

4. As for Moslem Brotherhood Naguib admitted to me apart from others that there is some danger there because a number of officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers belong to Brotherhood. However, he believes he can keep it under control.

5. They will pursue their endeavors to weaken Wafd.

6. They are convinced that recent Kafr El Dawar incidents were inspired from outside, but have not laid hands on real instigators. The man they court-martialed was unquestionably guilty of leading rioters, but was tool of someone else. It has not yet been decided whether to hang him or to commute his sentence to life imprisonment. Naguib asked my opinion as to what he shld do, but I dodged that one.

7. Aside from Naguib these young men look all to be in their thirties-forties. I believe they are well intentioned, patriotic and filled with desire to do something for Egypt. On other hand, they are woefully ignorant of matters economic, financial, polit, and international. However, they seem anxious to learn and have learned a lot in last few weeks. Their respect for Aly Maher seems to be growing because they do realize they themselves cld not handle Govt and are inclined lean more and more on him. Of course, in a situation like this when so many military involved this happy relationship with Aly Maher cld be upset by some unfortunate accident or incident.

8. I purposely did not discuss ME defense matters last night as I shall be in position to do that more effectively when I know them better. As my recent reports have shown, some of military approach Evans practically every day and he will of course maintain his contacts.

9. From my conversation last night, much of which was alone with Naguib, I concluded that stories that Naguib is only a figure-head are untrue. He is not brilliant, but he has good common sense and some qualities of leadership.

CAFFERY

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*The Secretary of State to the Secretary of Defense (Lovett)*

SECRET

WASHINGTON, September 2, 1952.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I refer to correspondence between the Department of Defense and this Department concerning the desire of the Egyptian Government to purchase police equipment in this