

From US Embassy Ankara Turkey

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company Paid Its Respects

October 5, 2010

Seventy Nine members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company (AHAC) of Massachusetts marched in uniform at the Anitkabir on October 5 to pay their respects to Ataturk. After laying a wreath, the members of the company who are in Turkey as goodwill ambassadors, visited the museum and then attended a luncheon hosted by U.S. Charge d 'Affaires Douglas Silliman. Ten Turkish artillery officers and other guests were present at the reception. The AHAC was founded in 1638 and has had four American presidents including President John F. Kennedy as members. The company members will spend a few days visiting Istanbul before returning to the United States.







The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts was chartered and established as a military company in 1638 to train young gentleman officers for service in the various militias of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It was successful in shaping leaders who served the Commonwealth and the country for over 250 years and its members have deployed in every conflict in United States history. The Company mission has changed over the years to a supportive role in preserving the nation's historic and patriotic traditions. With members from many ethnic groups and religions, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company stands for patriotism, service, and international goodwill and friendship, and has carried their message around the world. Their motto is "Deeds Not Words." More information about the Company is available at their web site <http://ahac.us.com/index.htm>