

suggestion he also informed General Bradley and the Chief of Naval Operations. General Bradley had replied that he was well aware of the Turkish views and had no intention of forcing any solution on the Turks which they could not find acceptable.

Ambassador Erkin then commented to Mr. Berry that entirely apart from the creation of a fourth command under SACEUR was the question of the "personality" of the Commander. He personally felt that the power contributing the greatest strength to the Command should furnish the Commander. In other words, the country supplying the Commander should have more than simply the "personality" to offer. The matter was not pursued further as it was accepted that the problem of Command arrangements seemed to be proceeding along satisfactory lines towards a solution.

Subsequent to his visit with Mr. Berry, Ambassador Erkin called Mr. Moore to advise him that he had just received a telegram from Ankara confirming that the Turkish Government's indicated willingness to accept a fourth command under SACEUR stemmed from its belief that the United States had favored such a proposal. The Turkish Government still adheres very strongly to its original position that Admiral Carney's Command should be extended to include Greece and Turkey and would accept the other alternative with great reluctance. He further commented on his statement with respect to the "personality" of the Commander. He wanted to make clear that he had not meant to imply that a Turk should be appointed as Commander of a fourth Command. He felt this would be as unacceptable to the Greeks as a Greek Commander would be to the Turks. He had in mind that an American would be the most logical choice.

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*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Deputy Director of the Office  
of Near Eastern Affairs (Kopper)*

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] January 31, 1952.

Subject: British Views on the Early Establishment of the MEC.

Participants: Mr. Bernard A. B. Burrows, Counselor, British  
Embassy.

Mr. Denis Greenhill, First Secretary, British  
Embassy.

Mr. F. W. Marten, First Secretary, British Embassy.

Mr. Burton Y. Berry, Acting Asst. Secretary, NEA.