

ruled, would take matter to Codomini. British hoped have formula whereby Governor General's actions would remain valid unless Codomini agreed to object. British believed this formula would be acceptable to Egyptians although recognizing that Egyptians would prefer prior approval advisory commission for exercise Governor General's emergency powers.

Foreign Office officials admitted that Sudanization issue might also prove "sticky" since UK could not permit this principle to be held as a "pistol to the head of the Sudan Government" to hasten departure of such British officials as new Sudan Government might wish retain as advisors. However, UK is entirely willing to agree that in three years time after constitution is promulgated, Sudanese shall be given right of self-determination.

I told Bowker that we attached greatest importance to earliest settlement Sudan problem and hoped UK would do all in its power to achieve agreement. I pointed out disastrous effect to all our plans in Egypt and Middle East if Sudan negotiations ended in failure.

GIFFORD

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No. 1075

7745 MSP/1-462. Telegram

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

SECRET

LONDON, January 9, 1953—7 p. m.

3774. From Byroade. Ambassador and I discussed Egypt with Eden after lunch today and explained to him why we considered interim arms program for Egypt essential if US is to give full support. it desires to UK in achievement common defense objectives Egypt and Middle East. I emphasized that equipment under \$11 million program would not actually reach Egypt for four months or so. I stressed that without interim arms program we would find ourselves in greatly weakened position vis-à-vis Egypt since it would mean that we had in fact ignored Egyptian request of November 10 which was in response US-United Kingdom agreed line. I recognized that we might have difficulty with Israel on this matter but felt that in the interests of western objectives, and even of Israel itself, we must take brunt of criticism and go ahead with arms program.

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<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Cairo as telegram 201.