CHRONOLOGY OF TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS*


1800, November 11 - December 13: Captain William Bainbridge visited Istanbul at the deck of USS George Washington. This was the first visit of an American warship to the Ottoman capitol.

1802, May 4: US President Thomas Jefferson appointed William Steaward as US Consul in İzmir (Smyrna).
1801-1805: "Barbary War" between the US and Tripoli.
1811: David Offley established American Trade Chamber in İzmir.
1818: American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM) decided to found mission stations in the Ottoman Empire.

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1820: The first American missionaries, Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons arrive to the Ottoman Empire.

1822: American missionaries established a printing house in Malta.


1829: ABCFM decided to establish an Armenian mission.


1831: US Legation in Istanbul was founded. David Porter became the first American charge d'affaires.

1834: First Armenian Protestant mess in Turkish convened in Istanbul.

1839: The rank of US representative in İstanbul rose to minister resident.

1845: Abraham Tibgeoglu became the first Ottoman Consul in the US (Boston).

1850: Major Emin Bey of the Ottoman Navy visited the US.

1858: Rear Admiral Muhammed Pasha visited the US.


1866: Daniel Bliss founded Syrian Protestant College in Beirut.

1867, April 2: Edward Blacque Bey was appointed as the first Ottoman Minister Plenipotentiary to Washington D.C.

1868: Robert College was founded officially in Istanbul.

1868: Canfield-O'Reilly crisis in Syria.

1869: Bilateral trade volume exceeded 1 million dollars first time.

1874, August 11: Ottoman-American Convention of Extradiction.

1874, August 11: Ottoman-American Convention of Nationality.

1880: Number of American missionary schools in the Ottoman Empire reached 331 with 13,095 pupils.

1882: The rank of US representative in Istanbul rose to Minister Plenipotentiary.

1893: American College in Merzifon was damaged during the Armenian incidents.
1895, November: American schools in Maraş and Harput were destroyed during the Armenian rebellion in the area.

1897: USS Bancroft was sent to İzmir harbor to seek indemnity for the damages to the American property in the Armenian incidents.

1900, December: USS Kentucky was sent to İzmir harbor to expose US dissatisfaction in the indemnity case.

1901, June: Ottoman government paid 19,000 pounds for indemnity to the US.

1906: The rank of US representative in İstanbul rose to Ambassador.

1914, September 8: Ottoman government suspended all capitulations including the American privileges.

1917, April 6: US declared war on Germany, which was an ally of the Ottoman Empire.

1917, April 20: Ottoman Empire cut its diplomatic relations with the US.

1918, January: Wilson's 14 points were declared. The 12th point was related with the Ottoman Empire's future.

1919: King-Crane Commission's investigation in Anatolia.

1919: US General Harbord's visit to Anatolia and Armenia.

1923, April 9: Chester Railway Concession. (Definitive Convention For the Eastern Anatolian Railways).

1923, August 6: General Treaty Between Turkey and the US signed at Lausanne.

1927: The US Senate failed to ratify Turkish-American Treaty of Lausanne.

1927, February 17: Turkish-American diplomatic relations resumed by signing of a modus vivendi.

1927, October 12: First American Ambassador to Turkish Republic, Joseph C. Grew started his mission.

1927, November: Muhtar Bey started his mission in Washington D.C. as Turkish Ambassador.

1929, October 1: The first Turkish-American Convention of Trade and Navigation.

1939, April 1: Turkish-American Convention of Trade.
1941, December 3: US Government started to give aid to Turkey through *Lend and Lease*.

1946, April 5: *USS Missouri* visited Istanbul.

1947, March 12: Truman Doctrine. US Government decided to give 100 million dollars aid to Turkey.

1947, July 12: Turkish-American Agreement on American Aid to Turkey.

1948, July 4: Turkey's participation to the Marshall Plan. Turkish-American Economic Cooperation Agreement.


1952, February 18: Turkey's participation to NATO.

1954: Incirlik Air Base was founded.

1955, June 10: Turkish-American Agreement on Atomic Energy.

1957, January 5: Eisenhower Doctrine.

1957, March 22: Turkey's participation to the Eisenhower Doctrine.


1959, March 5: Turkish-American Agreement of Security Cooperation.

1962, July: Jupiter missile systems were deployed in Turkey.

1962: October: Cuba Missile Crises between the US and the USSR.

1964, June 5: US President Lyndon Johnson sent a letter to Turkish Prime Minister İsmet İnönü in order to prevent a possible Turkish military intervention to Cyprus.

1964, June 13: Prime Minister İnönü's reply to President Johnson.

1969, July 3: Turkish-American Joint Defense Cooperation Agreement.


1974, July 20: Turkish military intervention to Cyprus.

1975, February 5: US imposed arms embargo on Turkey.


1976, March 26: Turkish-American Defense and Economic Cooperation Agreement. (This document was not ratified by Turkish Parliament and the US Senate thus did not enter into force).
1978, September 26: The US Congress removed the arms embargo on Turkey.

1980, January 9: Negotiations on the new economic and defence cooperation agreement between the US and Turkey were concluded. (10 January) Turkish Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry Faruk Şahinbaş and the US Ambassador to Ankara Ronald Spiers initialled the Turkish-US defence and economic cooperation agreement with the three annex agreements on defence industry and installation. One of these annex agreements is on the status of bases, another on US defence assistance to Turkey, and a third on cooperation towards the development of native defence industry by the Turks. The agreement is for a period of five years to renewable yearly, after the period.

1980, February 22: Turkey unilaterally opened the Aegean air space. Athens refused the last proposal made by General Rogers, NATO Supreme Allied Commander of Europe, which invited Greece to return to NATO's military command. (26 February) Turkish foreign minister Hayrettin Erkmen denied claims that there was a so-called "Rogers Plan" for the Aegean Sea. (4 March) It was reported that Bernard Rogers, preparing a plan to solve the command and control issue between Greece and Turkey over Aegean.

1980, March 10: Turgut Özal disclosed that the US would provide $300 millions credit to Turkey this year.


1980, April 10: Spokesman of the Turkish Foreign Ministry, announced that Turkey wouldn't contribute to a US intervention to the Middle East. Bases in Turkey would only be used within the framework of the NATO objectives.

1980, April 25: Turkey reacted promptly but cautiously to abortive US military action to rescue hostages in Tehran. Turkish Foreign Minister Hayrettin Erkmen said that Incirlik base was not used by the American planes which carried out the attack.

1980, May 26: Senate investigation revealed that the US bases in Turkey were under the control of the Turkish government and Turkey would not face a fait accompli and be forced to take part any future conflict because of the bases.

1980, August 1: Edmund Muskie, the US Secretary of State, stressed the importance of Greece's return to NATO's military wing and the need to solve the problems between Turkey and Greece in order to reinforce the southern flank of NATO.
1980, September 13: After the military coup of September 12, an official statement from the US Secretariat of State, praised Turkish citizens for their efforts to solve political and economic crisis under a democratic system. It further declared that a great deal of aid has been given to the NATO countries for economic stability and common defence, and that this would continue.

1980, October 11: Greek Prime Minister Yorgo Rallis sent a letter to the US President Jimmy Carter and stated that Greece wouldn't renounce her national rights in the Aegean Sea as a compensation for her return to NATO's military flank.

1981, February 10: In the annual "human rights report" that submitted to the Congress by the US State department it was said that the military administration in Turkey had the support of the Turkish citizens.

1981, February 13: Turkish Foreign Minister İltır Türkmen stated that 7/10 ratio between Turkey and Greece on military aid could be considered as ridiculous since the two countries were members in the same defence organisation.

1981, March 7: In his press conference in Washington the US President Ronald Reagan stated that Turkey was an important ally for the US and that economic and military aids would continue.

1981, April 3: The US President Ronald Reagan stated that Atatürk's motta, "peace at home, peace in the world" was well understood and added that the US Government wholeheartedly supported the Turkish Government's attempts to undermine terrorism and to apply the reforms which would guarantee the welfare of Turkish citizens and long term stability of Turkish democracy.

1981, April 11: The US Secretary of Defence proposed the selling of 15 Phantom F-4 E fighters and their spare parts to Turkey.

1981, April 24: The US Secretary of Defence Casper Weinberger stated that the US would continue to provide military aid both to Turkey and Greece and added that they had not tried to apply the 7/10 ratio between the two countries.

1981, May 5: The US House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee cut $ 300 million economic aid to Turkey due to the unsuccessful attempts of finding a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem.

1981, September 25: "The Agreement between Turkey and the USA on the continuation of validity of the agreement on bilateral nuclear cooperation of 1955" came to effect.
1982, November 29: Turkish General Necdet Öztorun and Richard Perle signed a "Memorandum of Understanding" in Brussels. In the terms of this agreement, ten air bases would have been modernised and new two air bases would been constructed in Muş and Batman by USA. Military intervention of out of area towards the Middle East was prohibited.

1983, September 5: Turkey declared that 160 F-16 fighter planes would be produced in Turkey with the cooperation of US General Dynamics.

1983, December 15: Turkey signed and dispatched to the US a letter of acceptance on the purchase, co-assembly and co-manufacture of 160 F-16 fighter planes.

1984, May 2: TAI (TUSAŞ Aerospace Industry) was founded by an agreement between The Turkish National Defence Ministry and General Dynamics. Turkey had 51% and General Dynamics had 49% of the TAI's shares. 160 F-16 fighter would be produced in the first period of the cooperation project.

1984, September 10: A draft that has included a passage that 24 April would be Man's Inhumanity to Men Day accepted by the House of Representatives with oral vote method.

1985, March 27: Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal visited USA.

1985, June 4: The House of Representatives in general vote rejected the Draft of Armenian "Genocide".

1985, June 16: The Agreement of Turkish-USA Mutual Investment was signed.

1985, September 28: Turkey gave a diplomatic note to the US, in which Turkey demanded change in DECA. In negotiations Turkey gave a request list to USA. US government accepted some of these requests.

1986, January 7: US extended quotas on Turkish textile imports to include eight more categories.

1986, January 9: US President Ronald Reagan sent a letter to Turkish President Kenan Evren requesting Turkey to join in US economic sanctions against Libya on charges that the north African state backed international terror.

1986, March 22: US Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Turkey for a official visit to discuss the DECA, more American aid and the Turco-Greek dispute in the Aegean.

1986, April 15: Turkey declared the American air raid on Libya as unlawful.
1986, November 11: The US battleship Missouri came back to Istanbul 40 years after its first visit that symbolized the start of the Turco-American defense alliance.

1987, February 5: Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal visited USA and met US President Ronald Reagan in Washington.

1987, March 16: DECA was extended till 1990.

1987, April 2: The US committee on Foreign Relations of the House of Representatives accepted a draft that included a passage that the US military aid to Turkey could not been used in Cyprus.

1987, April 11: The Turkish Government suspended additional letters about agreement of bases in protest to the House of Representatives' decision.

1987, April 22: The Commission of Postal and Civil Services of the House of Representatives accepted the Draft of the Armenian "Genocide". Turkish Ambassador Şükrü Elekdağ was recalled to Turkey. Turkish President Kenan Evren cancelled his official visit to USA.

1987, April 23: The US Secretary of State stated that US government was against this draft and they would use all the ways to prevent it.

1988, January 7: Defense Minister Ercan Vuralhan announced that the F.M. Corporation (FMC) of the US and its Turkish partner Nurol had won a billion-dollar contract to build armored combat vehicles in Turkey.

1988, February 21: The Turkish Government ratified the letter that extends the DECA.

1988, May 24: Turkey signed a contract with FMC of the US and Nurol of Turkey for the manufacture of 1700 armored combat vehicles.

1988, June 26: The Turkish President Kenan Evren went to US for an official visit.

1988, December 11: The Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal went to US for ten days and met with Ronald Reagan and President-elect George Bush.


1989, October 17: The Committee of Justice of US Senate accepted the Draft of Armenian "Genocide". Turkey frozen bilateral military relations and blocked US F 16 flights from İncirlik air base.

1990, January 16: The Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal visited Washington and met with Senator Dole and President Bush.
1990, February 20: US Senate started to discuss the Draft of the Armenian Genocide.

1990, February 27: US Senate refused to put the Draft of the Armenian Genocide into negotiation agenda.

1990, August 7: Turkey participated to embargo against Iraq and closed Kerkük-Yumurtalık pipeline.

1990, December 18: Turkey asked for a Rapid Deployment Force from NATO against probable Iraqi attack to Turkey.

1991, January 6-10: Rapid Deployment Force came to Turkey and based Malatya Erhaç Air Base.

1991, March 31 - April 1: The Iraqi forces intervened to Kurdish uprising in northern Iraq with its air forces. Thousands of Kurdish refugees fled to Turkey.

1991, April 7: The Turkish President Turgut Özal suggested “safe haven” for Kurdish refugees in ABC Television. US president Bush ordered US Airforce to help refugees by air.

1991, April 11: Operation Provide Comfort was launched. A safe haven was set up for refugees. Coalition Forces entered Northern Iraq.

1991, April 17: Turkish Government permitted Operation Provide Comfort-2. The Turkish, American, British and French governments deployed a provisional force to protect the Kurds north of the 36th parallel.


1992, February 4: In his interview with the US weekly TIME, prime minister Demirel proposed the establishment of a new Marshall Plan to help sustain stability in the Turkic Republics. He stated that Turkey and the US had been military allies since 1947, and that an "economic alliance" should also be mature.

1992, February 11: Prime minister Demirel met President George Bush during his official visit to the United States. The two leaders agreed on improving cooperation concerning relations with Central Asia, on strengthening collaboration against the PKK terror, and on the continuation of sanctions against Iraq. Bush said that Turkey would be
a model for the Central Asian republics and added that his country would extend all support to this end.


1992, December 4: Turkey blamed poor discipline and lack of coordination aboard the US aircraft carrier *Saratoga* in the missile firing last month that killed five Turkish sailors, and demanded those responsible be court-martialed.

1992, December 7: The US contacted Turkey and asked whether Ankara was prepared to commit troops to the UN forces in Somalia. Official sources said that the Turkish Government was inclined to respond positively, but stressed that parliamentary permission was needed to send troops abroad.

1992, December 10: The Turkish Defense Industries Undersecretariat signed a 1.1 billion dollar contract with the United States Technologies-Sikorsky for the procurement of 95 Black Hawk helicopters.

1993, April 30: Tripartite talks were held in Moscow among the representatives from Turkey, the USA and the Russian Federation. They reached an agreement on a program for stopping the ongoing clashes and resuming the peace process between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

1993, June 12: US Secretary of State Warren Christopher came to Turkey for a two-day official visit. He held a joint press conference with his Turkish counterpart Hikmet Çetin. He said that the US viewed Turkey as a regional power capable of contributing to a peaceful solution of regional problems and to spreading of market system and secular administration in the region.

1993, December 8: At the first meeting of the Turco-US Joint Economic Commission (JEC) held in Ankara between the two countries, a protocol and a joint communique were signed by Turkish Acting Treasury and Foreign Trade Undersecretary Osman Unsal and Assistant Secretary of State Stephen Oxman.

1994, May 27: Turkey told the United States that it may reject US military aid after a US congressional decision to withhold part of it pending a human rights report on Turkey.

1994, June 17: The US Senate's Appropriations Committee submitted a report, rejecting the cutting of military aid to Turkey in 1995 but adding that the aid be granted on condition of "understanding that it would not be used for domestic security concerns".
1994, June 30: The US Senate dropped the condition linking military aid to Turkey to the conclusion to be reached that it would not use the equipment for its domestic security concerns.

1994, August 5: The US House of Representatives ratified the foreign aid bill draft which foresaw cuts by 10% in the aid to be extended to Turkey. (26 August) US President Bill Clinton signed the foreign aid credits bill, which attaches a "condition" to the aid given to Turkey. Ten percent of the US assistance will be linked to improvement in human rights and progress on Cyprus. (28 August) Turkish Prime Minister said Turkey will reject the 10% of the US military aid linked to human rights conditions and progress on the divided island of Cyprus.

1994, October 3: The United States and Turkey signed an agreement for the transfer of a total of 1.5 billion dollars in defense funds which have accumulated in a special account at the Federal Reserve but have been withheld since the Gulf War.

1995, February 21: US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke who was in Turkey for an official visit, said at a press conference he held in Ankara, that it would be extremely unproductive to give the impression that human rights would rupture bilateral ties between Turkey and the US.

1995, April 1: US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke, at a press conference in Washington, said that the US administration viewed PKK as a terrorist organization and expressed his country's support for the Turkish government's efforts, even though not agreeing on every effort made to surmount the problem. Mr. Holbrooke also expressed the importance the US attached to Turkey's territorial integrity.

1995, April 19: Prime Minister Tansu Çiller, on a visit to the US, met with US President Bill Clinton. Bilateral political and economic issues as well as regional questions and terrorist activities in particular were the subjects of the negotiations.

1995, May 12: Turkey and the US initialed a tax agreement in Washington DC.

1995, August 15: Turkey and the US signed an accord on struggle against drug trafficking and its illegal use under which the US would extend 370,000 dollars to Turkey for its struggle in this regard.

1996, January 16: The United States State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns praises Turkey for taking "significant steps" over the last year to improve human rights.
1996, January 30: The United States President Bill Clinton telephoned the leaders of Greece and Turkey to defuse the latest stand-off in the Aegean. Richard Holbrooke from the United States Department persuaded the two sides to withdraw from Kardak/Imia rocks.

1996, March 27: Turkish President Süleyman Demirel went to Washington DC, accompanied by a large number of businessmen, officials, and members of the media, for an intensive working visit.

1996, July 1: New Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan offered to discuss the future of Operation Provide Comfort with the United States officials.


1996, July 30: Operation Provide Comfort extended for five months by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

1996, August 6: The United States State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns aired the United States concerns over Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan's visit to Iran. (7 August) Turkish Prime Minister and Foreign Ministry criticized the United States efforts to prevent Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan's visit to Iran.

1996, September 16: The US Secretary of Defense William Perry met with Turkish President Süleyman Demirel, Turkish Chief of General Staff İsmail Hakkı Karadayı and Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Çiller in Ankara.

1996, December 26: The name of the Operation Provide Comfort changed to International Reconnaissance Force.

1997, June 13: The United States Secretary of State Madeleine Albright send a clear signal that Washington would be against a military coup in Turkey and asked for respect for the Turkish Constitution.

1997, September 30: The forty year-old Pirinçlik Base near Diyarbakır, was completely closed.

1997, November 15: Turkey rejected the American Economic Support Fund (ESF) assistance that was linked by both chambers of the US legislature to the settlement of regional problems through the efforts of non-governmental organisations.

1997, December 16: President Bill Clinton told in a press conference in Washington that the US would promote efforts to integrate Turkey, recently spurned by the EU for membership, into the West and praised the country as close American ally.
1998, July 18: United States Deputy Assistant Secretary of State David Welsh and a delegation including Turkish diplomats met with Jalal Talabani, the leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), in Sulaimaniya in Northern Iraq.


1998, September 22: Turkey declared a recent agreement had signed between northern Iraqi Kurdish leaders in Washington to set up a joint administration in the area was not binding.

1998, October 29: With the United States backing, Turkey and four former Soviet republics signed a declaration in support of an oil pipeline crossing through Turkey as the main export route from the Caspian's rich oil fields.

1999, January 14: Turkey asked the United States to deploy Patriot missiles in Turkey as a precaution in view of the increased tension in the no-fly zone in Northern Iraq. (20 January) The US started stationing Patriot anti-missile launchers in Turkey.

1999, January 24: Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit called on the US for dialog to fix problems associated with its uncertain policies towards Iraq. Ecevit stated that he is concerned about the risk of war in the region, adding that uncertain US policies towards Iraq are the main cause of his worries.

1999, January 27: Turkish Foreign Minister İsmail Cem declared Turkey's refusal to allow US and British jets use the İncirlik air-base to bomb Iraq.

1999, January 30: Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit stated that the US had gone too far in its air strikes against Iraq.

1999, April 20: Turkish President Süleyman Demirel flew to Washington to join NATO's 50th anniversary celebrations, which coincided with the alliance's air war over Yugoslavia.

1999, September 28: US President Bill Clinton met with Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit.

1999, October 20: US Energy Secretary Bill Richardson welcomed the decision by BP-AMACO to endorse the Baku-Ceyhan oil pipeline as the "right" route for exporting oil west from the Caspian region.

1999, November 15: US President Bill Clinton became the first Western leader to address the Turkish Parliament. Earlier at press conference with President Süleyman Demirel, Clinton declared strong support for
Turkish membership in the European Union as a key to ensuring stability in this region in the 21st Century.

1999, November 18: In what was widely seen as a policy victory for the Clinton administration, Turkey, Azerbaijan and Georgia signed a deal to build a pipeline that would send the oil riches of the Caspian Sea to international markets without going through Russia and Iran.

1999, December 11: US President Bill Clinton welcomed Turkey's decision to accept the EU's offer of EU candidate status, saying it "would have lasting benefits for all EU members and the United States".

2000, April 1: US Secretary of Defence William Cohen, stated that Turkey would participate new generation air fighter -"Joint Strike Fighter"- program.

2000, June 21: Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit, after Defence Industry Execution Committee meeting, stated that Turkish Army's tactical-attack helicopter adjudication had been given to American Bell Helicopter Textron firm.

2000, September 7: Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer, who had gone to the UN meeting, met with US President Bill Clinton.


2000, September 27: US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said that the Draft of Armenian Genocide would be harmful to Turkish-American relations.

2000, October 3: The Committee of International Relations of the House of Representatives accepted the Draft of Armenian Genocide

2000, October 5: After Cabinet meeting, Turkish minister Şükrü Sina Gürel said that, if the Draft of the Armenian Genocide would been accepted by the US House of Representatives, Turkey would scrutinise the mission period of the Incirlik military base.

2000, October 6: After his meeting with US ambassador Robert Pearson, Turkish Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit said that, if the Draft of Armenian Genocide would been accepted by the US House of Representatives, Turkish-American relations might be frozen.

2000, October 19: The Draft of Armenian Genocide was withdrawn from negotiation agenda at the US House of Representatives.

2000, November 11: Six AWACS supply project, to be bought for Turkish Airforce, awarded to American Boeing firm.
2001, January 07: President Clinton's special envoy for Caspian basin energy resources, Elizabeth Jones, indicated that President-elect George Bush, too, would support the current US policy on Bakı-Ceyhan.

2001, January 09: Outgoing US Secretary of Defense William Cohen said that non-EU member countries of NATO, including Turkey, should definitely be included within the decision-making mechanism of the proposed defense force of the EU.

2001, January 09: Alfred Moses, the special US Presidential Envoy on Cyprus arrived as part of a fresh international effort for the resumption of stalled talks for the reunification of the island.

2001, January 10: President of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Rauf Denktas, demanded recognition of TRNC as the price for attending the next round of reunification talks, US Presidential Envoy, Alfred Moses, announced.

2001, January 11: US Presidential Emissary Moses stated that Washington wanted a united Cyprus to enter the EU.

2001, January 18: US Secretary of State-designate Powell promised to support Turkey throughout his term in office and to work on a solution for the "European Army" problem plaguing Turkey-EU relations.

2001, February 02: The Greek press reported that both the US and Turkey were pressuring Greece to ban the outlawed Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C), leftist terrorist organization in Greece.


2001, February 23: President George Bush spoke with Prime Minister Ecevit by telephone and urged him to cooperate with the IMF and to continue with economic reforms.


2001, February 26: US State Department's annual report on human rights stated that despite many existing and enduring problems, there was progress human rights in Turkey compared to previous years.

2001, February 27: Foreign Minister Cem asked new US administration to soften sanctions against Iraq during his first meeting with the Secretary of State Colin Powell.
2001, February 28: The US' Secretary of State Colin Powell reportedly asked his Turkish counterpart Ismail Cem to follow Syria's example and take steps to prevent violations of UN sanctions against Iraq.

2001, March 02: US Assistant Secretary of State Edward Walker met with Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem on a tour of Middle East capitals aiming at bolstering support for the Bush administration's policy towards Iraq.

2001, March 17: Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit accused the US and Europe of failing to act decisively to help his country out of financial crisis.

2001, March 23: California's State Senate unanimously approved a resolution designating April 24 as California Day of Remembrance for the so-called Armenian Genocide.

2001, March 23: Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit send letters to US President George Bush, NATO Secretary-General George Robertson and the leaders of the Balkan countries, conveying Turkey's concerns over the growing tension in Macedonia.

2001, March 24: President George Bush called for a quick resumption of a stalled UN effort to resolve the 35-year-old Cyprus problem between the two peoples of the island.

2001, March 28: Foreign Minister Cem urged the US to resume its active role in the Middle East peacemaking before violence between Israel and the Palestinians got worse.

2001, March 29: Turkey asked for US support for lifting the UN ban on Turkey's tenders related to Iraq.

2001, March 30: Foreign Minister Ismail Cem met with US President George Bush's National Security Advisor, Condoleazza Rice, to discuss topics ranging from the Middle East to the Balkans and Caucasus to the economic crisis in Turkey.

2001, April 09: The Maryland Senate approved a resolution condemning the alleged massacre of the Armenians during World War I by the Ottoman Empire.

2001, April 13: The US State Department's Advisor on Caspian Basin Energy Policies, Ambassador Elizabeth Jones, stated that the Bush Administration gave full support to the Bakü-Tbilisi-Ceyhan Pipeline project.

2001, April 18: Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit phoned US President George W. Bush to urge swift financial support to help Turkey out of its economic crisis.
2001, April 19: The Armenian lobby in the US started a letter-writing campaign to Turkish leaders, calling on them to recognize the so-called Armenian genocide.

2001, May 09: The US announced that it was closely following the news about resumption of Turkey's train services to Iraq, and says it has certain concerns that Iraq may violate the oil-for-food program strictly controlled by the United Nations.

2001, June 04: US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld met with Turkish leaders to discuss US policy towards Iraq.

2001, June 07: US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher declared that Turkey and the US are in close cooperation concerning Iraqi affairs.

2001, June 08: Foreign Minister İsmail Cem said Turkey will open a second border crossing with Iraq, a sign of improving relations viewed with some concern by the US.

2001, June 20: The US, Israel and Turkey reached an agreement on the deployment of a missile defense system in Turkey.

2001, June 26: The US State Department's Cyprus Coordinator, Ambassador Tom Weston, said the US and Turkey may face certain difficulties in their relations if the deadlock continued in Cyprus.

2001, July 11: US President George Bush said that he gave strong support to Turkey's efforts to fulfill reforms with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

2001, July 18: A US F-16 fighter jet crashed in southeastern Turkey as it headed towards Northern Iraq to patrol the no-fly zone.

2001, August 27: Turkey and the US reportedly agreed to launch a joint initiative to promote F-16s to Central European countries, including Hungary, Austria and Poland.


2001, September 11: President Ahmet Necdet Sezer and Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit send messages to US President George Bush offering their support after plane attacks on major buildings in the US.

2001, September 13: Regarding the decision taken by the NATO Council to activate Article 5 in response to terrorist attacks on US, Turkey declared readiness to make contributions to a joint NATO action.
2001, September 14: Turkey placed its armed forces on high alert in connection with a possible US response to the terrorist attacks on American cities.

2001, September 21: US President George Bush called President Ahmet Necdet Sezer, stating that the US administration wanted an active international fight against terrorism and, in such a struggle, they wished to see Turkey by them.

2001, September 22: Turkey agreed to allow US Air Force transport aircraft to use its airspace and airports for a possible response to the terrorist attacks against the US. Turkey also expressed willingness to share intelligence on Afghanistan with the US.


2001, September 28: Foreign Minister Cem met in Washington with the US National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, US Vice President Dick Cheney and the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

2001, September 30: US prosecutors decided to retry a portion of their case against Harry Sassounian, who had murdered Kemal Arıkan, a 54 year-old Turkish diplomat, in 1982, in an effort to ensure he never gets out of prison.

2001, October 07: US and British forces started to bomb Afghanistan in response to 11 September terrorist attacks to American targets. Turkish military and civilian leaders hold urgent meeting to discuss the developments.

2001, October 07: US Vice President Dick Cheney called President Ahmet Necdet Sezer to inform him about the operation against Afghanistan and to thank Turkey for its support as part of NATO.

2001, October 08: Anti-war demonstrations were held in various districts of Istanbul.

2001, October 09: A group from the Human Rights Association İstanbul Branch hold a sit-in to protest the military operations against Afghanistan. The protesters hang a placard reading "No to war" on the association building.

2001, October 10: Turkish Parliament granted full war powers to the government, empowering it to dispatch troops abroad or host foreign
troops on Turkish soil, and to allow the use of Turkish territory, airspace and territorial waters.

2001, October 12: Police used tear gas to disperse some 2,000 people chanting anti-American slogans to protest US strikes against Afghanistan following traditional Muslim Friday prayers in Istanbul. About 60 protesters were detained.

2001, October 14: Prime Minister Bülent Ecevit stated that Turkey, while backing the US in its war on terrorism, opposes any possible US-led military action against neighboring Iraq.

2001, October 16: US Ambassador to Turkey, Ambassador Robert Pearson, visited the Parliamentary Foreign Relations Committee and briefed them on the war against terrorism and on developments within the region. Pearson offered assurances that there was no question of a separate state being formed in Northern Iraq.

2001, October 26: After almost 10-hour long talks in Ankara, senior Turkish, British and US officials reportedly failed to narrow down their differences over the level of Turkish participation in the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP).

2001, November 01: Turkey announced that it would deploy a 90-person special forces troops to Afghanistan, becoming the first Muslim country to join in the US-led campaign against Kabul's Taliban rulers and Osama bin Laden, the suspected mastermind of the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US.

2001, November 08: The US Ambassador to Ankara Robert Pearson said the US needs Turkey's help on the US-led operation on Afghanistan in a meeting of the Turkish-American Business Council held in the Aegean Free Zone.