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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301



INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

28 January 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A. WICKHAM, JR.  
MILITARY ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Turkish Aid Cut-Off

As you know, I have been discretely in touch with some of the Members and their staffs who are most active in cutting off aid to Turkey.

This group is becoming even angrier and bolder owing to at least the three following factors:

(a) Some of the House Members (Brademas and Sarbanes, for example) are enjoying the national spotlight. They attended a meeting this morning with Carl Albert where pollsters Harris and Scanlon stressed that a large majority of the American people want Congress to become more involved and be more aggressive in foreign affairs.

(b) The Kissinger speech before the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles has made many Congressmen and Senators very angry. Kissinger's suggestion that they are motivated solely by the narrow interests of their constituency has really rubbed the wrong way.

(c) The \$230 million Letter of Offer to the Turks is being conveniently seen by this group as a violation of the Conference Report which enjoined the Executive Branch not to exceed normal planned obligations. There is a suspicion remaining despite direct denials to all concerned by Maw that the Executive Branch planned to slip this in somehow before the February 5th deadline. Accordingly, a strong letter has been addressed to Kissinger signed by Senators Humphrey, Stevenson and Eagleton and Messrs. Rosenthal, Brademas and Sarbanes charging the Executive Branch action on the \$230 million sale as being clearly against the intent of Congress.

The group is still hopeful that something could be done to extend the February 5th deadline as they are not unmindful of the strategic problem. However, they are sufficiently dug in politically that minor Turkish concessions, such as the removal of 1,000 Turkish troops as announced today by MOD Sancar, is considered laughable. What they really want is a major Turkish concession which would obviously diminish Turkish bargaining power when they finally get down to discussing territory with the Greeks. Although it has allegedly not previously been discussed

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with the Executive Branch, I understand the kind of Turkish concession they are looking for is for the Turks to move back across the south road from Nicosia to Famagusta which would open up territory, including the new city of Famagusta but not the old city with the port, in order to accommodate some 50-75,000 Greek Cypriot refugees. Something like this I am told would easily buy an extension of the aid cut off until June.

This seems to me an enormous concession to expect the Turks to make, but it is questionable that smaller gestures will be sufficient to placate a group of Congressmen and Senators who clearly have the bit in their teeth.



Harry E. Bergold, Jr.  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
European and NATO Affairs

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