

and Turkey. Consideration had also been given to the inclusion of Italy. Egypt and Spain were mentioned as marginal cases.

4. As to the possibility of giving Greece and Turkey a greater assurance of security through a new declaration, Raynor said that the considerations outlined in your sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) had been fully borne in mind. In particular it was recognized that a more specific commitment by the United States Government to come to the aid of Greece and Turkey, if the latter are attacked, would have to be an essential feature of any new guarantee by declaration, with or without the participation of other governments.

5. Raynor was also interested in the view expressed in your despatch that “*ad hoc* arrangements for the defence of the Middle East could be based more effectively on the foundations which have already been laid than on an altogether new arrangement such as an extension of NATO responsibilities in the area”. He observed that the points made in paragraph 5 of your despatch have also been taken into account in the examination of the problem in Washington.

6. He concluded his comments by saying that he would see that our thinking would be brought immediately to the attention of the interdepartmental group working on the problem. The question had not yet been considered at a Ministerial level, but it was hoped to submit a memorandum to the Secretary of State shortly. He mentioned that the Office for European Affairs had stressed throughout the discussion the opposition which would probably be encountered among existing NATO members to the suggestion that Greece and Turkey should be admitted, and observed that the Scandinavian members particularly were known to be opposed.

7. He said that the State Department would let us know before decisions were taken on this matter in Washington, and at least before the question was brought up in NATO.

456.

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*Le haut-commissaire au Royaume-Uni
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*High Commissioner in United Kingdom
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 1269

London, May 24, 1951

TOP SECRET

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