

ordinate their comments insofar as possible before submitting them to Sudan Govt. Ali Maher's preference for delaying talks on Sudan therefore poses difficult question. Robertson returning from Sudan next week end on leave and FonOff plans discuss prob with him at that time.

Emb off asked whether it might not be possible postpone elections in Sudan for a time, since it wld appear that any UK move to try to get Egypts into convs on this ques might well prove to be self-defeating. If there is possibility splitting def and Sudan questions, it wld appear better to try to find some means of postponing question of Sudan question altogether until after def issue solved.

FonOff official saw little possibility postponing elections, since this wld inevitably raise howl in Sudan. Altho no formal commitments have been made, it is generally understood in Sudan that HMG favors attainment Sudanese self-govt by end of this year. Nov elections necessary to adhere to this goal. He did not think it necessarily followed that UK move to discuss Sudan constitution with Ali Maher wld result latter's tying two questions together again, since Ali Maher wld undoubtedly realize that Sudan will have self-govt by end of year in any event and that it is better make Egypt point of view known on constitution.

HOLMES

No. 1000

874.501/8-732

Memorandum by Major General George H. Olmsted¹ to the Special Assistant to the Secretary for Mutual Security Affairs (Martin)

SECRET

WASHINGTON, 7 August 1952.

Subject: Police Equipment for Egyptian Government

1. Reference is made to memorandum from your office, dated 1 July 1952, subject as above. ² In this memorandum, your office requested that the Department of Defense explore every possibility of making available all items required for equipping three mobile police divisions for the Egyptian Government.

2. A study has been made of the list of equipment required by the Government of Egypt. It has been determined that all items required could be made available immediately upon receipt of an ap-

¹ Major General Olmsted was Director of the Office of Military Assistance, Department of Defense.

² Not printed.