

lar comment. Several days later Pakistan would publicly request US military aid.

2. Prior our reply Pakistan (perhaps by one day), India would be informed of decision, and personal letter from President would be handed Nehru.

3. Public announcement US reply to Pakistan request would be in form Presidential statement. Would be issued within two or three days receipt Pakistani request.

President being kept informed.

SMITH

No. 186

780.5/1-2854: Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in Iraq*¹

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, January 28, 1954—7:04 p. m.

406. Supply of arms assistance Iraq now formally approved USG.² However, provision this information Iraq Government requires coordination with impending developments in Turk-Pakistani security cooperation agreement.

Following full exchange of views with US, Turks have agreed promptly approach Pakistanis in Karachi and propose initiation discussions between two governments looking toward consultative arrangements on political, economic and security matters of mutual concern. US prepared inform Pakistan intention supply arms assistance in framework such arrangements. In view this condition attached aid to Pakistan, believe it would be unwise inform Iraqis they would receive assistance with no strings attached until after Turk-Pakistan decision to consult is announced. Department anticipates such announcement within next two weeks and consid-

¹ Repeated as 828 to Ankara and 601 to Karachi. Drafted by Daspit and cleared by NE.

² Military assistance for Iraq was approved by the President on Jan. 26 and noted in a memorandum for the Director of the Foreign Operations Administration. The closing sentences of the Jan. 26 memorandum noted that the President found Iraq of direct importance to the defense of the Near East area and its increased ability to defend itself important to the security of the United States. The memorandum was attached to another memorandum, dated Jan. 22, from Stassen to the President, informing him the Departments of State and Defense recommended the action. According to the Stassen memorandum, the Department of Defense proposed, and the Department of State endorsed, an initial program of \$10 million for Iraq. The amount was to be funded from the \$30 million provided specifically for use in the Near East by Congress under Section 202(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1951, as amended. Both of the above memoranda were transmitted to the Department of State with a letter from Stassen to the Secretary of State, dated Jan. 29, notifying him formally of the President's action. (780.5/1-2954)