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Sevim ERDEM

(Prof. Dr.), Bitlis Eren University / Türkiye, serdem@beu.edu.tr, 0000-0001-6335-2992

A Mine Site Whose Operation Was Stopped Due to War Technique at the End of the 19th Century: Sarıyer Copper Mine

XIX. Yüzyılın Sonunda Savaş Tekniği Bakımından İşletilmesi Durdurulan Bir Maden Sahası: Sarıyer Bakır Madeni

Abstract: This article discusses the military-strategic significance of the Bosphorus during the reign of Sultan Abdulhamid II and, in this context, the impact of the copper mine in Sarıyer on Ottoman defense policies. It examines the importance that the Ottoman Empire gave to the protection of defensive structures around the Bosphorus and the implementation of military strategies, particularly in the face of the Russian threat from the Black Sea, increasing political activity in the Balkans, and diplomatic problems with European states. British representatives' demands for the expansion and operation of the copper mine area in Sarıyer conflicted with the military interests of the Ottoman Empire, and these demands became an international diplomatic issue. The study analyzes the Ottoman Empire's determination to protect its strategic priorities and the policies it followed against external pressures. It explains how the copper mine in Sarıyer, located in close proximity to defensive structures such as castles and bastions on the Bosphorus, affected military mobility and the protection of water resources. It is indicated that the Ottoman Empire resisted British demands to prevent the possible harms of the expansion of the mining area on military strategies and stopped this enterprise at the expense of paying compensation. The article follows a document-based method in analyzing historical events. In this context, first of all, documents and documents from the official archives of the Republic of Turkey, particularly the Ottoman archives, were examined. Reports published by the Mineral Research and Exploration Directorate, which is a state institution, were taken as primary sources. Moreover, works written during the Ottoman Empire period and current research studies were utilized in the close reading, analysis, and synthesis of existing materials. In this context, historical events were discussed with their military, diplomatic, and strategic aspects, and the effects of Ottoman defense policies in the international context were evaluated.

Key Words: Bosphorus, Defense structures, England, Sarıyer copper mine, Strategy, Sultan Abdulhamid II

Öz: Bu makale, Sultan II. Abdülhamid döneminde İstanbul Boğazı'nın askeri-stratejik önemini ve bu bağlamda Sarıyer'deki bakır madeni işletmesinin Osmanlı savunma politikaları üzerindeki etkisini ele almaktadır. Osmanlı Devleti, özellikle Karadeniz'den gelen Rus tehdidi, Balkanlarda artan siyasi hareketlilik ve Avrupa devletleriyle yaşadığı diplomatik sorunlar karşısında, Boğaz çevresinde savunma amaçlı yapıların korunmasına ve askeri stratejilerin uygulanmasına verdiği önem incelenmiştir. Sarıyer'deki bakır madeni sahasının İngiliz temsilciler tarafından genişletilmesi ve işletilmesi yönündeki talepler, Osmanlı Devleti'nin askeri çıkarlarıyla çelişmiş ve bu talepler uluslararası bir diplomatik sorun hâline gelmiştir. Çalışmada, Osmanlı Devleti'nin stratejik önceliklerini koruma konusundaki kararlılığını ve dış baskılara karşı izlediği politikaları analiz edilmekte ve Sarıyer'deki bakır madeninin, Boğaz'daki kale ve tabya gibi savunma yapılarıyla iç içe bulunmasının, askeri hareketliliği ve su kaynaklarının korunmasını nasıl etkilediği açıklanmaktadır. Ayrıca Osmanlı Devleti'nin, maden sahasının genişletilmesinin askeri stratejiler üzerindeki olası zararlarını önlemek için İngiliz taleplerine karşı koyduğu ve bu işletmeyi tazminat ödeme pahasına durdurduğu da gösterilmektedir. Makale, tarihsel olayların analizinde belge temelli bir yöntem izlemektedir. Bu kapsamda, öncelikle Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Devleti'nin resmî arşivlerinden, özellikle Osmanlı arşivine ait belge ve dokümanlar incelenmiştir. Devletin bir kurumu olan Maden Tetkik ve Arama Müdürlüğü tarafından yayımlanmış raporlar birincil kaynak olarak değerlendirilmiştir. Ayrıca, Osmanlı Devleti döneminde yazılmış eserler ve günümüzdeki araştırma-inceleme çalışmaları, mevcut materyallerin okunması, analiz edilmesi ve sentezlenmesi aşamalarında kullanılmıştır. Bu kapsamda tarihsel olaylar askeri, diplomatik ve stratejik yönleriyle ele alınmış, Osmanlı savunma politikalarının uluslararası bağlamdaki etkileri değerlendirilmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: İstanbul Boğazı, Savunma, İngiltere, Sarıyer bakır madeni, Strateji, II. Abdülhamid

Introduction

Mines have a wide range of uses and have played an important role in the economic, military, and commercial lives of societies throughout history. They have always attracted the attention of states and societies with their features, such as providing money circulation, being a medium of exchange, and being used in the production of tools and equipment. Identifying and operating mines in their geography or maintaining the activities of existing mines has been a priority for all states.¹

While the main branch of mining and metalworking was weapon making in the Middle Ages, this sector came to the fore with navy, shipping, and maritime activities in the Modern Age, particularly from the seventeenth century. During this period, the transition from human and animal power to renewable energy sources such as wind and water led to transformations in the field of energy and accelerated colonialism movements. Along with industrialization in Europe, the diversification of energy sources and developments in the electro-industry after the second half of the eighteenth century further increased the significance of mining. The inclusion of light metals (e.g., aluminum, magnesium, titanium) in production led to rapid developments in the automotive and aerospace industries. Furthermore, the intense demand for electrical energy brought qualified metals such as copper to the fore.

Through the influence of the Industrial Revolution, international monopoly capitalism took shape in the early nineteenth century, and European countries turned their ways to neighboring countries such as the Ottoman Empire for new markets and raw materials. The industrialized countries of Europe, particularly England, increased their economic and political pressure to access minerals such as chrome, boraxite, emery, copper, lead, and zinc in the Ottoman Empire.²

One of the mining areas that especially the British intended to capture was the Sarıyer copper mine location. Sarıyer copper mine (Chalcopyrite/Nuhas/Kupferkies) contained copper sulphide mixed with iron sulphide³, and it was a mineral deposit that was of interest to the war industry and contained strategic metals.⁴

The British interest in Sarıyer was not limited to providing raw materials for the electrical industries. The British considered Istanbul as a garrison city and particularly the Bosphorus as a military zone related to other districts of the city, and British representatives (travelers, ambassadors, diplomats, merchants, bankers, etc.) coming to Istanbul went to the capital Istanbul and recorded military information about the Bosphorus.⁵ In this context, Sarıyer used

¹ Fahretin Tızlak, "Osmanlı Devletinde Madencilik", *Osmanlı*, 3, (Ankara: Yeni Türkiye Yay., 1999), 313.

² Serap Taştekin, "Osmanlı Maden Hukukunda "Taharri Hakkı" ve Maden Nizamnamelerindeki Tekâmülü", *Vakanüvis* 5/2, (Güz/2020): 1004; Savaş Dilek, "Anadolu Coğrafyasındaki Madencilik Politikaları ve Tarih Bilinç(i) (sızılgı)", <https://www.jmo.org.tr>, 24.11.2024, 31-33.

³ Halil Edhem, *İlm-i Meadin ve Tabakatü'l-Arz*, (İstanbul: Mihran Matbaası, 1307), Türk Tarih Kurumu Kütüphanesi, A/7806, 83; Charles White, *Three Years in Constantinople; or, Domestic Manners of The Turks in 1844*, Vol. I, (London: Henry Colburn, Publisher, 1845), 326-327.

⁴ Dilek, "Anadolu Coğrafyasındaki", 31-33.

⁵ Elif Süreyya Genç, *XIX. Yüzyıl İstanbul'u Bir İngiliz Seyyahın İzlenimleri*, (İstanbul: Doğu Kitabevi, 2010), 48; Oya Şenyurt, "Arşiv Belgeleri Işığında III. Selim'in Askeri Alandaki Kararlarının İstanbul'da Kent Mekânının Kullanımına Etkileri", *Bilgi* 78 (2016): 208; Koray Şerbetçi, *Osmanlı'nın İngiliz'le İmtihanı*, (İstanbul: Nesil Basım, 2017), 48.

to have a strategic value, especially in terms of being a surveillance post in the direction of the Black Sea Strait and its proximity to the capital Payitaht.⁶

It is possible to see that Sarıyer is the most suitable place to observe the Bosphorus in the quatrains in the work by İnciciyan:

Sarıyer under the title of Kefeliköy	Sarıyer under the title of Kandilli
Sarıyar and Kavak are famous places <u>Invisible even to the outsiders</u> Ships docked at piers But it is know when it comes	On the one hand, I saw Marmara On the other hand, Sarıyar With curves left and right <u>The Bosphorus appears like a picture</u>

The conditions that increased the operation of the Sarıyer copper mine were not only technological-economic, but certain political, military, and political events and approaches also contributed to the mining activities in the Sarıyer copper mine area.

1. A British Speculator: Londoner Monsieur Read's Acquisition of Sarıyer Copper Mine

In the Ottoman economy, Istanbul was the center of the state and the heart of the economy. In the nineteenth century, Greek, Armenian, and Jewish bankers and merchants played such active roles in the Ottoman economy and commercial life. They were the first address to be consulted in obtaining the loan money needed by the state and were especially active in trade and finance-related affairs.⁷

These merchants, moneychangers, and bankers, who had offices in the inns in the Galata district of Istanbul since the mid-nineteenth century, had close relations with the great merchants, moneychangers, and bankers of Europe. An example of this relationship is Monsieur Read from London and his representative, William Harvey. Agent William Harvey contacted local and foreign merchants, moneychangers, and bankers dealing with trade and industry in Istanbul in order to obtain the Sarıyer copper mine privilege on behalf of Monsieur Read.⁸

1.1. Monsieur Read's Takeover of Sarıyer Copper Mine

The privilege of the Sarıyer copper mine was given to Coppersmith Mr. Lazaridi and Hayriye Merchant Hadji Ali Agha for twenty-five years in September 1281/September 1865.⁹ Later, Hadji Ali Agha, one of the partners, appointed a person named Nicolas Avastanis as his deputy. After a while, Hadji Ali Agha passed away, and Nicolas was a deputy no longer. Even though Nicolas lost his mandate, he presented himself as the tax farmer of the mine, and in 1871, using deceptive methods, he sold the mine to Monsieur Read (Regent Monsieur Harvey), a British citizen living in London.¹⁰ At the same time, the heirs of Hadji Ali Agha and Lazaridi, who were the original tax farmers of the mine, sold their mining privileges to Manol veled-i Yorgi because of the difficulties they experienced in operating the mine.

⁶ Ali Rıza, *Atlaslı Memalik-i Osmaniye Coğrafyası*, (İstanbul: Mühendishane-i Berre-i Hümayun Matbaası, 1318), Türk Tarih Kurumu Kütüphanesi (TTK), Digital Document, Record No:36529, Location No: AII.7625, 19; G.V. İnciciyan, *Boğaziçi Sayfiyeleri*, Hazırlayan: Orhan Duru, (İstanbul: Alfa Yay.,) 155, 181.

⁷ Nurdan İpek, *Yahudi Bankerler*, (İstanbul: Yeditepe Yayınevi, 2011), XIII, 2, 6.

⁸ İpek, *Yahudi Bankerler*, 43. Sevim Erdem, "İngilizler Boğaziçi Kıyılarında: Bir İngiliz Maden Yatırımcısı John Francis Holcomb Read (J.F.H.R.)in Sarıyer Bakır Madenini Elde Etme Çabası" *Çağdaş Türkiye Tarihi Araştırmaları Dergisi*, XXIV/49, (2024/Güz): 457-591.

⁹ (---), "Türkler ve Madencilik", *Maden Tetkik Arama Enstitüsü Dergisi (MTA)* 5(1939), 12.

¹⁰ Cumhurbaşkanlığı Devlet Arşivleri Başkanlığı Osmanlı Arşivi (BOA), *Hariciye Nezareti Mektubi Kalemi (HR. MKT)*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880); BOA, *Şurayı Devlet (ŞD)*, 2867/24, 29 Zilkade 1289 (28 January 1873).

Monsieur Read's deputy, Harvey, applied to the Imperial Mining Administration to certify the sale and waiver deed of the copper mine in Sarıyer in 1871. The Mining Administration did not approve the sale, stating that Monsieur Read was not the regular owner of the mine. This situation gave rise to controversial situations, and after a while the issue was taken to court. The case between the British Monsieur Read and Manol and their partners regarding the Sarıyer copper mine started to be heard in the Beyoğlu Magistrates' Court. Beyoğlu Supreme Court handed over the mine to Manol and his partners. However, the British Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Embassy continued to send protest notes to the Sublime Porte in order to turn the situation in their favor, and as a result of all these efforts, the Ottoman Empire transferred the mining concession to Monsieur Read from British subjects on 30 Teşrin-i ago 1294/11 November 1878.¹¹ The concession period of the mine ended in Rumi 1306/1890.¹²

1.2. Monsieur Read's Requests for the Renewal of Atik Concession Edict

Shortly after Monsieur Read took over the mining concession in 1878, he began to make various demands regarding Atik concession edict, which contained certain restrictions. Atik edict in the hands of Monsieur Read covers a twenty-five-year operating period¹³ and the area allocated in the edict is determined as 275 decares.¹⁴ Monsieur Read stated that the mining concession period and the area allocated for comprehensive mining operations were insufficient and applied to the Forestry and Mining Administration for both the extension of the operation period and the expansion of the allocated area.

Monsieur Read's demands can be collected under several headings:

- 1- Rearranging the decree and extending the concession period to ninety-nine years, based on the article regarding the mine operation period in the Mining Regulation dated 1869¹⁵
- 2- Expansion of the borders of the mine (from 275 decares to 1173 decares)
- 3- Granting the privilege of another copper mining area (Teknecik Creek) in Sarıyer.¹⁶

Although Monsieur Read's request to expand the borders of the mine was evaluated as fair and equitable by the Director of Forestry and Mining, Sir Kuyumcuyan, he deemed it appropriate to obtain the opinions of the Sublime Porte of Military Affairs and the Tophane-i Amire in order to make the final decision on this issue. Opinions and approval were sought from relevant institutions before the final decision was taken.

Bab-ı Vala-yı Ser-askeriye and Tophane-i Amire notified the Imperial Mining Administration that it was not appropriate to accept the application without directly addressing the content of Monsieur Read's expansion request. Furthermore, it also brought to the agenda again the reservations expressed when Monsieur Read previously requested a concession decree for another copper mine located on Teknecik Creek in Sarıyer. However, the British Embassy

¹¹ ---, "Türkler ve Madencilik", 12; *Sarıyer Bakır Madenine Dair Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi Genel Sekreterliğinin 11.10.1948 Tarihli Mektubu Hakkında, Derleme Klasif No: M.106*, MTA. (Note. The page number cannot be specified.); Erdem, "İngilizler Boğaziçi Kıyılarında:...", 479-480.

¹² *Derleme Klasif No: M.106*, -.

¹³ BOA, *İrade Orman ve Meadin (I.OM)*, 00007/0005, 17 Rajab 1318 (10 November 1900); BOA, *İrade Meclis-i Vala (I.MVL)*, 537/24122, 26 Rabi'ul-Awwal 1282 (19 August 1865); BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880); BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01078/00006, 28 Jumada al-Akhir 1296 (19 July 1879).

¹⁴ BOA, *I.OM*, 00007/0005, 17 Rajab 1318 (10 November 1900); BOA, *I.MVL*, 537/24122, 26 Rabi'ul-Awwal 1282 (19 August 1865).

¹⁵ *Meadin Nizamnamesidir (Reglement Des Mines)*, (İstanbul: 1268/1869), TTK, Digital Document, 7.

¹⁶ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880); BOA, *ŞD*, 2703/23, 15 Safar 1318 (14 July 1900).

stated that the objections put forward by the military administrations (Ser-Askerlik and Tophane-i Amire) against the operation of both mines were incompatible with equity and were unfounded.¹⁷

Monsieur Read had been operating the mine under his control for ten years. The request for expansion of the borders of the mine was in the direction of Kestane Suyu, that is, not towards Kavağ (Rumeli Kavağı), where the military fortifications were located. For this reason, Bab-ı Vala-yı Seraskeri and Tophane-i Amire's opposition to the Mining Administration's proposal only meant causing harm to one of the British subjects and driving foreigners' thoughts of investing in Ottoman lands to despair. Contrary to encouraging foreign investors to invest in Ottoman lands, he used a diplomatic language stating that such obstacles could lead foreign investors to despair.

The British Embassy requested that this demand not be hindered by the Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti and the Bab-ı Vala-yı Ser-askeriye, and in accordance with Lord Salisbury's instructions, applied to the Ottoman Government for the recognition and protection of Monsieur Read's rights and asked for favor.¹⁸ Tophane-i Amire and Ser-askeriye made some obstacles to Monsieur Read's request, "*and in this regard, the law of the Ministry of Forestry and Mining was confirmed*".¹⁹ The British Embassy wanted this situation to be prevented.²⁰

1.3. Response of Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti dated 16 Rajab 1296/6 July 1879

Monsieur Read, a British citizen, requested a decree for the copper mine he operated in Sarıyer and another mine in Teknecik Creek in the same region. It was stated that Monsieur Read's request was blocked by Tophane-i Amire and Seraskerlik. The British Embassy submitted the letter on this issue to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted the copy of the report with its attachment to the Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti, and this letter was also sent to the Military Service.

Tophane-i Amire had also revealed the drawbacks of expanding the Sarıyer copper mine to avoid the drawbacks and obstacles stated in the order for the tender of the Nuhas mine in the Teknecik stream, for which Monsieur Read sought the privilege. The area to be expanded in the Sarıyer copper mine concession was a part of the land between the Çekmeceler defense structures and the Bosphorus fortifications. If any point of this land had been given over to someone else's privilege or abandoned, certain difficulties and obstacles might have arisen in the execution of military operations. Therefore, Tophane could not have dared to express the current situation in any other way. Tophane-i Amire's letter was sent to the Registration Room of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be forwarded to the British Embassy.²¹

1.4. Response of Bab-ı Vala-yı Ser-Askeriye Dated 21 Shaban 1296/10 August 1879

Before responding to the British Embassy's memorandum and Monsieur Read's latest change letter regarding the mining area, the Ser-Askeriye referred the issue to the Council of Military Affairs in order to understand and interpret the situation correctly and also held discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the issue.

¹⁷ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

¹⁸ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01077/00081, 28 Jumada al-Akhir 1296 (19 July 1879); BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01078/00006, 28 Jumada al-Akhir 1296 (19 July 1879). Note: Both documents have the same date, and their contents are generally similar. However, one of the documents, 1077/00081, was addressed to the Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti, and the other, 1078/00006, was addressed to the Ser-Askeriye.

¹⁹ Notes. The part in quotes is crossed out in the document. See Annex III.

²⁰ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01077/00081, 28 Jumada al-Akhir 1296 (19 July 1879).

²¹ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

Regarding Monsieur Read's request for the expansion of the boundaries of the Saryer copper mine under his concession, the British Embassy stated in the memorandum that the drawbacks expressed about the copper mine in Teknecik Creek, for which it had previously applied for the concession, were put forward again and that the drawbacks put forward about the copper mine in Teknecik Stream could not be for the Saryer copper mine. The reason was that the border of the Saryer copper mine to be expanded was in the direction of Kestane Suyu, that is, not towards Kavağ (Rumeli Kavağı), where the fortifications (castle and bastion, etc.) were located. For this reason, the objections in question were not found justified, as there was no room for the obstacles and drawbacks reported in previous articles. In this context, Bab-ı Valay-ı Ser-Askeriye recommended not to cause any difficulties and not to oppose. It was also stated that Monsieur Read had changed his previous demands. In Monsieur Read's previous request, a change and correction had been made in the borders of the Saryer mine up to Leb-i Derya- the seaside, that is, by excluding the Kavak (Rumeli Kavağı) fortification, and according to the fifteenth article of the Mining Regulation, he requested "a tender for a distance of one hundred and fifty arshins".

Ser-Askeriyye initiated a study on Monsieur Read's petition, in which he made changes and corrections regarding the Saryer copper mine. Mr. Miralay Hakkı, a member of the Tophane-i Amire Council, was appointed and sent to the field to determine whether this request actually contained a change and whether it would create a dangerous situation for the battle point. In the report he prepared and submitted upon his return, Mr. Hakkı stated that the desired concession line for the Saryer copper mine:²²

The old ancient mining area covered 275 decares,²³ including the land of Mavromolo, Baltacı, and Kasab Farms from Saryer, and the area where fresh water resources were flowing from Kavak (Rumeli Kavağı) towards the castle and bastions in the direction of Rumelia.²⁴ This region was located within the borders stretching from Çekmece Lake to Terkos Lake and determined by the built fortifications, and it also strategically combined the coastal fortifications with the Çekmeceler fortifications. This area was located on points, roads, and routes connecting the places where military units had to be directed, and it was understood that this area was used as a movement and maneuver area for military units. Therefore, no matter how many changes or corrections had been made, ensuring the security of the Kavak Fortification and its connection points would be in danger.²⁵

Mr. Miralay Hakkı expressed the risks in the previously sent letters on this subject dated 24 Dhul-Hijja 1295/19 December 1878, 3 Rabi al-Awwal 1296/25 February 1879, and 30 Rabi al-Awwal 1296/24 March 1879²⁶ and confirmed once again that the danger could not be eliminated. It was clear that no matter what corrections and changes had been made regarding the expansion of the mining area, the danger could not be eliminated. In summary, it was clear that if any part of this land had been given to another person as a tax lien or privilege, some difficulties and obstacles would have been encountered in the execution of military operations. This situation could never be approved, and the dangers it posed had serious consequences. Tophane officials stated that they would not dare to make any other evaluation than the announced conditions. In this regard, the War Office made the necessary evaluation in response

²² BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

²³ BOA, *I.OM*, 00007/0005, 17 Rajab 1318 (10 November 1900).

²⁴ H. Czezott, *Saryer Maden İmtiyazına Ait Taharri Ameliyatı Layihası*, 15.06.1915, *Raport No: 1003*, (Ankara:16.01.1940), See Annex IV.

²⁵ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

²⁶ In fact, 3 and 30 appear as Rabi'al-Akhir in the document, but since Rabi'al-Akhir is 29 in the date conversion, the date was translated as Rabi'al-Awwal, BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

to you and returned the attached copies of the documents. The order and decree on this matter belonged to the sultan.²⁷ After being translated, a copy of the article was written to Dar-ı Şura on 9 June 1295/21 June 1879, and also to the Tahrirat-ı Hariciye Book on 1 August 1295/13 August 1879.

2. The British Embassy's Effort to Refute the Evidence

Tophane-i Amire Müşir Ali Saib Pasha stated that the land requested by the deputy Monsieur Harvey was within the defense line between Çekmece and Terkos and that it would not be possible to meet the request based on some military reasons. Ali Saib Pasha stated that the location of the land whose scope had been requested to be expanded was within the borders of a strategically protected area used as a military defense line. On the other hand, the British Embassy declared without hesitation that the military reasons put forward by Ali Saib Pasha, far from justifying this rejection, would not be taken into consideration as they were far from the reality based on assumption.²⁸ The Embassy brought up a few issues to refute the reasons given by Tophane-i Amire:

The first issue is that if the operation of the Sarıyer copper mine had posed a threat to the defense lines established for the defense of Istanbul during the 93 War, the last war of the recent period of the Ottoman Empire, or if a situation had arisen that endangered the security of the Capital, the military authorities would have stopped the operation and put it on holiday, as should have been done. However, such a situation did not occur, and the copper mine continued its activities without any complaints. The Embassy put forward this situation as strong evidence in order to weaken the objection of the military authority. It is obvious that even in exceptional times, the operation of the Sarıyer copper mine did not constitute an obstacle to military action.

The second noteworthy issue is that Ali Saib Pasha, during his time as serasker, declared that there was no harm in accepting the request of Monsieur Thomas Stylak, who requested the privilege of a copper mine located to the north of the Sarıyer mine and closer to the Kavak Fortification. In this case, the reasons put forward by Tophane-i Amire had no validity or effect.

It was also stated that the land requested by Monsieur William Harvey for the expansion operation was not suitable for military needs due to its nature and location and did not adversely affect military activities. It is clearly understood that any action to be taken on this land would not cause any harm to military activities.

The Embassy decided that Ali Saib Pasha not only opposed the expansion of the borders of the Sarıyer copper mine but also tried to deprive Monsieur Harvey of this right,²⁹ even though he had the right to change the old edict in accordance with the Mining Regulations in order to get rid of the heavy taxes he had to pay to the Treasury. If Ali Saib Pasha was really of this opinion, "... *It is a matter of regret that he confirmed the opinion and belief that the commitments made by the foreign capitalists regarding the execution of industrial enterprises and mining operations in the Private Ministry mostly coincided with the scope and great difficulties*". It is regrettable as it confirmed the suspicions, beliefs, and thoughts that the initiatives made by foreign capitalists regarding industrial enterprises and mining enterprises in the Ottoman Empire generally encountered great difficulties and serious obstacles.³⁰

²⁷ BOA, HR. MKT, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

²⁸ BOA, HR. MKT, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

²⁹ "...ihrâc ve i'mâl olunacak ma'denin fûruht olunan hasılâtından tahammülüne göre yüzde üçten yirmiyeye kadar resm ahz olunacak...", Fahrettin Tızlak, "Osmanlı Maden İşletmeciliğinden Kanunnâmeden Nizamnâmeğe Geçiş ve 1861 Tarihli Maden Nizamnâmesi", *Türk Dünyası Araştırmaları* 98 (1995), 88-89.

³⁰ BOA, HR. MKT, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi'al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

2.1. Proposal to Establish a Joint Investigation Commission

The British Embassy was not satisfied with the objections it put forward and requested the Sublime Porte to establish a mixed commission to examine the issues in question. He proposed the establishment of a mixed commission to the Sublime Porte to “inspect these areas thoroughly and determine whether there were any military considerations that would hinder the processing of the mine and its expansion, together with the Attaché Military of the Embassy” so that they could evaluate whether the opposition justifications put forward, particularly by Tophane-i Amire, were based on strong foundations.

The British Embassy requested the Sublime Porte to establish a mixed commission to conduct on-site research together with the Military Attaché of the British Embassy in order to comprehensively examine the area in question and determine whether there are military reasons that would prevent the operation of the mine and border expansion. Moreover, the Embassy stated that, considering the large expenses of Monsieur William Harvey in this matter, they could only accept the decision of such a commission for a fair evaluation of the matter in question.³¹

2.2. British Embassy’s Threat of Compensation

The British Embassy did not find it possible to agree with Ali Saib Pasha’s views without seeing the report that would be prepared by a mixed commission to express its opinion on Monsieur Harvey’s demands, which could be taken as a basis by the Council of Ministers. For this reason, the Ottoman Government had to either accept the offer made by the Embassy or resolve the issue fairly by another method. Otherwise, the Embassy stated that it would delegate to the state (the United Kingdom) the right of Monsieur Harvey to claim compensation for the great expenses he had incurred in the hope of changing his old edict in accordance with the provisions of the Mining Ordinance. The Embassy stated that Monsieur Harvey could use his own state’s right to demand the compensation he expected from the Ottoman Empire.

The Embassy sent its letter dated 12 Kanun-u sani 1880 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to consider it as an opportunity to re-report the situation, renew the guarantee, and reinforce mutual respect.³²

2.3. Opinion of Mr. Monsieur Parnice, one of the Ottoman Legal Advisors, dated (March 8, 1880)

Monsieur Read, a British state subject, applied to the Mining Administration to expand the Sarıyer copper mine land under its concession and to extend the concession period. Although the Mining Administration seemed to have examined the situation – “...even if the administrative authority seemed inclined to absolve itself of responsibility...” – military officers objected to this situation, stating that the requested land was located within the Çekmece and Terkos Fortification line. The British Embassy, on the other hand, opposed these objections and proposed the establishment of an Inquiry Commission, including its own military attaché.³³

³¹ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi’al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

³² BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01156/00023, 11 Rabi’al-Awwal 1298 (11 February 1881).

³³ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi’al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent the letter of the British Embassy dated 12 Kanun-u Sani 1880, together with the original, to Mr. Parnice, one of the Ottoman Legal Advisors,³⁴ on 4 February 1880. Mr. Parnice stated in his Opinion dated 8 March 1880:

I hesitate to recommend that the proposed proposal be accepted to avoid foreign interference in matters relating to the defense of the country. However, since the evaluations made by the British Embassy “*seem to reject the point of view regarding the extension of the mine in question from the point of view of the War of Science...*”, from the point of view of the Fenn-i Harb—from a scientific perspective of war—it seems to be aimed at removing obstacles to the expansion of the mine in question. For this reason, Mr. Parnice stated in his Opinion that it would be appropriate for the Ministry of War and Tophane-i Amire to express their opinions to the Sublime Porte regarding the report dated 12 Kanun-u Sani, 1880.³⁵

3. Report of the Investigation Conducted by the British Embassy’s Own Military Attaché

The British Embassy submitted the report of the investigation carried out by its Military Attaché to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to refute the opinion given by Tophane-i Amire and Ser-Askeriye. According to the report of the Embassy Military Attaché, the location where the Sarıyer copper mine was located was neither suitable for the construction of military defense structures nor for the execution of military movements. Therefore, it had been determined that there was no harm in continuing mining activities in the region.

In this context, the justifications for the modification of the mining area previously put forward by the Ottoman Government were unacceptable. The British Embassy stated that the reasons put forward by the Ottoman Government were not compatible with the great wealth and benefits that the mine would provide and submitted its letter containing these views to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The letter, which was reached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the British Embassy on 20 Kanun-u Sani 1881, was rewritten to Harbiye and Tophane-i Amire with the annex of the document.³⁶

Letter sent to the Ministry of War

Monsieur Read continued to insist on the acceptance of the request for expansion of the copper mine area in Sarıyer. Although Tophane-i Amire stated that the expansion of the mining area was undesirable in terms of Fenni-i Harb, Read did not give up this request. Regarding this situation, the memorandum of the Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti was notified to the British Embassy along with its annexes. However, the British Embassy did not accept the reasons put forward and submitted a new letter dated 29 Kanun-u sani 1296/10 February 1881. In this letter, it stated that there was no harm in expanding the copper mine area in Sarıyer and that this situation was understood as a result of the investigation, and it reiterated its request for favor once again.

Thereupon, the letter of the British Embassy was forwarded to the Ministry of War with a memorandum for consideration and opinion. Additionally, a copy of this letter was sent to Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti.³⁷

Memorandum Sent to Tophane-i Amire Ministry

³⁴ Güven Dinç, “Osmanlı Devleti’nde Uluslararası Hukuk Anlayışının Kurumsallaşması: Babıali Hukuk Müşavirliği (İstişare Odası)”, *Turcology Research* 74, (2022): 385.

³⁵ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01112/00066, 16 Rabi’al-Akhir 1297 (28 March 1880).

³⁶ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01156/00023, 11 Rabi’al-Awwal 1298 (11 February 1881).

³⁷ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01156/00022, 11 Rabi’al-Awwal 1298 (11 February 1881).

In his letter dated 9 Cemaziyel ago 1297/19 April 1880, Monsieur Read, a subject of the British State, submitted a detailed article about the technical drawbacks of the Tophane-i Amire Müşiriyeti's expansion of the Sariyer copper mine, which is under the privilege of Monsieur Read, in terms of Fenn-i Harb, and stated the necessary notification was made to the British Embassy.

Even on that date, the British Embassy submitted a new letter dated 29 Kanun-u sani 1296/10 February 1881 together with its report. In the approval of the British Embassy, Sariyer renewed its request for favor by declaring that there was no harm in expanding the area of the copper mine, both in terms of fortifications and military action. The letter of the British Embassy was considered, and a copy of the report was sent to the Tophane-i Amire Ministry for comment.

A copy of this letter was also sent to the Ministry of War.³⁸

4. Sariyer Copper Mine Being Included in the Scope of Restricted Zone in Terms of Fenn-i Harb Technique

The Ottoman Empire, which did not have a defense strategy until the end of the seventeenth century, believed that the best defense was an attack with a strong army and established an excellent army system, which developed in every aspect, but it lost land for the first time with the Treaty of Karlowitz in 1699.³⁹ The Ottoman Empire, which entered a period of decline with the Treaty of Karlowitz, began to lose its former power and entered the process of collapse. Iran, which particularly threatened its eastern borders, and Russia, which was becoming increasingly stronger in the north, pursued an expansionist policy against the Ottoman Empire. The Ottoman Empire, which maintained its territorial integrity by constantly attacking without defending, began to lose this feature, and defensive structures began to gain importance.⁴⁰ This situation made it necessary for it to build structures such as barracks, shipyards, armories, castles, and bastions and to protect the existing ones.⁴¹

The decrease in the territorial power of the Ottoman Empire made the Straits more vulnerable to external threats. Developments in the arms industry and the increasing importance of naval power led to the emergence of powerful navies, and this made the defense of the state and therefore the capital, Istanbul, important.

The advance of the Russian armies to Yeşilköy exposed the Ottoman Empire to a great danger during the War of 1993. As the British saw the pressure on the Ottoman capital, the British fleet came to Istanbul uninvited and even without paying attention to the objections of the Ottoman foreign ministry. It was the British threat, not the Ottoman defense, that stopped the Russians from entering Istanbul.

Sultan Abdulhamid II understood the seriousness of the situation and intensified his defense efforts around the Straits and Istanbul. Seeing that European states were in an arms race and the competition between them was deepening, the Sultan increased the defensive measures

³⁸ BOA, *HR. MKT*, 01156/00023, 11 Rabi' al-Awwal 1298 (11 February 1881).

³⁹ İsmail Hakkı Uzunçarşılı, "Kaynarca Muahedesinde Sonraki Durum İcabı Karadeniz Boğazının Tahkimi", *Belleten* 44 (175) (1980): 511.

⁴⁰ Osman Ülkü, "Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda Savunma Sistemi Olarak Tabya Mimarisi", *Atatürk Üniversitesi İlahiyat Fakültesi Dergisi* 27 (2007): 259.

⁴¹ Oya Şenyurt, "Arşiv Belgeleri Işığında III. Selim'in Askeri Alandaki Kararlarının İstanbul'da Kent Mekânının Kullanımına Etkileri", *Bilig*, 78 (2016): 199.

in the Straits, and he tried to build bastions and fortifications and strengthen the existing ones in addition to the shipment of weapons and ammunition.⁴²

4.1. Monsieur Read's Lawsuit Against the Ministry of Finance and the Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry and Mining

Monsieur Read from England took over the operating rights of the copper mine in Sarıyer in 1878, whose concession started on September 13, 1865, and ended in August 1890. After a while, Monsieur Read requested that the old Atik concession decree be changed in accordance with the current regulation, based on several articles of the 1869 mining regulation. Moreover, Monsieur Read also requested the expansion of the mining area (from 275 decares to 1173 decares).⁴³ The Ottoman Government did not make any changes to the old Atik edict due to military reasons and decided to close the mining area with the expiration of the mining concession period. A decision regarding the mine was entered in the tender book in Rumi 1298/1882-1883, and according to the recorded decision, after the mining concession period expired, the condition that the mining concession period would not be extended or given to another bidder was noted.⁴⁴

Monsieur Read filed a lawsuit in the First Commercial Court against the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Mining for the damages and losses, claiming that he was not provided with the rights provided by the 1869 mining regulations.⁴⁵

4.2. Hearing of the Case at First Commercial Court/Dersaadet Commercial Court

The Ottoman Government took the Sarıyer copper mine area under the control of the state, in terms of the Fenn-i Harb technique, because the area where the mine was located was intertwined with the castles and redoubts on the Bosphorus defense line and was of critical importance for the implementation of military strategies. Thereupon, on 22 August 1306/3 September 1890, the British Monsieur Read filed a demand for compensation of 60,000 lira, including interest and expenses, on the grounds that the mining concession he had taken over in 1878 was not extended for a period of ninety-nine years in accordance with the seventy-fourth article of the Mining Regulation dated 1286/1869 H. Dersaadet Ticaret, and he filed a lawsuit in the court.

The Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture stated that Monsieur Read requested the extension of the mine's concession period for ninety-nine years, as well as the expansion of the mine's borders. The Ministry responded to the court by stating that expanding the borders of the mine was undesirable for military reasons and that there was no possibility of Monsieur Read suffering any damage or loss in this regard since the mine was not economically rich or valuable. Considering the progress of the case, the Ministry tried to explain that such a decision would not be in line with justice and equity, as it was felt that a decision would be against the Ottoman Government, and made a great effort to maintain impartiality. However, in the decision of the Dersaadet Commercial Court, while deciding to pay compensation regarding the duration of the mining concession, it was decided not to claim anything in the name of damage or loss.

⁴² Ahmet Oğuz, "İstanbul Boğazı'nda Yapılan Savunma Çalışmaları", *Fenerbahçe Üniversitesi, Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi*, 2 (1) (2022): 68, 70, 74.

⁴³ BOA, ŞD, 2703/23, 15 Safar 1318 (14 July 1900).

⁴⁴ *Derleme Klasif No: M.106*, -.

⁴⁵ Sinan Sunar, "Tanzimat Dönemi İktisat-Yönetim İlişkisinin İdari Reform Siyasetine Yansımaları: Hukuk, Maliye ve Mülkiyet İlişkileri Çerçevesinde Bir Değerlendirme", *Giresun Üniversitesi İktisadi ve İdari Bilimler Dergisi* 8(2) (2022): 175.

Although the decision given by the Dersaadet Commercial Court was presented as fair and equitable, it was not actually correct because the Ottoman Government was obliged to pay Monsieur Read's expenses, even though the mine in question was not a valuable or rich thing.

Since the Dersaadet Commercial Court found Monsieur Read's request excessive, it decided that the matter was supposed to be handed over to a commission to determine the amount of expenses. Muamelat Inspector Mr. Ali Rıza, who had knowledge of law, was appointed on behalf of the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture, and the court appointed (deceased) Appellate Court Member Mr. Ali Şahbaz and Monsieur Read as Monsieur ريجو. These three people were appointed as members of the Ehl-i Hibre Commission.⁴⁶

During the investigations, Mr. Ali Rıza withdrew, realizing that the work was not impartially carried out and in good faith. The remaining members, Mr. Ali Şahbaz and Monsieur ريجو, who constituted the majority, estimated Monsieur Read's expenses as approximately 50,000 lira (fifty thousand lira). The Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture was informed by the court that the Ottoman Government would be sentenced to the determined amount and that it would not send the attorney of the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture to the court on the grounds that the proceedings of the case were carried out contrary to justice and law. However, Dersaadet Commercial Court continued to hear the case in absentia -in the absence of one of the parties- and approved its examination by sending the report to a committee of engineers.

The court approved the review of the report by referring it to a committee consisting of Engineers Monsieur Weiss,⁴⁷ Monsieur Moreau/Noveau, and Monsieur Reyden ريدن.⁴⁸ Monsieur Weiss, one of the members of the delegation and the mining engineer of the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture, did not comply with the invitation because he thought that the work would not be impartially carried out, and Monsieur Kolbo was appointed by the court to be a third engineer in his place.

Scientific Committee Appointed by the Dersaadet Commercial Court			
Engineer	Engineer	Engineer	Engineer
Monsieur Weiss (will withdraw)	Monsieur Kolbo (instead of Monsieur Weiss)	Monsieur Moreu/Noveu	Monsieur Reyden

The engineers on the commission, as expected, unanimously decided in favor of Monsieur Read and found it appropriate to pay compensation of 50,000 liras (fifty thousand).

Since the Minister of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture, on his own initiative, doubted the accuracy of the non-final decision given by the court -that is, the accuracy of the report given by the engineers- he sent the report prepared by the engineers to two expert engineers (Mining Engineer Chneau and Mining Engineer Natte) at the Ministry of Public Works in Germany through the Ottoman Berlin Ambassador Ahmed Tevfik Pasha to have them examine the report. These engineers rejected the report in its entirety and stated that there was no reason for the Ottoman Empire to pay compensation to Monsieur Read.⁴⁹ While this process was continuing, the Dersaadet Commercial Court sent a summons to the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture as the attorney for the case, but the ministry refused to attend the court since the Court started hearing the case in absentia. The court heard the case in absentia and ruled against

⁴⁶ BOA, ŞD, 2703/23, 15 Safar 1318 (14 July 1900).

⁴⁷ Özkan Keskin, "Osmanlı Devleti'nde Yabancı Maden Mühendislerinin İstihdamı ve Osmanlı Madencilğine Hizmetleri", *Yakın Dönem Türkiye Araştırmaları* 11(2007): 85.

⁴⁸ BOA, ŞD, 2703/23, 15 Safar 1318 (14 July 1900).

⁴⁹ BOA, I.OM, 00007/0005, 17 Rajab 1318 (10 November 1900), See attached V-VI a few pages of the Berlin Report.

the Ottoman Government for compensation of approximately 50,000 liras and the payment of interest and expenses.

While the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture was planning to object to the court's decision based on the report coming from Berlin, the fact that Monsieur Read did not take any action regarding the implementation of the decision in absentia within six months and left the work suspended prevented the Ministry from realizing its idea. However, "*in accordance with the law, if the execution of the decrees that have a default effect was not requested within the legal period, they would be kept in force as a whole...*"

If this decision was legally requested to be implemented by Monsieur Read within the six-hour period, it was considered to object to this decision made in absentia, supported by the engineer's report received from Berlin. However, the news that the expected report would be received from Berlin was heard, and the issue was temporarily suspended. According to the legal process, if the execution of an absentee decision was not requested within the legal period, this decision was supposed to be considered invalid. The validity and applicability of the decision taken by the First Assembly of the Commercial Court were possible within a certain period of time. The process is given in the table below.

Validity and Applicability of the Decision Taken by the First Chamber of the Commercial Court of the Absentee Judgment Concerning the Monsieur Read Case					
Judgment Date		Date when the notice was issued	Date when it reached the Ministry of Forestry, Mining and Agriculture		Legal Process
16 March 1315/28 March 1899		24 May 1315/5 June 1899	6 September 1315/18 September 1899		Six months
					Keen lem yekûn

As seen above, since Monsieur Read did not request the implementation of the decision within six months, it was stated that the decision was now invalid and it was not possible for the plaintiff to make any objection, and it would be inappropriate for the plaintiff to make any complaint. The decision in absentia had the effect of "Keen lem yekûn".⁵⁰ The issue of paying compensation was brought up again in Rumi 1317/1900. However, the case was not resolved through the court but through the British Embassy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Forestry and Mining.⁵¹

As a result, although the Sarıyer copper mine was not a rich and precious mine, it was used as a means of speculation, and by taking advantage of the delusion of Sultan Abdulhamid II, an unrealistic rumor was revealed that it was possible to reach the bottom of the Yıldız Palace through the underground gallery from Sarıyer. The British Foreign Ministry and Embassy, taking advantage of the palace's delusion, received compensation of 30,000 British gold coins from the state treasury and had the privilege of this essentially non-precious metal terminated. However, although the mining regulations stated that the privilege of mines that were not working and had no value should be terminated, he had to pay compensation of 30,000 British gold coins, which was a quite significant amount compared to the market value of that period.⁵²

Conclusion

⁵⁰ BOA, ŞD, 2703/23, 15 Safar 1318 (14 July 1900).

⁵¹ Christin Laidlaw, *Levant'taki İngilizler: 18. Yüzyılda Osmanlı İmparatorluğu'yla Ticaret ve Siyaset*, Trans. Hakan Abacı, (İstanbul: Alfa Basım, 2014), 17, 38.

⁵² (---), "Türkler ve Madencilik", 12.

The 19th century was a period in which radical transformations took place in the internal dynamics of the West and its relations with the Ottoman Empire. While Western domination evolved into a systematic world domination, the British domination all around the world, based on the high seas, came to the fore with the effects of the French Revolution and Napoleon. During this period, new political searches came up in Europe against Britain's sea-based global dominance, and developments such as France's Egyptian Expedition, occupation of Algeria, and Ottoman-Russian alliances threatened the strategic interests of Britain.

Britain began to develop new policies towards the Ottoman Empire in order to balance these threats. However, Britain did not feel a strategic need for the Ottoman Empire in the 18th century, and it attempted to maintain its Eastern trade via the Cape of Good Hope or the Moscow-Iran routes in the north. However, the condition of Ottoman-Russian relations and Britain's variable relations with France shaped Britain's influence on the Ottoman Empire.

In this context, it is seen that the policies developed against Britain in Europe in the 19th century forced England to develop new strategies towards the Ottoman Empire. Particularly France's attempts at expansion and Ottoman-Russian cooperation made the Ottoman Empire a significant actor in Britain's Eastern policy. In this process, Britain regarded the Ottoman Empire as an element that would preserve the balance in Europe and tried to integrate it into its own world domination strategy. This situation reveals the pragmatic transformation in Britain's Ottoman policy.

During this period, when Britain considered the Ottoman Empire as a strategic element, the Ottoman Empire experienced radical transformations in its economic and social structure. The Ottoman Empire, which could not be a productive part of the industrial revolution in Europe in the 19th century, took on a new role in the economy as the consumer and user of this industry. The Tanzimat process formed the basis of the Ottoman Empire's efforts to modernize the economy and finance and became the focal point of radical changes. While Ottoman bureaucrats and thinkers of the period were in an attempt to direct the system, different approaches came to the forefront in economic policies. While some advocated the free market economy, others adopted a protectionist approach. European merchants, who were influential in Ottoman foreign trade, had a significant role in Ottoman markets as elements of their states pursuing mercantilist policies. These merchants were influential in the Ottoman economy through the partnerships, and companies they established. These commercial elements, which also infiltrated local financial networks, increased foreign dependency in relation to the economic structure of the Ottoman Empire.

However, the decrease in the territorial power of the Ottoman Empire and the transformations in the maritime sector brought new defense priorities to the agenda in terms of geopolitics. The development of the arms industry and investments in naval power in the 19th century led to the emergence of powerful navies, and this made the defense of the capital, Istanbul, in particular, a vital issue. The Ottoman Empire built trenches and fortifications on the Rumelian and Anatolian coasts to support each other to protect the Black Sea Bosphorus. The bastions, starting from Kilyos and extending to Kireçburnu, became a part of the defense line of Istanbul. On the Anatolian coast, strategic points from Irva Castle to Anadolu Kavağı and Hungarian Castle were fortified. However, the defense of the capital was not limited only to fortifications on the seaside, a strong defense line was also created on the land side. The hill ranges extending from Çatalca to the Marmara Sea and the Black Sea were fortified with modern methods, creating a significant line strengthening the land defense of Istanbul. These defensive efforts reflect the Ottoman Empire's efforts to protect itself against internal and external threats in the 19th century.

The conditions that determined the operation of the Sariyer copper mine were not only technological-economic, but also certain military and political events and approaches determined the mining activities in the Sariyer copper mine area.

As a result, Britain's economic and diplomatic pressures on the Ottoman Empire conflicted with the Ottoman struggle to protect its defense priorities in strategic areas such as the Sariyer copper mine. This process is a reflection of the international diplomatic tensions and struggles of economic interests of the period.

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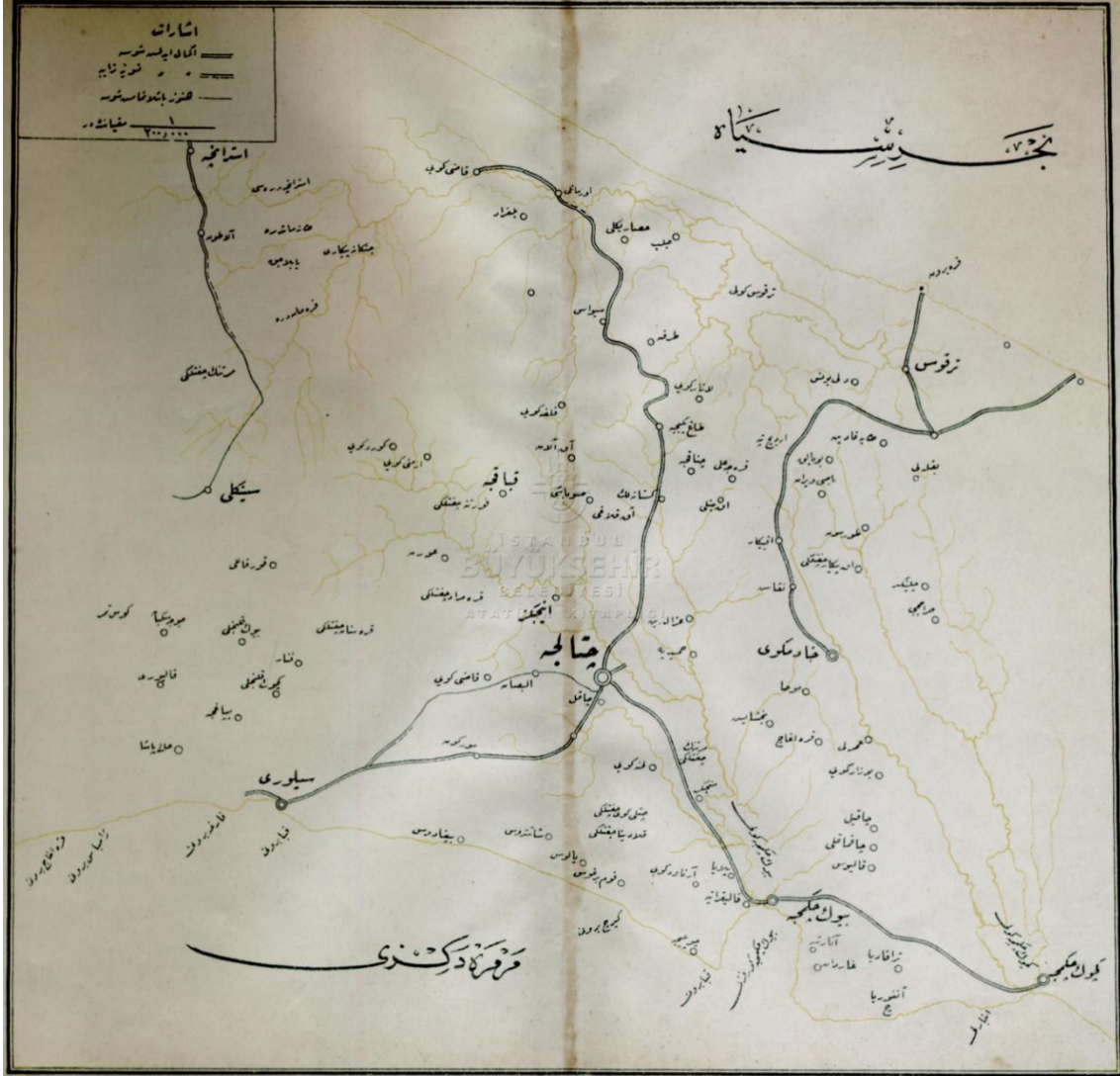
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Annex II. Çatalca Sanjak (Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Atatürk Library, Province Roads Map, Istanbul Hilal Printing House, R. 1329/AD 1913).



Annex III. Statement Reflecting the View of the Forestry and Mining Administration (the striped part:
HR. MKT, 01077/00081, 1296 C 28 /19 July 1879)

[illegible]

HR.MKT.01077.00081.001

Annex IV. Sarıyer Copper Mine Site (H. Czeczott, 16.01.1940, MTA)



Annexes V-VI. Berlin Report (İ.OM, 00007/0005, 17.07.1318/10 November 1900)

AMBASSADE IMPÉRIALE OTTOMANE À BERLIN.

N²

Berlin, le 18. Mai 1899.

En nous référant à l'entrevue du 15 courant, nous avons l'honneur de faire savoir à Votre Excellence notre avis sur le procès Holcombe Read contre le Ministère Impérial Ottoman des Mines et des Forêts, aussi bien qu'il est possible de se former une opinion sur la base des documents qui nous avaient été communiqués :

Nous croyons pouvoir constater, en général, aux interprétations du rapport de M^r Coulant, ingénieur en chef, en date du 4/16 Janvier 1899 (Rapport Coulant) dans tous les points essentiels, aussi bien sous les points de vue du droit que sous ceux de la technique.

I. Sous les rapports juridiques.

La plainte de M^r Read se base, comme il semble, sur la supposition que M^r Read eût en, d'après les clauses du règlement de mines du 3 Mouharrém 1286, 3 Avril 1869, un droit à la prolongation de la durée de son ancienne concession de 35 à 99 ans, ainsi qu'à la diminution de la taxe brute de 20%, qui lui avait été imposée par l'ancien document de concession (du 1/13 Septembre 1281 (1865), à 5% et

8 vrk
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Annexes VI. Berlin Report

de la concession primitive, c'est à dire après l'an-
née 1890.

Nous ~~sommes~~ d'avis que le rapport des
experts judiciaires est par ces indications générales
tellement ibranli que nous ne pouvons pas croire
qu'un tribunal peut le prendre comme base de
ses décisions. Nous faisons encore ressortir prin-
cipalement qu'il serait nécessaire dans le cas où on
exigerait un second examen en détail au point de
vue technique, d'examiner les bases qui ont servi
aux experts du tribunal, surtout les 11 plans des
travaux exécutés, ainsi que les renseignements sur
les avancements effectifs par le plaignant. De
même il serait de l'importance, pour juger d'une
manière plus détaillée les questions juridiques,
d'examiner les arrêts et l'exposé des motifs.

En renvoyant ci-joint les documents qui nous
avaient été soumis, nous nous permettons de
laisser à Votre Excellence le soin de faire le
nécessaire.

Cheneau

Conseiller intime des Mines

Nasse

Conseiller intime des Mines