

such channels as the Egyptian Government may prescribe, it being realized that efficiency and speed of communication is of the utmost importance in matters of this nature.

(f) That any arrangements proposed above shall not be inconsistent with Egyptian sovereignty nor with British ownership and use of the property concerned.

(g) That the Egyptian Government is conscious of the responsibility placed upon it as custodian of the base area, the purpose of which is to deter aggression against Middle East, as a whole, to supply forces beyond Egypt's borders and to increase the defenses of Egypt itself including the Suez Canal waterway. The Egyptian Government recognizes and has no intention of interference with the right of the British Government to direct the shipment of its equipment and supplies in the base to areas and forces outside Egypt.

(h) That the Committee will not concern itself with the duration in time of the arrangements which it proposes. This will be determined by the two delegations. *End verbatim text.*

DULLES

No. 1182

641.74/6-1153: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in Egypt*¹

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, June 11, 1953—4:28 p. m.

2346. Egyptian Ambassador orally informed Department June 10 his Government, after long deliberations Cairo, has taken decisions listed below. Action is result questions informally put to Ambassador previously by Department.

1. Assure US RCC will maintain quiet at least until after Bermuda conference. This done in awareness importance allowing US exert its influence for Canal Zone settlement under best possible conditions.

2. Give unqualified guarantee to British re shipment British supplies from Suez Base anywhere, anytime at British discretion. Form of guarantee would pose no problem to Egyptians.

3. Undertake in writing that Base will be available to "Egypt's Allies and to Allies of Egypt's Allies in case of land attack on frontiers of any Arab nation." Although not specific, Ambassador gave impression Egypt would prefer open agreement.

4. Once agreement reached on Base, to invite publicly US and UK military and economic technicians to discuss informally military and economic plans with Egyptian Government. Ambassador added "politicians" would be excluded.

¹ Repeated to London as telegram 7879. Drafted by Burgett and approved by Byrrode.