

EUR/RA

6/24/60

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Dear Lansing:

Russ has asked me to answer your letter of June 10 concerning the implementation of the 144-b agreement with Turkey. We have been able to find out a little more precisely what the Turks must do before they are ready to receive the information called for by the agreement. However, I am not sure how much value it will be to you since there may be a change in the type capability to be provided to the Turkish air strike squadron.

One of the chief problems is that although the "Type C" facility to be constructed at Eskisehir for the storage of nuclear weapons was scheduled for completion in December, the Turks have not yet started work. The training to be given the air strike squadron should, we are informed, take place near the "Type C" facility. Defense also informs us that the Turkish pilots who were receiving LBE training in the pre-restricted data stage were so weak in English that they had to be taken off this training and given instruction in English.

While pursuing the answers to the questions you raised in your letter we found out that CINCPAC, with SHARF concurrence, has requested Defense not to process the determination for Turkey since a new program is being studied involving a possible change in the capability to be given the Turkish air strike squadron. The US element of SHARF informed Defense on June 14 that it might be 60 days before a decision could be made on the capability to be given the Turkish squadron.

At this point there is obviously not too much that the Turks can do. In any event I do not think we in the Department should attempt to advise you what you might do to speed things along. I would suggest that you discuss the matter with Dick Finn to whom I have taken the liberty of sending a copy of your letter to Russ as well as a copy of this letter. CINCPAC is really in the best position to give you the details about the Turkish program since it is

being worked

V. Lansing Collins, Esquire  
Counselor of Embassy,  
American Embassy,  
Ankara.

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Authority: 959228

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being worked out there.

I hope the foregoing will be useful. We will, of course, keep you posted on any developments at this end, but whatever we learn will perforce be of a somewhat general character. Incidentally, if the program for the Turkish strike squadron should be changed the resulting delay in Washington could be appreciable since a new determination would have to be prepared, tech orders worked up and AEC concurrence sought--always a laborious process.

Sincerely yours,

John Y. Miller

cc: Mr. Finn - ESCOM

YEM

EUR:RA:AGJames:nle  
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Sincerely yours,

John Y. Miller

cc: Mr. Finn – EUCOM

ERR

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