

No. 1419

780.5/9-3054: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Turkey*¹

SECRET

WASHINGTON, October 7, 1954—6:35 p. m.

430. Embtel 368. ² Department continues support Northern Tier concept looking toward arrangements between Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan preferably within framework Turk-Pakistan Pact as most realistic basis for development Middle East defense. Although complex political problems in Arab world virtually eliminate possibility substantial early progress we have no desire discourage efforts enlarge capabilities ALCSP to contribute to area defense. We believe Turk-Pakistan Pact and ALCSP should be regarded as complementary rather than mutually exclusive arrangements. We also aware elaboration ALCSP as basis Middle East defense organization presents certain attractions to UK which is faced with problem rationalizing Anglo-Iraqi relations at expiration present treaty.

Since US not prepared abandon or diminish support Northern Tier concept which represents best hope for realization real military collaboration and certain amount military strength we would be keenly disappointed if Iraq were defer steps looking toward close and effective military planning and collaboration with Turkey Iran and Pakistan. For this reason we are pleased at Nuri's reported intention approach Turkey, Pakistan, and possibly Iran. (London 1724 Dept rptd Ankara 32, Baghdad 12, Unnumbered Cairo, Karachi, Damascus, Tehran.)

Foregoing views may be communicated Turks accordance Prime Minister's request. On appropriate occasion we will make our position clear in direct conversation with Iraqis; however we would prefer these views not be attributed to US during Turk conversations with Nuri.

DULLES

¹ Drafted by Anschuetz, and cleared by NE, GTI, and Defense-OMA. Repeated to London, Tehran, Cairo, Damascus, Jidda, Beirut, Baghdad, and Karachi.

² Dated Sept. 30, not printed. It reported that Nuri Said was expected to arrive in Turkey on Oct. 9 or 10, following a trip to Egypt and London. The Ambassador informed the Department of State the Turkish Prime Minister would welcome an indication of the U.S. position on the general subject of the association of Iraq with Pakistan and Turkey. (780.5/9-3054)