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18 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, NEA

SUBJECT : Meeting with PELOPS, 16 January 1954.
(Present at Meeting: PELOPS, PEREUS and Dr. Daghljan;
[] , [] and [] (alias), who is
"on loan" from OSI to NEA to act as interpreter.)

1. PELOPS inquired whether it was our understanding of his basic agreement with us that this permitted PELOPS to talk on political matters with the British, with the French, or other groups [] assured PELOPS that so long as we were informed in general we had not the slightest possible objection to such conversations and we wished him to talk to such people as had been his custom in the past on political matters.

2. PELOPS said recently he was contacted by MARUN ARAB, (of the British Legation), concerning participation in the British Sponsored minorities organization for the Caucasian Mountaineers. (PELOPS says the French have been trying to contact him on the same issue.) MARUN ARAB said AIN would have nothing to lose in participating in their organization. PELOPS told them that he favors the position of the American Committee, namely putting off the problem of determination until the Communists were defeated.

3. PELOPS explained that in order to keep us informed he wished to go into the position of his party. AIN had no demands on Turkey while the problem of the common enemy, Communism, remains. AIN wished to participate with the other anti-Bolshevik groups in order to overthrow the present regime in the USSR. AIN was willing to work in such an arrangement on the principle of non-predetermination; (PELOPS did not use this precise term). While AIN was willing to await the end of a Third World War to hold free elections in each part of the USSR, it understood the reluctance of the Baltic peoples to agree to such elections since the Soviets had dispersed the Estonians, Lithuanians, and Latvians to such a degree that they probably no longer constitute a majority in the Baltic region. At the end of a Third World War AIN would participate loyally in a Caucasian Federation. However, the land of the Caucasus would not absorb those people of AIN nationality who were dispersed in other parts of the USSR and throughout the world who would wish to return to the Caucasian Federation. Therefore, the Caucasian Federation would require the Armenian provinces of Turkey.

4. This demand, /

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4. This demand, which would not be made until the Communists had been defeated, should be welcomed by the Turks. Since it was an indispensable element in the success of a Caucasian Federation, PELOPS further explained that ceding these provinces was really in the Turk's interest since it would provide them with a politically stable neighbor who would serve as a buffer.

5. PELOPS reiterated his appreciation of the fact that the strategic picture precluded the Western nations presenting any territorial demands against Turkey now. AIN, however, requested that the Turks be restrained from committing atrocities against the Armenians. PELOPS wished that the Western powers not permit the Turks to constitute the sole element of an army invading what is now Soviet Armenia. PELOPS further wished to put AIN's position before us so that we could provide him with support after victory against the Communists had been assured.

6. PELOPS asked [] advice concerning which of the three following individuals it would be best to see in order to discuss these matters: [] [] [] [] []

7. PELOPS said that just after the war because of the attraction of the homeland the Armenian population as a whole tended to be sympathetic to the USSR. By their information and militant action program, AIN had been successful in countering this. They had better control now of the Parakordzakan, for example; this had cost a great deal of money and effort but AIN had succeeded along these lines. PELOPS said that he would keep us informed concerning his dealings with the American Committee and the coordinating center.

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