

No. 1028

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Memorandum for the Record by Leighton A. Cain, Chief of the Reimbursable Aid Section, Office of Military Assistance, Department of Defense

SECRET

WASHINGTON, November 18, 1952.

Subject: Meeting regarding Military Assistance to the Government of Egypt

1. A meeting was held this date between representatives of the Department of State and the Department of Defense regarding subject assistance. The discussion centered on two lists of equipment which in the view of the Egyptian Government comprise an overall list of military equipment desired by their Armed Forces. The first list of equipment which has been pending since March 1952 comprises items originally intended for three mobile police divisions, operating in Alexandria and Cairo, but now desired for the Egyptian Army. The equipment has previously been allocated and earmarked by the Department of the Army for this project. The Department of Defense has been awaiting instructions from the Department of State concerning the release of this equipment for sale to the Government of Egypt since early September 1952. The second list comprises additional equipment for the Egyptian Armed Forces and is contained in a State Department Dispatch from Cairo dated 24 October 1952.¹ This list is quite elaborate and extensive as to quantities and types of equipment desired. With respect to the first list of equipment the following actions will be taken:

a. The Department of State is currently negotiating with the Egyptian Government the necessary agreement to enable the U.S. Government to make available the equipment on the original list to the Egyptian Army rather than to the police divisions.

b. At the conclusion of the agreement the State Department will approve the original request as a reimbursable aid transaction and authorize the Department of Defense to negotiate directly with the foreign government concerned.

c. Upon receipt of the approval of the Department of State the transaction will be approved by OMA and forwarded to the Department of the Army for necessary pricing and availability study and letter of offer to the military representatives of the Government of Egypt.

d. Upon acceptance by the Egyptian Government of the terms and conditions in the letter of offer, and deposit of funds for the equipment desired, the Department of the Army will make prompt

¹ Not printed. Under reference is despatch 754 from Cairo, Oct. 24. (774.56/10-2452)