

are agreed upon fundamentals, but it is important also that we agree upon tactics, since our experience shows that the Egyptians are only too ready to mistake any divergence in tactics for disagreement on our basic aims.

I hope you will forgive me for having written at such length. I have done so because I believe that Egypt is a test case. If we can get a settlement there, which the world will see has been achieved by our united efforts, the benefits both in the Middle East and elsewhere may spread out like ripples on a pond. I hope we can achieve it, but I am sure it will be a tough job.

Yours ever,

ANTHONY

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No. 1138

Presidential Correspondence, lot 66 D 204. "Churchill Correspondence with Eisenhower"

*Prime Minister Churchill to President Eisenhower*

LONDON, April 5, 1953.

MY DEAR FRIEND: 1. Thank you so much for your letter. <sup>1</sup>

You know the importance I attach to our informal interchange of thoughts.

2. Of course my Number One is Britain with her eighty million white English-speaking people working with your one-hundred-and-forty million. My hope for the future is founded on the increasing unity of the English-speaking world. If that holds all holds. If that fails no one can be sure of what will happen. This does not mean that we should seek to dominate international discussions or always try to say the same thing. There are some cases however where without offending the circle of nations the fact that Britain and the United States took a joint initiative might by itself settle a dispute peaceably to the general advantage of the free world.

3. It was for this reason that I hoped that Anglo-American unity in Egypt and also in the Levant including Israel, would enable us without bloodshed to secure our common military and political interests. I did not think it would have been wrong for Slim and Hull with our two Ambassadors to have presented the package to Naguib and then seen what he had to say about it. This was on the basis that you would not be asked by us to contribute money or men to any fighting if things went wrong as they may well do now.

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<sup>1</sup> Presumably the reference is to Eisenhower's message of Mar. 19, Document 1127.