

that the admission of Turkey to NATO is not to the best of our interests in present circumstances.

7. For your information, I may say that neither the Turkish nor the Greek Ambassadors here has raised the problem of the admission of their respective countries with us.

455.

DEA/50030-V-3-40

*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Ambassador in United States
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM WA-1821

Washington, May 1, 1951

TOP SECRET

Reference your despatch S-1662 of April 20th and your teletypes EX-926 of April 27† and 934 and 944 of April 30th.† Possibility of the admission of Greece and Turkey in NATO.

1. At our weekly meeting with Raynor at the State Department, the Departmental views set out in your despatch under reference were given to him on an informal and confidential basis. We emphasized the point that while we were aware that inter-departmental thinking in Washington was now crystallizing in favour of the inclusion of Greece and Turkey in NATO, it was hoped by those who had been considering the matter in Ottawa that full consideration would be given to the possible alternative courses of action, bearing in mind the weight of the arguments which could be brought to bear against extending NATO membership. Stress was also placed on the point made in your 944 that these confidential Canadian views should not be attributed to Canada in any conversations with Greek or Turkish authorities.

2. Raynor said that this indication of our departmental thinking would be most helpful to the State Department. Commenting on the four alternative methods for dealing with the security problem in the Eastern Mediterranean, outlined in paragraph 4 of your despatch 1662, he observed that alternative (b) (i.e., the conclusion of a Mediterranean Pact without the participation of the United States) had not been seriously considered, since such a suggestion would not command any support in Turkey or Greece at the present time. The main alternatives, in one form or another, to the extension of NATO membership, which had been considered were:

(a) The conclusion of a Mediterranean Pact; and

(b) United States guarantee or assurance of military aid to Greece and Turkey by declaration of the United States Government.

3. As to the various forms which a Mediterranean Pact might take, there was agreement among United States officials that the membership would at least have to include the United States, the United Kingdom and France, as well as Greece