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Editorial Note

The Secretary of State was engaged in ministerial level talks with British Foreign Secretary Eden and French Foreign Minister Schuman at the Seventh Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in November, and at the North Atlantic Council meeting in Paris in December. Nothing significant developed in either case in respect to the MEDO situation. Two position papers were drafted for Acheson for the New York meeting: document NYT D-2, November 8, 1952, "Egypt and MEDO," and document NYT D-4/3a, November 11, 1952, "Liaison between NATO and MEDO." (Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 134) One paper was drafted for the NAC meeting: document PBT D-1/6, December 10, 1952, "Egypt." (Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 129)

In addition, at the General Assembly session, Acheson spoke with a number of Foreign Ministers of the Middle East area, who were in New York for the session. Those conversations consisted mostly of exchanges of amenities, although there was some discussion of the Palestine problem and the question of Tunisia, which was on the agenda for discussion at that session. The memoranda of these conversations are in Conference files, lot 59 D 95, CF 132 and CF 133.

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780.5/2-3152: Telegram

*The Ambassador in the United Kingdom (Gifford) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

LONDON, December 31, 1952—7 p. m.

3605. Following is abbreviated text United Kingdom paper re Egyptian participation MEDO and enclosure handed to Byroade at United States-United Kingdom talks Egypt today.² Department's and Cairo's comments requested for meeting Saturday morning:

¹ Repeated to Cairo.² For additional documentation on U.S.-U.K. talks on Egypt, held in London from Dec. 31, 1952 to Jan. 7, 1953, see Documents 947 ff.