

crete proposals for defense arrangement aligning Egypt and Arab States with West in more explicit fashion than previous Egyptian suggestions.

7. Above comments are made in view strong US friendship for Egypt and admiration Naguib regime, and in confidence he will feel able in interests of Egyptian people adopt position permitting US support Egypt in achievement its national aspirations.⁵

DULLES

⁵ Ambassador Caffery reported in telegram 2396, May 9, not printed, that he had developed the points set forth in Department telegram 2156 for the Egyptians, who were unhappy with these positions. He also informed the Department that the Egyptians did not expect Dulles to make any commitments or promises while he was in Cairo, but they planned nonetheless to explain fully their position to him. (641.74/5-953)

No. 1156

714.56/5-853: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Embassy in the United Kingdom

SECRET PRIORITY WASHINGTON, May 8, 1953—8:04 p. m.

7292. Text follows personal message from British Prime Minister and Acting Foreign Secretary to Secretary delivered by British Embassy May 7.

Verbatim text. 1. I have just heard from Aldrich that you are proposing to give the Egyptian Embassy in Washington today a list of arms and equipment which you would eventually be prepared to supply to the Egyptians. I have been following this matter very closely myself and I had hoped that you would be able to postpone any offer to the Egyptians.

2. I know that the first of the equipment will not be supplied for ninety days but this is a moment when the negotiations have reached a temporary breakdown. We have confined ourselves to the case agreed between us and the United States both under the late and the present American Administrations. We hope indeed that the negotiations may be resumed and I am sure you would greatly regret it if your intervention with an offer of arms contributed to a complete breakdown and this was followed by bloodshed on an indefinite scale. I cannot understand what can be the urgency of your presenting the list to the Egyptians or sending them the weapons. I trust therefore that you will reconsider your proposal. Surely you could in any case refrain from coming to a decision until after you yourself have had an opportunity in the next few days of seeing things on the spot and judging the situation at first-hand.

3. Apart from the above we have definite information that quite a number of German Nazis, possibly even the notorious Remer, have actually been engaged by Naguib and are training the Egyp-