

b. Provide Middle East States training and advice; reduce such deficiencies as exist in the organization and capacity for defense of the area; coordinate requests of Middle East States for arms and equipment.

b. Submit proposals for arming; organization and training, to increase efficiency of armed forces; organize exchange of training missions; propose organization and size of forces of each state; prepare data and statistics concerning resources and military potential of each State.

#### *Differences*

c. Prepare plans for joint exercises and maneuvers and carry them out.

d. Submit proposals for economic development to promote defense effort.

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#### *Editorial Note*

The Embassy in Jordan sent the only reply suggesting agreement with the Turkish proposals for going along with a defense organization without the Arabs. Telegram 1006 from Amman, May 27, did not consider the proposal advanced in the airgram of May 1, *supra*, likely to be acceptable to Jordan, and believed the only way to achieve a Middle East Defense Organization was to establish it without Arab support, giving the Arab States the right to join later. The Embassy was not unduly concerned with the dangers of confronting the Arab States with a *fait accompli* since it considered the danger to lie in showing weakness rather than strength.

Telegram 2059 from Beirut, May 26, commented that the Embassy was firmly convinced a collective defense organization with Western participation was essential to overcome the security vacuum in the Middle East, but considered the political climate unpropitious, and in fact suggested that a connection between United States defense thinking and the Arab pact might destroy the Arab collective security effort. The Embassy felt that all regional defense proposals should be held up until the return of the Secretary of State and a reexamination of United States Near East policies. Positive steps to resolve the situations in Palestine and Egypt might improve the political climate in the area; and military aid,