

US, UK, France, Turkey and Commonwealth countries shld collect their thoughts with view possibility early mtg on subj. Fol Lisbon mtg. in light status Anglo-Egypt negots that time, reps US, UK, France and Turkey (if Turkey willing) shld decide whether MECO planning mtg desirable and if so where, when and what level it shld take place.

H. [sic] Ankara Emb in talks FonMin shld not discuss Brit approach to US prior UK making comparable approach Turks.

I. Cairo in comments shld include estimate effect Mar mtg sponsors on prospective Anglo-Egypt negots and comment re location such mtg.

ACHESON.

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*Memorandum of Conversation, by the Deputy Director of the Office of Greek, Turkish, and Iranian Affairs (Dorsz)*

SECRET

[WASHINGTON,] February 7, 1952. <sup>1</sup>

Subject: Middle East Command

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

Mr. D. A. Greenhill, First Secretary, British Embassy.

Mr. G. Lewis Jones, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, NEA.

Mr. Edmund J. Dorsz, Deputy Director, GTI.

Mr. Jones handed to Mr. Burrows a copy of the attached memorandum entitled *Middle East Command* saying that we thought this was a good method of imparting our views on the two memoranda which the British handed to the Department on January 31. <sup>2</sup> He emphasized our thinking to the effect that the British should unilaterally inform the Turks at the earliest possible moment of the British views on this subject and stressed the desirability of the Four MEC sponsoring Powers sharing thoughts on the question of holding a "preliminary" working-level meeting. Any such meeting should be quietly held. There might be other "preliminary meetings". Developments in Egypt would have to govern whether a meeting might be held shortly after the forthcoming Lisbon North Atlantic Council meeting ends.

<sup>1</sup> This memorandum of conversation was prepared on Feb. 8.

<sup>2</sup> Regarding these memoranda, see the memorandum of conversation, Document 58.