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CIA CABLE BRANCH

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Action

JAN 31 7 41 AM '61

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FROM: Ankara

Info

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TO: Secretary of State

EUR

NO: 932, January 30, 7 p.m.

NEA

UCEA

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MC

PRIORITY

MOP

OCB

SENT DEPARTMENT 932, NIACT PARIS TOPOL 55.

INR

CIA

Embassy telegram 913 repeated Paris 103.

NSA

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Charge discussed Soviet requests for overflights Turkey including technical landing rights Ankara with Sarper today. Secretary General Foreign Office Yolga subsequently called Charge for further discussion. Turkish position in discussions NATO Council January 31 will be that although final decision has not been taken committee extremely difficult refuse rights to Soviets because of rights granted Czechs in 1947 agreement and Article 23 Montreux Convention. Turks will however undertake delay decision long as feasible.

GT
NA

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Yolga states that Czech agreement signed 1947 provided traffic rights Prague, Istanbul, Ankara and beyond on reciprocal basis. On 18 February 1960 Turks agreed to Czech request to implement this agreement by overflights to Damascus and Baghdad while suspending rights Ankara only. Reciprocity only theoretical on Turkish side. Czechs are now asking for traffic as well as overflights rights. Turks demurring.

Charge pointed out that agreement reached in 1947 was with friendly Czech Government which has now been superseded by Communist regime. Queried why rights being granted with no real quid pro quo view Soviet bloc adverse action propaganda and security risks involved. Seems impressed by legalistic features. Yolga mentioned possibility denouncing Czech agreement /but

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Joy Harvey - RI

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-2- 932, January 30, 7 p.m., from Ankara

but said difficult and would take one year to be effective. Also said USSR has not yet mentioned Montreux Convention and Turks have no intention assist them by initiating subject. Expect further discussions will follow. Guidance would be welcome.

COWLES

MLJ/10

Note: Correct "repeated Paris 103" to read 113.

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