

reconcile conflicting viewpoints. I know therefore you will make maximum effort, endeavoring especially prevent any hasty Egyptian rejection proposals. Prior formal British action and at earliest feasible moment, request you call on Naguib and present letter from President, text of which will be transmitted in subsequent telegram. I wish you would verbally indicate that US Government has reasons to believe UK prepared open discussions with Egypt in immediate future. US convinced sincerity British intention remove their garrison from the Canal Zone and their wish complete this movement as soon as possible. Problem lies in carrying out this intention in manner consistent with area defense and under circumstances which will not suggest to widespread elements of British opinion that a retreat has been made in face of a challenge, rather than an honorable agreement reached on basis of friendly understanding.

I realize there are involved in these discussions difficult political and public relations problems for both principals but am convinced that frank discussion and statesmanship can see matter through. You should also elaborate upon the President's message as to why in our opinion there is an inescapable link between what happens as regards evacuation and arrangements for the base and the defense of that area as well as of whole Middle East.

If things go well, it is my hope that at some stage a favorable opportunity may arise to introduce subject of Egyptian-Israeli peace.

DULLES

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No. 1132

774.13/3-2453: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Egypt*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET.  
PRIORITY

WASHINGTON, March 24, 1953—6:35 p. m.

1884. Personal for the Ambassador. Personal and confidential letter from the President to General Naguib referred to in preceding message is quoted below. Please deliver letter in accordance instructions contained that message.

*Verbatim text.*

<sup>1</sup> Repeated priority to London as telegram 6842. Drafted and approved by Byroade for transmission after obtaining clearance in draft from the President, the Secretary of State, and the Under Secretary of State.