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TURKISH TOUR CLASSED A SUCCESS

All of the expectations held at the outset of the Turkish trip have been realized. The interplay between the old line Turkish Forest Service--which has been entirely oriented towards trees--and the emerging governmental institutions such as the State Planning Organization (SPO), will provide valuable insights on methods and procedures needed to implement park programs on a national scale.

Nearly all of the foresters visited during the course of the tour expressed keen interest in the broad aspects of national park operations. Some are reluctant to extend their operations beyond the forest edge. But the SPO is emphasizing investment in tourism and there is no competent authority to step into the administrative gap. Thus the foresters find themselves caught between being pencil growers and aggressively courting SPO favor by establishing a variety of "tourist attraction parks" at a variety of non-forest oriented sites.

Many Turks have been to U.S. National Parks, but as foresters, always the ones with forest cover associated with them. Few have seen the desert parks as historic sites or pre-historic sites.

First Impressions: There is a great variety of land resources in Turkey... There is a complete lack of scientific underpinning which could constitute the rationale for a national park system... The current population

increase is so drastic that if the Turks do not receive qualified help quickly it is altogether possible that a great number of species of flora and fauna will become extinct... There is extreme vandalism on many antiquities... Very few people understand the purpose and meaning of national parks... The private sector of the economy is dead and it will be hard to create clientele "pressure" groups... The majority of decisions affecting conservation must be made in public sector... Regional analysis will play a material role in future land use planning.