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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

#76

18-1100

5 OCT 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Multiyear Funding of Security Assistance for Turkey

In NSDD 32, you endorsed "more extensive use ... of multiyear commitments" for security assistance. I believe that Turkey is a singularly excellent choice for such a multiyear commitment.

Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard Perle will be heading our delegation to the U.S. - Turkey High Level Defense Group meeting in Turkey on October 7. Of special interest is the decision facing Turkey regarding which fighter aircraft to acquire to replace the dangerously obsolescent craft its Air Force is now flying. We believe the best decision would be to acquire a mix -- a number of FX aircraft and a number of higher performance aircraft.

Authority from you is needed to inform the Turks that the USG would favor in principle the development of a multiyear profile to support a prudent Turkish modernization program as a basis for the strongest possible effort to gain Congressional approval for adequate levels of security assistance. The actual amounts we seek from the Congress will reflect the reasonableness of Turkey's modernization program and the levels of resources available to both the US and Turkey. With respect to a funding level in 1984, we would say only that the administrative 1983 level (\$465 million in PMS) is our base figure, that we expect to improve on it, but that we cannot be more specific until the President makes his budget decision in January.

In addition, U.S. - Turkish discussions are underway on a number of sensitive issues. Those discussions will proceed in the context of the overall force modernization and security assistance issues.

Therefore, I recommend that you authorize the U.S. delegation to inform the Turkish Government, along the lines set out above, that the USG favors an extended security assistance profile to help Turkey modernize its forces.

The State Department concurs.

*Jim*

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DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

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