

In light of this picture, we believe there is no need for British alarm and we propose therefore to hand Egyptian Embassy revised list on May 6. ²

DULLES

² On May 6 the Department, in telegram 2147 to Cairo, not printed, sent the following information:

"In response high level request from London transmitted by telephone, Department refrained (Deptel 2138 May 5) from giving Egyptians arms list today on pretext last minute administrative difficulties prevented final approval." (774.56/5-653)

No. 1154

741.56374/3-653: Telegram

*The Ambassador in the United Kingdom (Aldrich) to the
Department of State* ¹

SECRET PRIORITY

LONDON, May 6, 1953—8 p. m.

5966. Foreign Office has given us following version, based on Stevenson's report, ² of yesterday's meeting in Cairo:

1. At beginning of meeting, Fawzi said he wished enunciate certain principles:

a. That sovereignty, property and possession of base should belong exclusively to Egypt;

b. That British equipment left behind should be in Egyptian custody and to greatest possible extent handled by Egyptians with aid minimum number non-Egyptians who during their stay, fixed duration, should train Egyptians to take their place.

2. British replied that Fawzi was going against the understood purpose of the conversations which was to set up technical committees forthwith. The British found unacceptable the following Egyptian proposals:

a. That technical control of installations and contents base which were British-owned property should be in other than British hands;

b. That British technicians should be replaced by persons other than British after short period (or indeed, during duration of agreement).

c. That channel for technical instructions should be diplomatic.

¹ Repeated to Cairo as telegram 316.

² In his telegram 5965, May 6, not printed, Ambassador Aldrich reported that the Egyptians had succeeded in precipitating a deadlock in the Cairo talks; that the Foreign Office added that the talks had adjourned with no date set for their resumption; and that the Foreign Office had made no decisions as to its next move. (641.74/5-653)