

- "(a) Concern of Government of Israel; and
- "(b) Adherence of both Her Majesty's Government and United States Government to principle that Egyptian Government would normally obtain their armaments from their habitual sources of supply;
- "(c) Objection to giving prematurely what is likely to be chief inducement to Egyptians to join MEDO.

"4. Her Majesty's Government presume that this question will be referred to NEACC in Washington if that has not already been done.

Embassy officer, after receiving foregoing, said he wished ensure that there was no misunderstanding re our intention proceed immediately with arms negotiations with Egypt. Foreign Office official confirmed Her Majesty's Government understands this to be our intention. He expressed hope that Foreign Office could be kept informed re progress negotiations and would be particularly grateful for any indications which we could give during course negotiations of intention release any objectionable items.

HOLMES

No. 1098

745W.00/2-1253: Telegram

*The Chargé in the United Kingdom (Holmes) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET PRIORITY

LONDON, February 12, 1953—6 p. m.

4486. Eden made statement to crowded House this afternoon re signature Sudan agreement. Statement was, for most part, factual account of agreement, introduced by short history of dispute in which Eden contrasted Naguib's attitude toward Sudan with that of previous government. After referring to unilateral abrogation of 1899 condominium agreement and insistence of previous governments re unity of Nile Valley and recognition King's title, Eden spoke of "decisive step" taken by General Naguib in recognizing that Sudanese should have self-determination and that sovereignty should be reserved for Sudanese until that time. Eden said "I should like the House to realize the significance of this step. It completely changed the situation." Towards end of statement, Eden expressed hope that House would agree that arrangements constitute reasonable settlement of question which had "long bedevilled our relations with Egypt." He hoped agreement would be happy

¹ Repeated priority to Cairo as telegram 237 and to Khartoum as telegram 18.