JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

SECRET DEF 3537 FROM OASD/ISA/DMA

SUBJECT: Selective Informal Suspension of MAP Shipments for Greece.

1. In light Congressional concern over misuse of MAP-supplied equipment, and desire not to provide new Greek Government with additional end-items of major significance until our relationship with it can be better assessed, decision has been made here to institute selective informal suspension of pending MAP shipments for Greece. No publicity desired.

2. Accordingly, request you take necessary action to suspend, but not to cancel, following shipments now destined for Greece:

Declassified by Dr. OASD/ISP/EUR POL 29 June 1967

#430
(a) SS STELLA LYKES with 15 M-8 tanks. ETA Salonika 1 May and then Piraeus (ETA unknown).

(b) 2 torpedo tubes, on SS SEAJET, if not already delivered. Cutloaded 16 March.

(c) 4 M-88 tank recovery vehicles and 111 pickup trucks now at US port.

(d) Torpedo component parts ($140,000) and 17 torpedo heads, on hand at Bayonne.

(e) 80 AGM-12 BULLPUP missiles enroute England to Greece on USNS GREENVILLE VICTORY VOYAGE E1108-67, if not already delivered. ETA Greece was 23 April 1967.

(f) 4 each F-5A aircraft scheduled to depart 2 May 1967 from Palmdale, Calif. on ferry mission to Greece. Also suspend future aircraft shipments until further notice.

3. Above vessels enroute should offload at nearest U.S. military installation items listed sub-pars 2(a), (b) and (e), if not already delivered. GP-3
Excerpt from Press Conference of Secretary of Defense McNamara
on return from NATO Defense Ministers Meeting: May 10, 1967

Question: Mr. Secretary, did you have the opportunity to convey to the
Greek Defense Minister this nation’s feelings about military government
of that country?

Secretary McNamara: Well, I told my Greek colleague, the Defense Minister,
the former Chief of Staff of the Greek Army, that I hesitated to comment
on internal Greek affairs, but that I could tell him the sense of our
nation and the sense of our people and that was that we were disheartened
by the move away from democracy, from constitutional government in Greece,
and we could only hope that they would lay out a pact to return to
parliamentary procedures and to support of their constitution.

Question: Did he reassure you at all on that score?

Secretary McNamara: He indicated that his colleagues intended to
return to constitutional government and would lay out a program to
do so.

Question: Did you tell him that our military relationship would be
affected by what happened?

Secretary McNamara: I told him it would be very difficult for us to
proceed with our military aid program unless there was an indication that
his government did intend to preserve the constitutional guarantees.