



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

20 MAY 1976

In reply refer to:
I-5137/76

INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: US-Turkey Defense Cooperation Agreement -- INFORMATION
MEMORANDUM

NR
(U) As you requested, following is a report on the status of and rationale for the new Defense Cooperation Agreement signed by Secretary Kissinger and Foreign Minister Caglayangil on March 26, 1976.

(U) The Agreement is now at the White House. We expect the President to send it to Congress shortly. Turkey will not permit resumption of suspended US operations until Congress approves the agreement and it is accepted by Turkey. Nor will Turkey accept the agreement until after Congressional approval.

(U) The Legislative Interdepartmental Group (LIG) will probably meet in the near future to discuss coordination of Congressional handling of the Turkish Agreement, including its relation to the Spanish treaty and the forthcoming agreement with Greece.

(U) As to rationale, the new agreement establishes the framework for a continued defense cooperation which has been mutually beneficial for nearly 30 years. The US will be able to resume activities at monitoring facilities and navigational and communication sites in Turkey, and to resume related support activities. US security interests in the Eastern Mediterranean require the rapid and complete restoration of US - Turkish relations.

(U) US intelligence facilities in Turkey provide critical information on Soviet military activity. They contributed significantly to detection of Soviet mobilization during the October 1973 war. They provide information on Soviet missile tests and space launches, necessary for monitoring Soviet compliance with the ABM agreement and further SALT agreements.

(U) The bases and other support facilities play an important role in NATO's defense plans, providing forward basing, depot, airlift, refueling, and training capabilities. They also provide wartime accommodation for rapid reinforcement aircraft and follow-on forces.

(U) Communications facilities support NATO and Turkish forces, providing

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED
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weather intercept, relay, satellite, navigational, and command and control capabilities.

(U) Permanent denial of these facilities would seriously weaken NATO's and Turkey's intelligence and warfighting capabilities vis-a-vis the Soviets and the Warsaw Pact. Turkey might be forced to assume a more neutral stance, thus allowing the Soviets to gain more influence in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East; while ours would tend to diminish. NATO and US wartime or contingency operations in the area would be more dependent on afloat forces or on air refueling from distant bases.

~~(C)~~ On the minus side, the US had to concede an increased role for the Turkish base commander in supervising the technical activities of the bases. However, the US retains unquestioned control of US forces, personnel and equipment. The US also agreed to make intelligence-sharing with Turkey a matter of public record. Both these aspects could prove troublesome as precedents in other countries - particularly since the Defense Cooperation Agreement in Turkey covers only intelligence, communications and Incirlik, and does not affect NATO activities (rotational squadron and SAS sites), which come under separate agreements. This distinction, helpful in Turkey, does not obtain in other countries.

(U) As to assistance, we have not promised rental for use of the facilities in Turkey. Our promised assistance is related not to the number of facilities we use but rather to Turkey's needs in relationship to its NATO commitments.

(U) The assistance we have promised (\$250 million a year for four years, grant aid to be at least one fifth of the total) is consistent both with past US assistance levels to Turkey and with earlier projections of what we could offer over the next four years.

(U) Finally, resumption of full defense cooperation between the US and Turkey will remove an irritant that hampered US efforts to promote a resolution of the Cyprus and Aegean issues.'

(Signed)

EUGENE V. McAULIFFE

Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

Prepared by : Mr. Jefferson/OASD/ISA/ED
4D800/mjj/54812/19May76

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