

Department considers above represents considerable advance by Egypt towards resolving Canal Zone problem. Large area agreement now appears exist between Egyptian position and US suggestions to UK. Accordingly US in stronger position to urge favorable British consideration US proposals. Egyptian decisions should in no way be made known to British at present.

Broader agreement on availability of Base still required. Embassy Cairo requested stress on appropriate occasions US conviction any general war will embrace Middle East regardless where starts. From military viewpoint essential use all facilities from beginning instead of leaving initiative to aggressor and delaying protective measures (full reactivation of Base) until area actually attacked. Officers of RCC should understand military logic this argument.<sup>2</sup>

DULLES

<sup>2</sup> Ambassador Caffery in telegram 2562, June 12, not printed, indicated his agreement with the contents of this final paragraph of Department telegram 2346 and added that the Embassy would continue to stress this view in the future. (641 74/6-1253)

### No. 1183

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

#### *Prime Minister Churchill to President Eisenhower*

SECRET

LONDON, June 15, 1953.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I look forward to a good talk about Egypt when we meet in Bermuda. Meanwhile, I think I must send you at once my first reactions to the new formula suggested in the message which I have just had from you.<sup>1</sup>

In the hope of reaching agreement with you and your predecessor we went over all this ground before and agreed to make a number of concessions to the Egyptian point of view. Our object in these discussions was not to obtain military or financial aid from the United States, but only their moral support in what we hoped would be a joint approach to the Egyptian dictatorship. However, you decided to defer to Egyptian objections to your representatives, including General Hull, taking part in the discussions. Since then we have been disappointed not to receive more support particularly in Cairo from your Government in spite of the numerous far-reaching concessions which we made in our joint discussions with you.

<sup>1</sup> Transmitted in telegram 7841 to London, Document 1179.