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SECRET

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED AND REGISTERED
JUL 31 1947
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AFK
HFD

No. 1716
AIR MAIL

AMERICAN EMBASSY
Ankara, June 25, 1947.

Subject: Conversations concerning German Assets and Related subjects Between Representatives of the Turkish Government and Representatives of the United States, United Kingdom, and France.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Embassy's telegram, no. 410 of June 3, 1947, reporting that conversations concerning German assets in Turkey and related subjects were commenced on June 2 between representatives of the Turkish Government, on the one hand, and representatives of the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France on the other.

There is enclosed herewith copies in duplicate of minutes of the meetings held from June 2 to June 23, inclusive, and copies in duplicate of memoranda prepared for the Ambassador's information, summarizing the minutes of the meetings.

The meetings from June 2 to June 9 were concerned with the note presented by the Allied governments on March 27, 1946 (reference Embassy's despatch no. 698, March 29, 1946), requesting that the Turkish Government adhere to and take certain measures in implementation of the United Nations Declaration of January 5, 1943, the Gold Declaration of February 22, 1944, and Bretton Woods Resolution VI; and with the Turkish reservations to the three declarations, as reported in the Embassy's telegram no. 1044, September 27, 1946. These meetings resulted in a complete understanding on both sides, and the Turkish representative stated that he felt confident his government would declare publicly its adherence to the three declarations and would take the necessary measures to enforce the principles stated therein.

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SECRET

Ankara, Turkey
No. 1716
June 25, 1947

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and subject such assets to the present blocking provision of Turkish law. In addition, the Turkish representative stated that his government is now preparing legislation providing for the complete liquidation of all German assets under conditions to assure against their reversion to German ownership. It was agreed, moreover, that, without infringing upon the sovereignty of the Turkish Government, there would be a full exchange of information and views between the Turkish Government and the missions of the three governments in Turkey on the execution of these programs.

At the conclusion of the meeting on June 9, the Turkish representative stated that all questions raised in the Allied note of March 27, 1946, and in the Turkish reservations thereto had been resolved to the satisfaction of both parties with the exception of the first reservation, which asserted the intention of the Turkish Government to employ German assets, in the first instance, in satisfaction of its claims and those of its nationals. He stated that he had no authority to discuss this question and therefore must consider the meetings terminated. The Ambassador thereupon conferred with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and urged that the meetings be continued, pointing out that their termination at this stage would have unfavorable repercussions for Turkey. It was agreed, as a result of the Ambassador's conference, that the meetings would continue; that they would be devoted to an exchange of information, particularly with regard to agreements reached with other nations and with statistics concerning Turkish claims against Germany and German assets in Turkey; but that questions concerning Turkey's adoption of principles embodied in other agreements would not be discussed.

Accordingly, the meetings were resumed, and the minutes of meetings from June 16 through June 20 record the conversations concerning the Paris Reparation Agreement, the accords concluded with Sweden and Switzerland, and arrangements under consideration with other nations. The Department's attention is invited to the fact that the Turkish representative disclaimed any concern with or interest in the provisions of the Paris Reparation Agreement concerning German assets in neutral countries, emphasizing that these provisions are not applicable to Turkey. In this connection, reference is made to the Embassy's telegram no. 476 of June 21, 1947, concerning the question of obtaining an allocation out of German assets in Turkey for the fund, established under Article 8 of the Agreement, for non-repatriable victims of German

