

decision such as United States having primary responsibility for economic aid and United Kingdom for military assistance.

GIFFORD

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No. 1068

774.5/1-353: Telegram

*The Ambassador in the United Kingdom (Gifford) to the  
Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET      NIACT

LONDON, January 3, 1953—7 p. m.

3642. Following is text of paper entitled "United States position on immediate extension of military aid to Egypt" which we propose to give Britain Monday<sup>2</sup> in response to their request:

"1. The Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States are in agreement that the Government of General Naguib in Egypt affords the West Powers their best opportunity of working out satisfactory arrangements for the common defense of the area, not only with Egypt but eventually with the other Middle East States.

"2. The United Kingdom Government has concurred in the answer which the United States made to General Naguib on October 6, 1952, in response to his inquiry of September 18, indicating that it was ready to examine the possibility of extending material aid to Egypt, if Egypt for its part was ready to examine the possibility of entering into arrangements with the West Powers for mutual aid.

"3. General Naguib in a memorandum to the American Ambassador at Cairo dated November 10, 1952, indicated the willingness of his government to consider the eventual entry of Egypt into a system of Middle East defense with the West Powers, provided some solution could be found to the problem of British evacuation from the Canal Zone. With this communication he made formal request for military and economic assistance from the United States.

"4. The United Kingdom and the United States Governments are in agreement that it is in their best interests to maintain the Naguib regime in power. General Naguib has on numerous occasions indicated to the United States and United Kingdom Ambassadors in Cairo that, if he is to remain in power, he urgently needs aid from the West. He has made specific requests of the United

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Cairo as telegram 187.

<sup>2</sup> This U.S. paper appears in its original form as Appendix E of the "Agreed Record" of the United States-United Kingdom Talks on Egypt (774.5/1-1453), and it eventually became Annex A to Paper No. 4 of the United States-United Kingdom Talks with the following title: "United States Position on Extension of Military Aid to Egypt". (774.5/1-1453) For further information regarding its adoption as Annex A to Paper No. 4, see telegram 3691 from London, Document 1071.