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Folder: Turkish Arms Embargo, 7/5/78

Container: 37

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memo	HJ to JC <i>Opus 2/11/92</i>	7/5/78	A

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July 5, 1978

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

TO: PRESIDENT CARTER
FROM: HAMILTON JORDAN *HJ*
RE: TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

As you indicated that you would be spending some time this week making calls on the Turkish arms embargo, I wanted to follow up with you on several things that would be helpful. You may have already taken care of these.

Andy Young. We do not have yet the support we should have from the black House members on this issue. When you met with the Black Congressional Caucus earlier this year, you asked for their support on the Mideast arms package as well as lifting the Turkish arms embargo. Many of them said privately to Frank that politically it was difficult for them to oppose the Jewish community on the arms sale but that they would be willing to support you on the Turkish issue. We have asked Andy to help, but for whatever reason, Andy has not yet had time to meet with them. You should call Andy and ask him if he can arrange a special meeting with the Black Congressional Caucus and make the case for lifting the embargo. Given the crowded calendar, this meeting should

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take place the week the Congress returns. Again, Andy just needs a good nudge from you.

President Ford. Given his position as President on this issue, Gerald Ford will probably be willing to help. Clarke Clifford thinks that some public statement from him would be very helpful. At a minimum, his agreement to make some telephone calls would enhance our posture with the Republicans in the House and Senate. We recommend that you call him and see what he is willing to do. Mr. Clifford favors a joint Carter-Ford statement or appearance in Washington for the media. I doubt that Ford would be willing to do that, but thought you should have Mr. Clifford's advice.

Joint Chiefs. I relayed to you the concern Friday of the Working Group that the Joint Chiefs have not as yet been visible on the Hill on this issue. As compared to the Panama Canal Treaties, they have not been very visible. All of the people who work the Hill on this issue (Frank's staff, Warren Christopher, Mr. Clifford and others) say that this has undermined our national security argument and urge that the Joint Chiefs maintain a presence on the Hill for the next several critical weeks. This obviously should come from you to Harold.