

April 17, 1963

American Embassy Ankara Telegram 1270 to the Secretary of State, Washington, DC

Citation:

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Summary:

Reporting on the visit of the Polaris submarine U.S.S. Sam Houston to Izmir, the Embassy finds it to be a "success from all points of view." The press provided "maximum favorable coverage," with one headline stating that the "Submarine which scares Soviets is in Izmir." The press coverage emphasized the "power of atomic sub weapons as deterrent," the "warmth of welcome extended to ship," and the "importance of the dignitaries" who visited the ship.

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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PERMANENT RECORD COPY 39 CONFIDENTIAL Action Control: 12385 APRIL 17, Rec'd: NEA FROM: 11:05 AM ANKARA Info TO: Secretary of State SS G NO: 1270, APRIL 17, 6 PM. H EUR SMF PRIORITY DAC P ACTION DEPARTMENT 1270, INFORMATION PARIS 75, ROME 163. USIA NSC PARIS PASS SHAPE POLAD AND CINCEUR POLAD INR CIA JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE NSA OSD VISIT OF POLARIS SUBMARINE SAM HOUSTON TO IZMIR WAS ARMY SUCCESS FROM ALL POINT OF VIEW. TURKISH PRESS GAVE NAVY VISIT MAXIMUM FAVORABLE COVERAGE. PLACEMENT IN METRO-AIR _ POLITAN PRESS (ISTANBUL, IZMIR, ANKARA) APRIL 13/15 RMR TOTALED 1600 COL/INS, EQUIVALENT TWO COMPLETE TURKISH NEWSPAPERS. RESMIL POSTA (ANKARA) HEADLINE APRIL 15 IS INDICATIVE OF TURKISH ATTITUDE. "SUBMARINE WHICH SCARES SOVIETS IS IN IZMIR." TURKISH RADIO FEATURED SPECIAL FIVE-MINUTE SPOT APRIL 14 IN PRIME EVENING TIME, INCLUDING STATEMENT BY COMMANDING OFFICER SAM HOUSTON. MOST PAPERS FRONT-PAGED STORY AND PICTURES; COMHURIYET FEATURED BY-LINED ARTICLE BY TURKISH ADMIRAL ON ADVANTAGES POLARIS: USIS BACKGROUNDERS AND ADVANCE PHOTOS WIDELY USED. NEWSPLAY CENTERED ATTENTION ON (1) POWER OF ATOMIC SUBS WEAPONS AS DETERRENT, (2) WARMTH OF WELCOME EXTENDED SHIP IN IZMIR, (3) IMPORTANCE OF DIGNITARIES VISITING ABOARD. TYPICAL HEADLINES: "MOST POWERFUL GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM" - SABAH POSTASI. IZMIR: "POWERFUL WEAPONS FOR PRESERVING PEACE" - DANYA. ISTANBUL. NO RPT NO PRESS OR PUBLIC COMMENT CONCERNING DANGER CONTAMINATION DUE PRESENCE ATOMIC SUB IN TURKISH PORT. REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY CONFIDENTIAL PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED . This copy must be returned to RM/R central files with notation of action taken.