

February 16, 1960

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Dear Lansing:

Your letter of February 2 arrived at the same time as Ankara's telegram 1788 inquiring about the implementation of the Turkish Atomic Cooperation Agreement. As soon as we have obtained the necessary clearances, we will send the Embassy a telegram formally answering Ankara's 1788. In the meantime you might like to know how the matter stands.

When Alan James spoke to Colonel Shankle on January 14 the ball was still in the Turkish court. Subsequently Defense informed us that in answering Gates' letter of December 3 Menderes wrote that the Turks have set up an atomic information control office in Ankara and named a Colonel Erdinc, Assistant Military Attache in the Turkish Embassy, to work out with JALEG details for passing atomic information to the Turks. JALEG says the next move is up to them and that they have been trying to reach Colonel Erdinc, who it seems is presently out of town. At this writing I do not think it will be necessary for you to light any fires under the Turks.

The Statutory Determination for Turkey is now progressing well. It has cleared Defense and is being studied by AEC. Our guess is that it should be acted on favorably in the near future. As to why the Turkish Determination was not started earlier, JALEG explained to us in December (see our memorandum on the JALEG briefing of December 7, a copy of which was sent you) that the German Determination was considered more urgent than the Dutch, Greek and Turkish Determinations. This was apparently because designated German Forces were the first of the four to be ready for nuclear weapons training. JALEG reasoned that if the SD on Germany were submitted alone it would move faster than if all four were submitted together. It might also serve as a model for the others which

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others which would be submitted as the forces of those countries approached nuclear training readiness. JAIEG's decision not to prepare and submit the Turkish Determination until this time was probably influenced by the reported difficulty the Turkish armed forces have been having with English and their inability to use the manuals and other training data to be communicated until they had mastered the rudiments of English.

I hope you will find the foregoing helpful. Thank you for clarifying the situation regarding the "cover" exchange of notes on the Turkish Atomic Stockpile.

Best regards,

Sincerely yours,

John Y. Miller  
Officer-in-Charge  
Political-Military Affairs  
Office of European Regional Affairs

cc: GTI - Mr. Marcy

*John Y. Miller*  
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