

MILITARY AND ECONOMIC POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO
THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST ¹

A. CONTINUING INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES IN DEVELOPING A
REGIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE
AREA FROM EXTERNAL AGGRESSION (JANUARY 1952-MAY 1953)

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Negotiating Paper Prepared in the Department of State ³

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MIDDLE EAST COMMAND

PROBLEM

To seek active United Kingdom collaboration in the early establishment of the Middle East Command with headquarters if feasible at Cyprus.

U.S. OBJECTIVES

The Middle East Command has both political and military aspects. At the present time it is more a political problem than a military one and the United States seeks through the Middle East Command to gain active Middle Eastern cooperation with the West in the defense of the Middle East on a cooperative basis. The Middle East Command also offers a possible solution of the Anglo-Egyptian problem. On the other hand, steps leading to the estab-

¹ For previous documentation concerning this subject, see *Foreign Relations*, 1951, vol. v, pp. 1 ff.

² Lot 59 D 95 is a collection of documentation on certain official visits of European heads of government and foreign ministers to the United States and on major international conferences (including North Atlantic Council sessions) attended by the Secretary of State for the period 1949-1955, as maintained by the Executive Secretariat of the Department of State. This lot consists of 13 feet of material, was retired by S/S, and is located in RSC boxes 94-106.

³ This paper is an official statement of position prepared with the approval of the Secretaries of State and Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff as a briefing paper for the President in his discussions with Churchill. An attached cover sheet, not printed, states that "It is now approved at the official level."