which reflect the American opposition to the Anglo-Soviet projects for the division of the Balkan area into spheres of military action, and the ultimate American acceptance of the proposals. The volume is indispensable to any understanding of American policy during 1944, although it must be supplemented, of course, with all other relevant documentation.

The American University,
Washington D. C.

HARRY N. HOWARD

Lord Kinross, *Atatürk: A Biography of Mustafa Kemal, Father of modern Turkey*. New York, Morrow, 1965. Pp. 615.

Over the past many years, there have been a number of biographies of the great leader of the Turkish people, the great soldier of the Ottoman Empire during World War I, who came to the conclusion that the Ottoman Empire must go, and who, ultimately, led the Turkish people into independent nationhood, and then impressed upon them one of the great and abiding revolutions of our time. Earlier biographies, however, have been necessarily fragmentary, and some of them, like that of Harold Armstrong, *Gray Wolf*, have been inclined toward sensationalism. Lord Kinross has had the advantage, not only of the earlier biographical essays, but of access to the Presidential Archives at Cankaya, Ankara, of acquaintance with the Turkish landscape, of much consultation, and of the perspective which the passage of time can give. His work is written with grace and balance and, although he is obviously enthralled with his story, Lord Kinross, presents the late Turkish leader, as the latter, no doubt, would have preferred, warts and all.

Essentially, the work is divided into three parts: 1) the decline and fall of the Ottoman Empire; 2) the war of independence; and 3) the rise of the Turkish Republic. These are basically the periods of Atatürk's birth, childhood, development and leadership. The story of Atatürk's birth and early childhood, the influence of his mother upon him, especially, is very well told. The account of his early training and experience as a soldier, and of his association with the Young Turk movement is placed within an appropriate perspective—as is that of his relationships with the triumvirate of Enver, Talaat and Jemal Pashas. This is also

true of Atatürk's participation in the Italo-Turkish and Balkan Wars, hitherto shrouded somewhat in myth. Similarly, Lord Kinross makes very clear Atatürk's opposition to the policy of Enver, which brought the Ottoman Empire to disaster in dragging it into World War I on the side of the Central Powers. While Atatürk established his basic reputation as a soldier fighting the British in the Gallipoli campaign in 1915, it is clear throughout the book that he was very skeptical of victory on the part of the Central Powers and was increasingly convinced of the uselessness of the Ottoman Empire, the burdens of which were borne, without adequate compensation, by the Turkish people.

With the fall of the Empire, following defeat in the war, two things stand out. One of these was the ultimate rejection, by Atatürk and the Turkish Nationalists, of any suggestion of an American mandate, largely on the ground that the road to independence did not lie in that direction. The other was the politico-military leadership of Atatürk during the tragic Greco-Turkish struggle, May 1919-October 1922, which led to the Conference of Lausanne (November 1922-1923). As the author recognizes, however, Atatürk was convinced, however, that an even more difficult struggle lay ahead in the establishment of the Republic of Turkey and in the implementation of a series of revolutionary reforms which lay at the basis of the new Republic, founded on nationalism, republicanism, populism, étatism, secularism and reformism. The author well notes the severe measures which Atatürk felt it necessary to take against his opponents and against the leaders of the Kurdish revolt, for example. While the author pays due credit to Mustafa Kemal, he also discusses the role of others, such as İsmet İnönü, his successor, and he does not shy away from Atatürk's often brutal methods of repression.

All told, this is an excellent biography, which should be read by all students of modern Turkish history. There are a good bibliography and many illustrations.

The American University,
Washington D.C.

HARRY N. HOWARD

L. I. Vranoussis and N. Camarianos, *Ἀθανασίου Ξοδίλου, Ἡ Ἑταιρεία τῶν Φιλικῶν καὶ τὰ πρῶτα συμβάντα τοῦ 1821* (Athanasios Xodilos, The Society of Friends and the First Events of 1821). Athens: Academy of Athens. Publications of the Mediaeval Archives, 1964. Pp. 42 + 176 + 8 plates, and 1 map.

This publication is offered in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the *Philiki Etairia* by the Mediaeval Archives of