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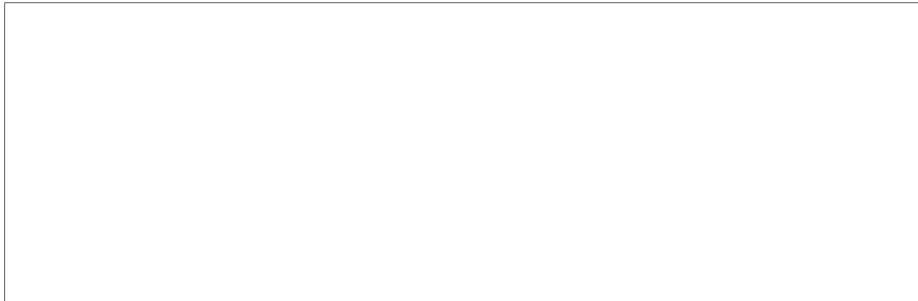
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1. TURKS REPORT IRAN ACCEPTS PRINCIPLE OF ADHERENCE TO TURKISH-IRAQI PACT

Turkish acting foreign minister Zorlu told Ambassador Chapin in Tehran on 24 September that Iran has decided in principle to adhere to the Turkish-Iraqi-British-Pakistani pact. The Turks are urging the Iranians to join within the next month.

Zorlu said that the Shah and Prime Minister Ala have been persuaded to give up their demands for American guarantees and additional aid to Iran. What is now needed to justify Iranian adherence to the pact, according to Zorlu, is a general statement by the US government of its interest in Iran's independence and in Middle East defense.

Comment

During their week-long visit to Tehran, Turkish president Bayar and Zorlu probably convinced the Shah that Iran would be a welcome and equal partner in the pact. The joint communiqué issued on 26 September at the end of the visit, however, gave no indication that Iran was planning to join the pact soon. It seems likely the Shah would continue to maintain that in order to influence Iranian public opinion he would need more American aid.

A decision by the Shah in favor of Iranian adherence to the pact would still face a fight in parliament, where there is considerable neutralist sentiment.

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2. EGYPT REPORTEDLY RECEIVES LARGE NUMBER OF TANKS

[redacted] An Egyptian-flag ship arrived at Alexandria on 22 September with a cargo of four 32-ton tanks, sixteen 16-ton tanks, and about 100 12-ton tanks for the Egyptian army, [redacted]

[redacted] The tanks appear to be German World War II models. The unloading of tanks has been confirmed by the personal observation [redacted]

[redacted] During the week of 19 September, [redacted] two other vessels discharged miscellaneous army field equipment, two turbo-electric railway engines for military use, and two heavy mobile cranes at Alexandria.

Comment

The addition of 120 tanks would double the number of the Egyptian army's operational tanks.

The country source of these tanks is not known. Egypt has contracts to receive tanks from both Britain and France--but not in this quantity. [redacted]

Egypt signed a five-year "open agreement" with the Soviet Union on 21 September and that Cairo's initial order from the USSR included 100 heavy tanks, as well as 200 jet aircraft, six torpedo patrol boats, and two submarines. This report stated that the first shipment of Soviet equipment had been inspected by Egyptian officers at Odessa and had already been or was about to be shipped.

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