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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: AUG 06 2018

JUN 6 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: US-Greece Relations (U) - ACTION MEMORANDUM

~~TOP SECRET~~ Recent incidents involving Air Force personnel in Greece clearly indicate that our relations with Greece should be reevaluated.

~~TOP SECRET~~ Greek strikers continue to harass our personnel at Hellenikon Air Base, even after it was announced that we would abide by the Greek Supreme Administrative Court decision to award an extraordinary wage increase. Of a more serious nature, one NCO and his family have been deported, another NCO has been convicted and sentenced to a three year prison term, and an airman has been indicted. In all three cases, minor incidents have been distorted for political purposes by a Greek labor union, and the Hellenic Government has failed to take appropriate action to prevent abuses of the SOFA and system of justice. The impact on morale has been serious, and I feel that it is time to act on recommendations made by CINCUSAFE.

GREECE

~~TOP SECRET~~ General Minter requests that State Department recall Ambassador Bartholomew from the Defense and Economic Cooperation Agreement (DECA) negotiations with a clear explanation that this action is a protest against the Hellenic Government's inability or unwillingness to control the continuing deterioration of the environment for US personnel in Greece. I am sensitive to the fact that this will be viewed as a dramatic step in light of the prolonged attempt to conclude a satisfactory DECA, but I am more concerned that US personnel not be held hostage to diplomatic efforts by maintaining the status quo.

(U) I request that you offer General Minter's recommendation to the Secretary of State for consideration.

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 06 AUG 2018 Authority: EO 13526 + 3 USC 5952
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: _____
MDR: 18 -M- 1092

Orme
Verne Orr
Secretary of the Air Force

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~~Classified by: CINCUSAFE~~
~~Declassify on: OADR~~

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