

Istanbul suggested because of relative absence political issues and difficulties with press.

Ankara query Foreign Office re any possible objections.

Istanbul report on availability space, transportation and hotel accommodations. Wives could accompany.

This is preliminary cable. Reply by Wirom. After response from field will issue instructions based on amalgamation views of Department and comments from field.

SMITH

No. 205

700D.3 MSP/4-954: Telegram

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

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, April 16, 1954—1:55 p. m.

883. State message with which Defense and FOA concur. Re Embtel 820.²

FYI: Formal policy statements on which Pakistan aid program based include NSC 155/1³ which lists Pakistan among those states worthy of special consideration as possible recipients of "limited military assistance to promote US security interests, to increase confidence in the US and to help in developing indigenous forces which can improve political stability, internal security, and the maintenance of pro-Western regimes, and ultimately contribute to area defense." NSC 5409⁴ contains following passages bearing on question: "Encourage Pakistan's participation in any defense association which is judged to serve the interests of the United States . . . Seek to insure that in the event of general war Pakistan will make available manpower resources and strategic facilities for mutual defense efforts with the West. Give special consideration to Pakistan in providing military assistance, including grant . . ." JCS also on record to effect that under certain circumstances aid to Pakistan might contribute to "a satisfactory solution to the problem of defending the Middle East through more effective utilization of indigenous personnel." These statements not construed to mean "one-shot" program.

¹ Drafted by Dasplit and cleared by SOA, S/MSA, NEA, FOA, and Defense. Repeated to London for General Meyers.

² Document 203.

³ Document 145.

⁴ For text, see vol. XI, Part 2, p. 1089. The following ellipses are in the source text.