

**February 28, 1963**

**Department of State Telegram 1659 to the American  
Embassy Rome**

**Citation:**

"Department of State Telegram 1659 to the American Embassy Rome", February 28, 1963, Wilson Center Digital Archive, National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 84, Rome Embassy Classified General Records 1946-1964, Box 125, 430.1 Italy and IRBM and NATO 1962 1963 1964. Contributed by Bill Burr and Leopoldo Nuti. <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/300440>

**Summary:**

The State Department sent the embassies in Ankara and Rome the text of a draft note to be used in negotiations with both countries for formal agreements on the removal of the Jupiter missiles and their replacement with Polaris submarines operating in the Mediterranean. The dismantlement of Jupiter sites in Italy would  “begin concurrently with the arrival of the Polaris submarines in the Mediterranean” around April 1, while the dismantling in Turkey would begin with the arrival of the second Polaris submarine on or about April 15.

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan



# TELEGRAM

Foreign Service of the  
United States of America  
ACTION COPY

INCOMING AMERICAN EMBASSY ROME

Return to the  
Records Unit

This document consists of 2 pages.  
Number 1 of 7 copies. Series A.

SECRET  
Classification

Control: 1075  
Action Taken:  
Recd: February 28, 1963

P R I O R I T Y

*Tel sent Dept 3/1/63*

ACTION: FROM: SECSTATE WASHDC

Initials *MPH*

~~AME-2~~  
*MDA*  
ACTION: ROME PRITY 1659, February 28 12 NOON

Date *3/1/63*

INFO: ACTION ROME PRITY 1659 ANKARA 778 INFO PARIS TOPO

RU  
MIN  
MDA-2  
POL  
V E R B A T I M T E X T

You should submit following draft note to Foreign Office promptly and report their reaction soonest:

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to refer to the recent conversations held by the Government of the United States of America with the Government of Italy and the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and to the notification to the North Atlantic Council that NATO weapons systems will be modernized by replacing the Jupiter intermediate range ballistic missiles in Italy with Polaris submarines operating in the Mediterranean.

In accordance with the foregoing, the Embassy of the United States of America has the honor to communicate the agreement of the United States of America to the following understandings:

1. To ensure that NATO continues to have the most effective weapons systems at its disposal, the Jupiter intermediate range ballistic missiles stationed in Italy will be replaced by Polaris submarines in the Mediterranean. It is not planned that these submarines will be based in Italy. The first submarine armed with Polaris missiles will arrive in the Mediterranean on or about April 1st.
2. The Polaris submarines operating in the Mediterranean will be assigned to Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. The manner of deployment and operation in the Mediterranean of the Polaris submarines will be determined by the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.
3. In accordance with the understandings of the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Italy, the dismantling of the Jupiter intermediate range ballistic missile weapons system will begin concurrently with the arrival of the Polaris submarines in the Mediterranean.
4. Any further arrangements required to implement these understandings shall be worked out between the Ministry of Defense and the United States Military Assistance Advisory Group.

*430.1 IRBM*

SECRET  
Classification

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *NND 959210*



S E C R E T

PAGE TWO CONTROL 1075

The Embassy of the United States of America has the honor to propose that if these understandings are acceptable to the Government of Italy, this note and the note in reply of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments which shall enter into force on this date.

FOR ANKARA: Identical text inserting Turkey in place of Italy should be submitted with following additional changes:

- Paragraph 1. Delete sentence "it is not planned that these submarines will be based in Italy" and add final sentence "the second submarine will arrive in the area of its assignment on or about April 15th".
- Paragraph 3. Change wording after word "arrival" to read "of the second Polaris submarine on station in its area of assignment, on or about April 15, 1963".

All addressees requested advise urgently if you believe any changes necessary in above texts.

RUSK

Read by Ambassador at 2000.

28/2020/mb

S E C R E T

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 959210