March 30, 1963

Department of State Telegram 1905 to the American Embassy Rome

Citation:

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Summary:

The State Department instructs the embassies in Ankara and Rome of the importance of avoiding "fallacious comparison between Jupiter dismantling and withdrawal Soviet missiles from Cuba." To help do that, the embassies should ensure that "no official facilitation will be given press or photo coverage of missile dismantling." In response to any press queries, the embassies could state that "dismantled missiles will be transported over period several weeks." To avoid an "air of mystery" around the dismantling, the Department opposed efforts to block media coverage of missiles in transit. The embassies should approach Italian and Turkish officials "along [those] lines."

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Foreign Service of the United States of America

INCOMING

G AMERICAN EMBASSY ROME

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ACTION COPY

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Records Unit

Recd: March 30, 1963 0310

PRIORITY

FROM: SECSTATE WASHDC

ACTION: ACTION: ROME PRITY 1905, March 29 7pm

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RU USAFE WIESBADEN, POLAD SACLANT BY OTHER MEANS.

MIN PARIS PASS CINCEUR AND STOESSEL.

MAAG-2 LONDON FOR USNAVEUR.

FROM STATE AND DEFENSE.

ROME 1959 ANKARA 96 PARIS TOPOL 78

POLIT ADMIN USRO/RSO

MDA-2

INFO:

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LSN-2 EC

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We do not contemplate any further announcement regarding Jupiter changeover. Believe subject has already received excessive publicity and should be treated henceforth in low key as routine and normal replacement of obsolete weapon system. We especially wish avoid fallacious comparison between Jupiter dismantling and withdrawal Soviet missiles.from Cuba. In this connection no official facilitation will be given press or photo coverage of missile dismantling. We would not repeat not plan permit coverage within sites or within air heads and we would advise press, in response any questions, only that dismantled missiles will be transported over period several weeks to Gioia Del Colle and Cigli. FYI we anticipate photos will be taken during transit and believe any effort block this would only generate undesirable air of mystery End FYI.

Embassy should approach Italian and Turkish authorities along above lines in endeavor secure their concurrence and appropriate instructions to their military and other authorities. Inquire whether feasible or practical for civil air authorities to discourage overflights of missile sites and air heads by aircraft that may be hired by photographers during initial dismantling.

Poregoing discussed with Ambassador Reinhardt who concurs.

After first polaris submarine enters Mediterranean announcement to this effect will be made by Defense with similar announcement after arrival second submarine. Public visit to Izmir by submarine will also be announced and should receive full publicity to demonstrate presence new weapon system in Mediterranean.

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