INTERVIEW
DR. ANDREAS TIEZTE
November 13th, 2000
“Desperate Hours…”

V – Dr. Tietze, where were you born?

T – In Vienna.

V – In what year were you born here in Vienna?

T – In 1914, when the emperor was still Franz Joseph.

V – Ah, he lived a long time, I think, ruled for like sixty years or something…

T – Yes, that’s right.

V – And where did you go to school here?

T – In Vienna, first in Grinzing, a military school and then the Parisien Gynasium in Vienna. Parsien, very nice location in the city.

V – Then where did you first teach?

T – Where did I first teach? Publically, at the University in Istanbul, because here I left when I had finished my education here, I left immediately, because I already before to go to travel in Turkey to see the country, etc.

V – When did you first visit Turkey?

T – In 1935. Then again in 1946. First time I went down the Danube in a little boat and the boat took me to Bulgaria and from there I took I went on a steamer to Istanbul from the Black Sea entrance from the Bosphorus.

V – So your first impression of Turkey was from the Bosphorus? What did you think it looked like?

T – What did I think it looked like? Well…

V – Did you think it was beautiful?
T – Yes, it was beautiful, of course it was somewhat different from what it looks like today.

V – The Bosphorus?

T – Yes.

V – What were the conditions here in Austria in 1934-35.

T – The condition was normal, there was nothing exciting and so on and I took my PHD examinations in the same year ’37 and immediately left for Turkey. First I went through the Balkan countries and then I stayed in Turkey for the whole year.

V – Dr. Tietze are you Jewish?

T – I am not Jewish by religion, but my ancestors, some of my ancestors at least converted to Christianity in the 1850’s.

V – Where your parents or grandparents still Jewish?

T – No, no.

V – So when the Nazi regime came to power, what difficulties would that have caused you? Did you leave Austria because you could not teach in Austria?

T – No I left because I wanted to spend several years in Turkey to study Ottoman history and to work in the libraries of Istanbul. Istanbul has wonderful libraries of the manuscripts, handwritten books of centuries can be found there both in Arabic as well as in Persian and Turkish.

V – The Ottoman Library?

T – In several libraries in Istanbul. More than a hundred thousand manuscripts in Istanbul.

V – So would you have been under any kind of political persecution under the Nazi regime?

T – If I had gone back, yes.
V – Why? Because of your political leanings, can you explain that?

T - No, I don’t think so, also because the Nazis were, did not, they were racists. That by changing your religion you are still the same person. They would probably have persecuted me, but I did not give them this opportunity.

V – Would they have considered you Jewish, even with the limited ancestry?

T – Yes, probably. I had relatives in Germany for instance, my aunt in Munich and she had difficulties.

V – Was she still a practicing Jew?

T – No not at all but she was from the same family and she was an artist, sculptor and she was not allowed to work as an artist anymore.

V – So you think the persecution would have come from your political way of thinking, your way of looking at life?

T – Probably, yes.

V – How would you describe your state of mind then? In terms of politics? What were you thinking in those years, in ’37 when you graduated?

T. -- What I was thinking? I was very much interested in Turkish history in the Turkish literature in the Turkish language etc and everything else was not that important to me.

V - So you were not, you did not feel in danger?

T- No, not in Vienna.

V – When did the danger start in Vienna for Jews and…

T – When the occupation start…

V – What year was that, do you remember?

T – That was ’38, yes.
V – At that point you were already in Turkey?

T – I was already in Turkey for two years at that time.

V – How did you become aware of the opportunity to teach in Turkey?

T – The opportunity to teach, I was not looking for this opportunity until this happened until I did not have any home country behind myself. I looked and became a lecturer at the University in Istanbul, lecturer of languages, German and English…

V – Were you approached by Philip Schwarz, did he arrange your contract?

T – No, No. That was Philip Schwarz, he was doing this when he was still in Switzerland in the 30’s, ’33 or ’34 I think. I had very little contact with that group of people. They were very mixed, certainly not all of them Jews, very few of them actually. But my surroundings was really only Turkish. I was looking for that. I had the opportunity to teach Turkish to some professors who had come, German or from Czechoslovakia, Hungary or from France also. I taught them Turkish. That gave me the opportunity to meet them, and to know them better and so on.

V – What were the other conditions that the professors left Germany and Austria. Other than being Jewish what were the other problems they had, they couldn’t teach?

T – Maybe they could teach, some of them did not just like the whole atmosphere of the Nazi time so they left. I only know of one case where a professor who was already put into a camp that was Professor whose name at that moment I cannot remember… (Camera reload)

SOUND ONLY

V – We have to reload the film… Was it Kessler?

T – No he was not on your list. He came after this group, I don’t know why he is not on your list. This night I remembered his name, but I didn’t write it down, so it escapes me again. He was in the field of oriental languages, Arabic, he was a very good arabist, but he Turkish also he was more advance age, he came in 42 or something.
V – He was Jewish?

T – He was Jewish I think. He went to the United States and he doesn’t live anymore, I forgot his name.

V – Let’s just take a little break….

V – Dr. Tietze, Could that professor perhaps have been Gerhard Kessler? Was Kessler brought from a camp?

T – It was not Kessler…It was not someone on your list…

V – Maybe, we’ll think of him later…So the other professors who came to Turkey, how did they feel about leaving their homes and come to Turkey?

T – I think they were glad to come because otherwise they wouldn’t have come. But it is difficult to say something for everybody. Some of them came in the last minute before they were really in danger. Many of them came who would not have had to come, they just preferred to be in a neutral country for instance or they were professionally interested in Turkey and so on. Of course, socially I did not have too many contacts with this whole group, I was very young still and secondly I was not interested in what they were doing. Only those who were more or less in my own field, I saw regularly and so on like ???? who was very…

V- What was like socially? Was there culture shock for the professors coming from Germany?

T – Culture shock??

V – Like a cultureschock, like the lifestyle was very different…

T – Uh, huh…I don’t think there was anything of that kind, everybody found for himself some possibilities to do whatever he was interested in, sports what ever it was…It was a very quite time, Turkey, it was a secure atmosphere I would say.

V – It was a good atmosphere to do your work in.

T – Very good atmosphere. An american for some time, John kingsly Birch, who is the author of a book on, he was missionary before. He had spent many many
years in Turkey already, before World War I. And again after WWI in this period and he knew Turkey very very well and the language and he told me for instance a little story. One day he said I went for a walk in the area of this first station of the Anatolian railroad, Hadar pasa and he saw that there was a boat near the??and people were carrying things from there to the station. Each one, man, porters who had kind of boxes and so on, and he was interested and asked “What are you carrying?” They said “Gold”. They were carrying gold pieces, I don’t know what it was, so he was so surprised. If they were doing this in America, there would certainly be a hundred policeman with machine guns around and so on around they would stop traffic on that road and so on. There was nothing, just one man who had a list and he just marked each box that went down. You see it shows you how secure the country was at that time, you could trust people. It was very different from today because after 1950 and especially after 1960 the boom of two reasons started the mentality of the people, especially in the western part of Turkey. I had some friends, German friends, whom also I taught privately, they went to Smyrna I think it was, and by car and on the way they had to stop somewhere in a village. They stopped there, they had a meal there, then they went again back to the big road and then the lady remembered they had taken off her watch when she washed her hands. So she was very sorry and they thought of going back, they didn’t. They went to Izmir, Smyrna and spent a week there and when they came back, they saw that there was an exit that went to this village. So they said that they wanted to go there again and when they came closer to this village there was a boy who was a shepherd to some sheep there. He waved and he called the “watch, the watch” and so they went there and the watch was there. So they went there the watch was there, it was so something, you cannot describe how people really...China had a little period when it was similar.

V – So you are talking about the honesty of the people?

T- Yes, yes...but that shows only that the people lived in an atmosphere of security. That was also something that attracted people.

V – You were familiar with Turkey and you were a Turcoligist. When you were discussing with the other refugee scholars how did they find Turkey? What was their impression of the Turkish people? Did they find them backward or intellectually, how did they find them?

T – Well, that something that is not easy to describe but they missed certain things which did not correspond to the culture of the country, which they couldn’t have
but otherwise many of them were on very good relations with the people around them.

V – Were they made to feel welcome?

T – Yes, yes, yes. Some of them traveled around, like Koswicz for instance, the zoologist. He knew Turkey to the very last corners which Turks would never go to, Hakari or something. He knew every place because he was interested in the animals and birds and so on.

V – So the professors interacted well with the Turkish people?

T – Many of them did. Yes.

V – How about the students, the Turkish students, how did they receive the professors?

T – Well I think very positively. I never heard of any difficulties with students, I had of course many students, big classrooms and so on.

V – What was your relationship with your students, was it very warm?

T – Yes it was, very good some of them. That has not changed I would think. Of course the conditions have changed very much. I taught again in the 80’s and so on and I was a little disappointed.

V – Were there any anti-German, anti-Western feelings that you could feel in Turkey?

T – Not really, no.

V – What about anti-Jewish? Anti-Semitic? Was there any evidence of that?

T – I had never, I never experience this, but this is difficult. There was probably, probably there were various conditions in the various parts of the population. Now if you read the memories, the memoirs of a professor who later became a professor in Canada, Can you tell me his name?

V – What was his area?
T – Turkish history. The book is here. When you read it he called his memories….

V – Refugees of the Bosphorus? Fritz Neumark?

T – No, No No .. He was Turkish from Cyprus..

V – Oh OK, that’s OK.

T – He was Turkish from Cyprus, but he gave the impression the important people during the war were just gambling to see who was going to win etc..They were really more positive toward the Germans than to the others. Good conditions with them. This is a interesting book….You tied me to this chair so I can’t get up…

V – Later .....

T – Niazi Berkes. His name has come. I spent ten days with him on my first or second visit to the United States on a ship. He was going to Canada to teach there. He taught there until the end of his active life so tot speak. And I was going for just a short visit, we were together on this ship and so every day we met and had long conversations. But in his book where he tells about those years, you have the impression that many people who were close to the government at that time were actually more sympathetic to the Germans than to the the other countries. Maybe I didn’t have this impression myself but….

V – Would you say for me Dr. Tietze what we just discussed, just say again that there was no anti-Jewish feeling in Turkey.

T – No there was,.You see Turkey was part of the world. And in the world there was this change from to the nations state. In the nation state, the minority populations are always regarded with some suspicion. And this was this suspicion also in Turkey because Turkey until 1918 was a multi national state, just like Austria and Russia at that time.

V – But there was not blatant anti-Semitism in Turkey.

T – No, not as an official policy, not at all. It was very correct treatment of Jews and so on.
V – Where did the professors send their children to school? The German and Austrian professors who were older, who were married, where did their children go to school?

T – Mostly as far as I remember, mostly to the French or British or German schools…

V – Robert College?

T – Robert College and so on. There were many possibilities to send children to…

V – What did you discuss what was happening in Europe as time went on, it became 40 and 41, you started hearing what was going on? You were aware of it, when did you start to be aware of in Turkey of concentration camps and the killing of Jews?

T – I don’t think that was during the war that was already at the end of the war. Exactly I couldn’t tell but of course these things became more known after, when the war had already ended.

V – So you were not very aware of concentration camps?

T – Not during, not during the war really, I don’t think so. Although of course in some cases for instance I had noticed one name on your list. Wolf Fuchs. There was a discussion whether or he should invite his father to come to Turkey or whether or not that would be good for him and so on…and finally he decided to invite his father and we in these discussion we already….someone must have had the feeling that he was really in great danger there and old man.

V – Did the professors have much contact with their families at home in Germany or Austria, Hungary?

T – They had contact of course. And I was the contact for some people who were in countries who did not have postal relations with Germany and they wrote to me and I wrote to their relatives in Germany and so on.

V – Did you help make any arrangements to bring any family to Turkey?
T – Family from Germany? Well this was one case where we discussed this. It was not easy. Also some colleagues who were in Switzerland could not find really good jobs and so on and I helped them to find something in Turkey, yes.

V - Did the professors feel grateful to Turkey for taking them in? The ones that were persecuted, did they feel grateful to Turkey?

T – Yes, sure, sure. Some of them decided to stay in Turkey after the war and so on but those were very few. Of course their contracts were only for a shorter time.

V – Did the Turks judge the German professors having any relationship with the Nazis of Germany? Did the Turks, how did they feel towards the professors as being German?

T – That stayed in Germany?

V – Did they equate the professors with the Nazis?

T – No, No No… Certainly not anyone of that group that you are talking about. There were some schools that were, that, for instance in Ankara, the school of agriculture for instance, forestry, agriculture, and so that was mostly they hired people that were sent from Germany…

V – By Schwartz?

T – Yes, and were not immigrated. Those at the Universities, when I came to Turkey there was only one University. Today there are more than 30, all the official.

V – What was the interaction between the professors and the Turks socially? For instance, I believe you met your wife. Tell us about that.

T – Yes, yes. Not me only, Anhegger, there were others also who married in Turkey or divorced in Turkey. The interaction was quite strong. Yes. Well I am not typical for this group because in the first place (Phone Rings interrupting)

V - Dr. Tietze, I want you tot tell me about meeting your wife and what you admired in her and the Turkish culture.
T – Yes. Well I met my wife, she was living very close. I met her, I knew her rather when she was still quite young. She was still a little girl and we went for many walks together and so on. There was no difficulty.

V – So what happened, you fell in love with a Turk?

T – Yea, sure can happen, why not? We got married in 1951 I think. 51, but soon after that I left for one year to the States. I didn’t take her along and then I went to in 57 or 58 to California, we went together to Vienna first and had a big family reunion there and we went to California and we stayed there for 16 years I think.

V - So let’s turn now to some of the other professors. How did you come to work with Erich Auerbach?

T – Well, he was in charge of the language course where I also taught. But I had also to. I knew him pretty well.

V – What was he like? What was Dr. Auerbach like as a person?

T – He was, he was well I can tell he lived in Bebek. Don’t you live in Bebek now?

V – Yes.

T – He lived in Bebek in a house where they have those lions at the door, you remember maybe. He lived there and he wrote his famous book Memesis. I remember also the name, Memesis.

V – What was the subject of that book?

T – It was realism in literature. A very interesting book and in old literature I old literature and modern literature etc. and he wrote it there and I was…Anhegger and myself we had a little publishing jobs say in Istanbul at that time and he wanted us to print this book. It was impossible for us. It was too large a thing. Then one of us had to bring it to Switzerland, first the German edition of it, bit it was later published in English I’m sure and so on. But he was a, what was he like, he was a Calvaryist. He rode horses, from horseback.

V – Did he ride horses along the Bosphorus? Where did he ride his horses?
T – I don’t know where he did, but he used to talk about it. What else did he do? He was close to, he was an important person in this group let’s say of these German professors. He was more German than anything else.

V – How do you mean he was more German?

T – This is hard to explain.

V – In his manner, in his thinking?

T – In his thinking and so on, yes. He was very interesting person. He was the center of a group of a large group of people who lived around Bebek.

V – Who else lived in Bebek, do you remember?

T – Many of them were in Bebek. Koswig was in Bebek, Heilbron was in Bebek, let me see, Andreas Schwartz was in Bebek, Philip Schwartz perhaps also, I’m not sure he was a little over on the hills.

V – So tell me who were you the closest to? Which professor was your best friend.

T – Well the closest teacher I can always say, because I learned many things from him was Helmut Witter. He was sent to Turkey from Germany already in the 20’s the late 20’s, I don’t know when. He stayed there until the end of the 40’s and he was …

V – Your teacher.

V — What about your colleague Robert Anhegger, can you tell us about him please?

T – Yes, ask him yourself. I met him in my second year when I came to Turkey the second time, in 36, I think it was. He was at that time a student at the University of Zurich. He came for the summer. We had common friends, some Turkish people who had given me their city, small apartment.

V – When did you share the house in Cengelkoy?

T – That was later. That must have been later. When he came in 40 he came then.
V – Tell me about Cengelkoy.

T – Cengelkoy?

V – What was it like?

T – Cengelkoy, we were on the mountain, you have seen in some photographs some trees, it was the house where a famous poet had lived and emigrated from Turkey because he was against the Westernization of Turkey under Attaturk. He went to Egypt.

V – What were the conditions like. What were the conditions in the house like, was it pleasant?

T – The house was very pleasant. Actually a family lived on the upper storey, and we had the lower storey, I think it, or was or the other way round perhaps. It was an old Konak what they call it, just one like a, what you call it an anteroom that goes through he whole house.

V - A hall.

T – A hall and then on both sides many rooms. It was very pleasant.

V – Do you think that most professors were happy when they were in Turkey?

T – I do think so, yes, I do think so and I met many of them afterwards. When I traveled around Europe or the States I met many again whom I had know before, talked about their years in Turkey with great appreciation.

V – You knew Andreas Schwartz? Can you tell me about him?

T – Andreas Schwartz I really didn’t know. I knew Philip Schwartz a little, but not too well either. Andreas Schwartz I didn’t know too well.

V – What about Margaret Schutte? Can you tell me about Margaret Schutte?

T - She was, I knew her husband. She was already in concentration camp in Germany, in the German area, in Vienna I think. When I came to Turkey or not the first time. I had no contact of this type. But when I had this contact that was in probably in 40 and then she was not there anymore.
V – Do you remember, it says in the research it says she was put in the camp in 1940. That her husband falsified papers to get her out.

T – Yes, that’s right.

V – Do you know how he did that?

T – Well he went to the ministry and asked, well he heard from her that she was somewhere in prison and so he tried to, wanted to have some kind of action from the Turkish government since he was professor at the Academy of Arts. He was professor of architecture. He was, he went to this to this misister asked him to write something in her favor and while the minister had to go out for something, he stole some form of paper from his desk, that had his name on it his title or something and he had this, someone helped him to write this letter in Turkish. This is what he told me I remember.

V – Well he saved her life he was very clever.

T – Yes he did.

V – That’s the first I’ve heard of this. I didn’t know how he got that paper, but now I know.

T – Yes, that’s how he described it.

V – What about Fritz Neumark? Do you have memories of Fritz Neumark?

T – Yea I remember him. He used to in the house on near Hagia Sophia house that belonged to one of the people in government at that time. Then later he went to the other university, to Ankara University. I knew him when he was still in Istanbul University and he knew Turkish very well. His Turkish was good, he, every professor who was hired for this job had to promise to learn the language within a year or so. In the first year he was given an assistant who would translate his lecture and then he should give his lecture in Turkish but then very few of them really did. I think Issacs did, Heilbron also and...

V – But Neumark was the best?

T – Neumark was certainly the best ….
V – What about Frederick Brusche, the chemistry professor who stayed the longest?

T – Brusche, he was a little younger than the other group. He was professor of chemistry, if I am right.

V - Do you have any memories of him?

T – No, not really..

V – What about Eva Buck?

T – I knew her well. She was professor, she was born in Hong Kong, I think and she was one of the assistants of Professor Spitzer, a Romanist, who later went to Harvard… I met him only in the States, but he was, he came with three assistants. He took his three assistants with him. You have Fuchs, but not this Fuchs, you have the artist Fuchs and one is Eva Buck and her husband is Hans Marchon, who is also on your list. They were in the French department and she, they married there and later the divorced there also. Finally she bought a house in southern France, she died there also.

V – Did you work with Walter Gottschalk?

T – Gottschalk. Yes he was at the library, at the university library for oriental reading room and he.. yes I knew him quite well…He came late also, he was one of those late comers like the one who came from the concentration camp but whose name I can’t remember.

V – Tell me about Hans Gutterbock.

T – He was in Ankara, I met him but I didn’t know him too well because I went several times to Ankara, but always for short stays only. I don’t remember when I met him first. He was so much popular with he Turkish colleagues and he came almost every year, almost every summer during his vacation he came back to Turkey and to especially to Ankara and so on…

V – Tell how he came to design the museum, the Hittite museum?
T – Well it was his field, of the ancient orient, of course he was on very good terms with the German Archeological Institute in Istanbul and with well he continued to do this Hittite at the University of Chicago which is a big center for these studies. We also have one professor at the university here in Vienna who goes there every year to work there from vacation time to the end of the year…

V – What about Gerhard Kessler? Do you have memories of Gerhard Kessler?

T – Not direct memories, but indirect because one of my colleagues in teaching as lecturer was who became later professor in Germany somewhere, I think Easty Germany was worked with Kessler all the time. With Kessler the other one that you said was general sociology or something and Austrian. Kessler was not an Austrian but the other one was an Austrian.

V – Kurt Koswig? You don’t have any memories?

T – No, No.

V – Hans Marchon?

T – No, no.

V – OK, what about Karl Menges.

T – Yes, he was in Ankara, he was professor in Ankara for at least two years I think maybe more. He was at the academy at Berlin before then he found a way to get out of Germany. He was against the Nazis but not Jewish and he went first to Holland then to Czechoslovakia. He stayed in Prague for some time…

V – Did Philip Schwartz help him come to Turkey?

T – No, not Schwartz, he came, I don’t know exactly the date, maybe someone else knows. He met the ambassador, Turkish Ambassador in Prague who was a well know writer of novel writers….This ambassador recommended him to the government or to the ministry of education…

V – Was he being persecuted?

T – Yes, so he went actually, he was going to teach Russian I think, he’s very good in Russian, in many, many languages and he was, he died already last year, and so
he came to Ankara and found it was impossible to teach Russian. They didn’t want him there for Russian.

V – What year did he come? He came in 37?

T – Could be, yes could be.

V – Was he Jewish?

T – No he was not Jewish at all. He was from a Protestant family in Germany.

V – But he had different social views, different political views. He was being persecuted for that?

T – Yes, yes he was against the Nazis. Certainly. He had some money first, he hid somewhere in the train that went to Holland….

V – He was feeling that he was in Danger?

T – Yes, he described in a little article which some of us maybe know. So he went there and he couldn’t teach Russian. So they wanted him to teach German and he said no, he’s not prepared to teach German, it doesn’t interest him and so on…After a certain he accepted a position at Columbia University. He went by train through Russia and Japan and from there to the States and he stayed there through the war and he came back to Germany to Berlin for one year I think after the war…

V – Professor Tietze just going to get you to stop and think s there anything that you think is important that we should know about the professors, all the professors who came to Turkey to teach and the fact that some of them were rescued from a bad situation, maybe they would have been sent to a camp, killed, the fact that they came to Turkey safe and were safe and able to practice in their field. So I want you to take just a second and think of a final statement, what would you like to say to me about this? That I’ve forgotten to ask you maybe?

T - I think that they were all aware of this had an interesting activity there and life interesting life also, continued with their professional activities and so on. I do think all of them did. As far as I can judge. I didn’t really belong to this group and I was never and I cannot tell you more than what anybody can tell yes.
V – Can you tell me a little bit more about Philip Schwartz how he came to arrange the contracts?

T – This I don’t know. I only know that he was the person who was in Switzerland, who had already left Germany and was in Switzerland and he was I don’t know why he had not someone else was asked to recruit these people for the university was closed you see, they closed all the university in Istanbul. There was a university that was already 25 years old or something, maybe a little more. They closed it and they dismissed most of the professors with a few exceptions only and then they started anew with this new group. That was a very, in the spirit of the time of that period. It was an experiment and experiment that was very successful anyway, but because they stayed long enough to influence the country and to teach…

V – How did they change Turkey? Did you feel they improved the quality of education?

T – Yes, completely. Everything was new at that time. Until then French was the only foreign language generally taught or known and after that, after the war, English started, today English is foremost. Many, many things have changed since. But there still many ties with of the people who had been in Turkey at that time with Turkey and with the University and so on…With Koswig, his wife never wanted to leave Turkey and she stayed all by herself when he went back to Germany.

V - Kosswig with a K?

T – He went back to Germany and became professor there and she stayed all by herself. He came in the summers only and finally she died and was buried there and he….and when he died his body was brought to Turkey…

V – Oh so they really fell in love with Turkey. So when he left Turkey, where did he go to teach, he returned to teach where? Germany?

T – I think it was Hamburg, but I may be wrong. It was somewhere in Northern Germany, I think in Hamburg.

V – Yes he was buried in the Asian cemetary.

T – Yes, they brought his body back with a ceremony.
V – What about Alfred Kantoworitz? The Dentist?

T – He was head of the School of Dentistry but he already left or died, I don’t remember, during the war. A Frenchman came in his place, Ducanoir, Mr. Ducanoir (Spelling)

V – What about Rudolph Nissen, the Surgeon?

T – Nissen, yes he was also before my time I think. He went to the States, I think to New York and then he went to Switzerland.

V – Did he operate on your father?

T – Yes he did.

V – Where? Where did he operate on your father?

T – In New York I think. My father gave him, my father had a large collection of art things, my father gave him a picture, because he didn’t want any money from him.

V – How do you feel about Turkey? You married a Turk… So when you came to Turkey in those days in the 30’s what did you feel, were you excited, was it like your dream, how did you feel?

T – Well I came to Turkey the first time, that’s along time back now. First I have to acquaint myself with the country the situation and so on … It helped me to travel these two trips to Anatolia. My interest in Turkey had started when I was still in school in Gynamisum. The last two years of the school, I didn’t go to school, I just went to examinations at the end of every semester and so I had much time and I could read a lot of things and I could also do other things. For instance, I traveled to Greece, for one month and a half to various places in Greece. That was a great influence on my development also…It awakened my interest in the whole area…

V – How did you feel about the people, about the Turkish people at that time?

T –Well, I had positive feelings. I admired certain things that were new to me, hospitality and so on and so on.
V – They were receptive, they were welcoming to you and later to these other professors?

T – Yes, they were.