

get regular army and infantry out of Egypt and reconciled to having only technical troops there.

Secretary has needled Eden re Sudan. Eden agreed something must be done. Eden mentioned possibility that Egyptians could send people to Sudan in effort work out agreement with Sudanese which wld prevent impression that British imposing solution on Sudanese. Eden agrees Sudan must be included in some form any agenda for talks between Br and Egypt. Expect talks to begin shortly. Secretary convinced Eden making every effort solve problem but being restrained by cabinet.

ACHESON

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No. 961

774.56/2-1852

*The Deputy Under Secretary of State (Matthews) to the Secretary of Defense (Lovett)*<sup>1</sup>

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, February 23, 1952.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: The American Ambassador to Egypt has informed this Department of an urgent request from the Egyptian Government for assistance in procuring immediately equipment for three special mobile police "divisions" which that Government plans to create. These special units, in which King Farouk is taking a personal interest, will be located in Cairo and in Alexandria and will be designed to deal speedily and effectively with any attempt to subvert law and order. Ambassador Caffery has given his strong and unequivocal endorsement to this request and has expressed the hope that "it will be possible for us to get squarely behind this, to cut red tape, and get the required equipment on its way to Egypt".<sup>2</sup> There are enclosed for your information the pertinent communications exchanged between this Department and Ambassador Caffery in Cairo. Cairo telegram 1341 of February 15, 1952 sets forth the number of vehicles required and we are presently awaiting additional information with regard to quantities and specifications of the items needed. There is also enclosed a copy of

<sup>1</sup> Drafted by Wells Stabler, Officer in Charge of Egypt and Anglo-Egyptian Sudan Affairs.

<sup>2</sup> This passage is quoted from telegram 1341 from Cairo, Feb. 15, not printed. (774.56/2-1552)