

Turks Talk War if Russia Presses; Prefer Vain Battle to Surrender

By SAM POPE BREWER

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ANKARA, Turkey, Aug. 6— Many point out that all the Russo-Turkish relations weigh really thorny questions still are heavy on Turkish minds these unsettled. The Turks probably do days. All leading editors comment- not see a relative importance ed today on various aspects of the among world problems of Russian Russian claims against Turkey. demands on Turkey, but point out

The Potsdam conference leaves that the important question of the situation virtually unchanged principle is involved. The general so far as the Turks can see, but and apparently official argument they seem to agree that they is that the status of the Straits would go to war, however hopeless cannot be modified by a bilateral such a war might be, rather than agreement but must be discussed yield before the threat of force. at a conference of the signatories Suggestions from London and of the Montreux Convention, with Washington that the Russians have America replacing Japan. The been asked to moderate their de- signatories were Great Britain, mands give little reassurance here. France, Russia, Japan, Turkey,

The Potsdam communiqué cre- ated more confusion than confi- dence and the Turks are still try- ing to decide whether the fact that the conference did not deal with certain specific questions means that it was a failure.

The grounds for the Russian claims to Kars and Ardahan are not clear, but throughout the Near and Mideast in recent months

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Russia was encouraging intensification of the Armenian nationalist agitation. Last February both Armenian and Turkish circles pricked up their ears when the Erivan radio gave Armenian nationalist programs, including the old irredentist song "When Will We Get Back to Cilicia," and concluded with an announcement of the program addressed to listeners in Syria and Lebanon. Cilicia, which is part of Turkey and Syria and Lebanon, has many thousand Armenian refugees from Turkey.