

330-79-1049 x69, Greece

#49

DECLASSIFIED IN PART
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: JUL 30 2018

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1976

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 10/21/2018 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: _____ Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: X
Reason: 3.1(a)(1)
MDR: 18-M-1014

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Bill:

As you know, representatives of State and Defense have been in Athens for the past several weeks negotiating a Defense Cooperation Agreement similar to the Turkish DCA. Our objective has been to conclude the negotiations by early June so that Congressional hearings on both the Greek and Turkish DCA's could be scheduled before the first of several summer recesses. We believe that it is essential that hearings begin in June if there is to be any hope of Congressional approval of these Agreements prior to this session's adjournment on October 2.

Though the negotiating process in Athens has been slow and spotty, a Defense Cooperation Agreement with the Greeks remains in sight. Differences have been narrowed, but it is clear that a major effort will be required to bridge the remaining gaps.

I understand that a State Defense Council group is now studying ways to handle this issue. We recognize that there are certain activities which are not appropriate for joint operations, but it is important that we give this matter urgent attention and be as flexible as possible.

Ambassador Kubisch has advised me that, even if we are successful in overcoming this problem, it may be necessary to offer a package of material inducements for the Greeks to conclude the negotiations rapidly on

The Honorable
William P. Clements, Jr.,
Deputy Secretary of
Defense.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Sec Def Cont No. X-1048

R2 18-M-1014

OSD 330(6)(6)

Handwritten notes:
L...
0-1-3

Handwritten notes:
28-7-76

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 2 -

terms acceptable to us. He has suggested that we consider the following:

-- extraordinary measures to apply solution to A-7 engine problem to Hellenic Air Force (HAF) aircraft;

-- exceptional steps to help the HAF develop in the shortest time possible its own ELINT reconnaissance capability -- by providing its own funding or a lease arrangement as being developed for Turkey;

-- facilitate provision of ships (2 LST, 1 DD, 2 PG) now awaiting authority from Congress;

-- provision on an expedited basis of helicopters and other such items (e.g., anti-aircraft weapons) discussed by Greek Ambassador Alexandrakis with you;

-- and access to the U.S. Defense Satellite Communications System.

It is not clear yet that such inducements will be necessary, but in view of the stringent time pressures, we believe that Defense should urgently examine which material incentives we could offer the Greeks. I should be most grateful for your help on this matter, as well as on the question of Greek participation in U.S. operations.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. Bisco

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WNS
Date: JUL 30 2010

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~