We expect in the next few days to advise British of our line of thought as outlined above but do not plan to say anything further Pakistanis until we have Turk reaction. *

Consider it important avoid any publicity at this stage re approach to Turks.

DULLES

⁴ Telegram 658 from Ankara, Dec. 29, advised the Department of State that the Ambassador had discussed the substance of this telegram with the Turkish Prime Minister on Dec. 28, and the Prime Minister said his thinking coincided with that outlined by the Ambassador. The Prime Minister confirmed his conversations with Ghulam Mohammed and told the Ambassador he had also had a recent conversation with the Ambassador of Iraq. (780.5/12-2953)

No. 165

780.5/12-2953: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Pakistan¹

TOP SECRET WASHINGTON, December 29, 1953—7 p. m. 483. For Ambassador. Agree PM should be informed (Embtel 473)² but prefer you not yet request his views. On basis that you see PM privately and that he understands and agrees fully with need for complete secrecy you may speak to him along following lines:

1. Turkish Government being informed we considering military aid program for Pakistan.

2. We believe it desirable minimize political repercussions (India and Afghanistan) and maximize Pakistan contribution area defense. One way do this would be to link US aid to initiation of mutual defense understanding between Turkey and Pakistan. Such an arrangement might be open-ended permitting addition of others if agreed to.

3. We are telling Turks we would be glad to know whether they are disposed to consider an arrangement with Pakistan seriously. Sort of agreement in mind would not envisage binding military alliance but rather a loose arrangement for consultation and joint defense planning. We would not become a partner but would assist members.

¹ Repeated to Ankara and London.

² Telegram 473 from Karachi, Dec. 29, not printed, informed the Department of State that the Prime Minister of Pakistan was leaving for Dacca on Jan. 1 and was not expected back until Jan. 12. Referring to the next to last paragraph of telegram 686 to Ankara (repeated to Karachi as telegram 475), supra, it suggested that in view of the imminence of important decisions in Washington the Prime Minister should be advised of the substance of telegram 475 before his departure. (789.5/12-2953)