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September 5, 1951
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Action
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FROM: Ankara

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TO: Secretary of State

NO: 212, September 4, 5 p.m.

Re DEPTTEL 58, July 27.

FONOFF has informed Emb by memo as fols concerning Kurd broadcasts:

1. "Kurdish question" no (rpt no) longer exists in Turk, and Kurds live in complete equality with all other Turk citizens.
2. All efforts to create a "Kurd problem" are of foreign inspiration.
3. Sov propaganda among Turk Kurds is recognized as harmful, and the necessity for combatting it is understood in Turkey.
4. Turk has no (rpt no) doubt that Amer propaganda wld be conducted with discretion. However, such propaganda wld have opposite effect intended by stirring up irredentist feeling among Kurds who wld exploit emissions as proof of Amer support.
5. I cannot, therefore, share views of State Dept concerning usefulness and timeliness of these broadcasts.
6. Since Iran and Iraq are not (rpt not) opposed to Kurdish broadcasts, we wld suggest VOA endeavor to operate through stations controlled by those govts, with Amer collaboration if necessary. Emb has had advantage Archibald Roosevelt's expert knowledge VOA and other aspects this matter. He concurs in Emb view that so long as Turk FONOFF takes fore-going attitude we had best not (rpt not) institute VOA Kurd broadcasts but endeavor propagate our views through Iraqi and, if possible, Iran broadcasting services.

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511-884/9-451

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TT:VH

WADSWORTH

JUN 30 1953

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