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FROM: ANKARA

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 780, JANUARY 17

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DISCUSSED AS AUTHORIZED WITH FONMIN ERKIN THIS MORNING WHO AGREED GENERALLY WITH VIEWS EXPRESSED REFTEL BUT WAS GREATLY PERTURBED REGARDING CREATION IMPRESSION THAT TURKS MIGHT APPEAR LEFT TRAILING BEHIND ITALIANS. SAID THIS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE THIS AFTERNOON WHERE ON ONE HAND HE WOULD NOT WISH SEEM SLEEPING AT SWITCH IMMEDIATELY PRIOR FANFANI PUBLICITY, NOR ON OTHER HAND WOULD HE WANT GET OUT IN FRONT. EXTREMELY DIFFICULT KNOW WHAT LINE HE SHOULD TAKE IN ABSENCE KNOWLEDGE WHAT WILL BE SAID IN WASHINGTON SHORTLY AFTER HIS SENATE APPEARANCE.

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782.56311/11163

ERKIN WAS ALSO DISTURBED RE PROSPECT THAT FANFANI COMMUNIQUE WOULD SEEM STRESS BILATERAL ASPECTS TO DEROGATION NATO.

IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION REGARDING POSITION WHICH HE MIGHT TAKE IN SENATE THIS AFTERNOON WHICH WOULD NOT GO TOO FAR, BUT WOULD ALSO HAVE SUFFICIENT DEGREE OF POSITIVENESS, WE WORKED OUT SOLUTION BY WHICH HE WOULD WHEN QUESTIONED RECALL AND CONFIRM HIS STATEMENT IN HOUSE BUT ADD THAT TURKISH GOVERNMENT FULLY INFORMED

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-2- 780, JANUARY 17, FROM ANKARA

REGARDING ALL ASPECTS OF MATTER AND IN POSITION PURSUE
WHENEVER DESIRABLE IN LIGHT TURKISH BEST INTERESTS.

TRUST THIS APPROACH CAN BE GEARED INTO FANFANI
PUBLICITY SINCE FOR MOMENT AT LEAST PUBLIC RELATIONS
ANGLE OF MISSILES LOOMS AS MOST TROUBLESOME PROBLEM.

HARE

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