

we participated, we have been engaged in negotiation of bilateral executive agreements with the Middle East member states to give further effect to our desire to cooperate in this regional collective security and defense arrangement.

We have had several expressions from these Middle East member states indicating a feeling that our support for the Baghdad Pact is beginning to wane. I feel it would be most useful if a personal message from you could be read to the Ministerial Council by Mr. Loy Henderson, who will be the Chief of the United States Delegation. There is enclosed a draft of such a message² for your consideration which, if you approve, we would send to Mr. Henderson telegraphically. I further suggest that your message be released to the press on January 26 at which time it would be delivered by Mr. Henderson to the Council meeting.

JFD

² After making minor revisions, the President approved the draft and it was read by Henderson at the opening session of the Council meeting in Karachi on January 26. For text, see *Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States: Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1959*, pp. 131-132.

56. Editorial Note

The Sixth Session of the Baghdad Pact Ministerial Session began on January 26 and concluded on January 28. For text of the final communiqué, see *American Foreign Policy: Current Documents, 1959*, pages 1018-1020. The accounts of the restricted sessions of the meetings are in Department of State, Central Files, 396.1-KA/1-2659 to 396.1-KA/1-2959. In addition to this file, information including side discussions on related matters, such as the ongoing negotiations for bilateral agreements between the pact members and the United States, is *ibid.*, 780.5.

One of the tangible economic results of the meeting was an agreement by the participants to contribute \$150,000 (\$50,000 from the United States, \$50,000 from the United Kingdom, and \$50,000 from the regional member states) to establish a Baghdad Pact Multilateral Technical Assistance Fund. The United States also agreed that if the present examination of the proposed Turkish-Iranian railroad proved that the