

(a) in the draft letter from the President—"Many statements have been made . . . that we are obtaining base rights in Pakistan . . ."

(b) in the proposed White House press release—"it has been suggested that the United States may ask for base rights, etc."

These statements are followed by denials. We wonder whether the present wording may create difficulties for us in future in the event we should require bases there. We suggest some such wording as "the United States has not requested base rights."⁴

⁴ A memorandum by Byroade to Bonbright, dated Jan. 26, answered that most of the points mentioned in this memorandum were being taken care of. The British had been brought up to date, and the Department of State was advising the Turks to inform the French in Ankara and, with regard to NATO, to make a statement at the same time that India, Afghanistan, and Iraq were informed. With reference to the suggestion on base rights, Ambassador Hildreth had recommended that the Department delete the reference to bases in the President's statement, and that would be done. (780.5/1-2654)

No. 177

780.5/1-2554: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Turkey (Warren) to the Department of State*¹

TOP SECRET

ANKARA, January 25, 1954—6 p. m.

759. Berlin for the Secretary.² British Chargé this morning called Under Secretary Foreign Office Birgi to say he had telegram from London referring information received by Foreign Office that Turkish and Pakistani Governments would announce negotiations for defense agreement within three days. Birgi replied this clearly incorrect for two reasons: (1) No "defense" agreement in question, but rather agreement for consultation and exchange information as he had previously informed British Chargé; (2) any announcement certainly not within three days. To Chargé's query when announcement might be expected Birgi reiterated earlier statement to him last week that Turks were disposed move fast as possible, but could give no estimate on timing. Chargé inquired insistently if Turks would not wait for observations British Government expected shortly before proceeding further. Birgi explained Turkish Government would naturally welcome any comments British Government wished make and give them careful consideration, but did not promise hold up action in meantime.

¹ Repeated to London, Paris, Karachi, New Delhi, and Berlin.

² The Secretary of State was in Berlin for the Four-Power Conference.