

٥

محضر المقابلة بين محمد نجيب وجون هاملتون ممثل السفير البريطاني
يوم ٢٦ يوليو ١٩٥٢

At 11 p.m. on July 24th General Neguib was kind enough to receive in Cairo my representative Mr. Hamilton and the assistant Military Attaché who delivered on my behalf a message to him from her Majesty's Government. He was told that if necessary British forces would not hesitate to intervene if it was considered necessary to protect British lives; and General Naguib repeated his assurances that he would be fully responsible for the protection of foreign lives in Egypt.

I should like to inform General Naguib once more that his statement has been noted and that Her Majesty's Government therefore sincerely hope that no intervention will be necessary. Considerable British forces are however close at hand and are now in a state of readiness.

There are three points which I would like to bring to the General's urgent personal attention:

- (1) Any bloodshed today would certainly be the beginning of a widespread series of acts which would inevitably lead to British intervention for the protection of British lives.
- (2) If the King's departure is followed by a "constitutional vacuum" without the open proclamation of a Regency and the maintenance in being of the monarchy, a very dangerous situation will arise possibly leading to bloodshed.
- (3) In view of the popular reaction to which the abdication of King Fa-rouk will very naturally lead, the danger exists of outbreak by irresponsible elements under cover of popular rejoicing. I think General Naguib as Commander-in-Chief or Aly Maher Pasha as Military Governor-General would therefore be well advised to consider the re-imposition of the curfew.

These suggestions are made in a very friendly spirit but with great earnestness. I am authorised by the United States Ambassador to associate his name with them also.

26th July, 1952.