

thority take at his discretion steps outlined below as last resort measure to prevent definitive break.

Call on appropriate Egyptian officials and stress importance we attach to continuation talks and our conviction necessity agreements. He should state we believe parties close together on substantive points and remaining differences capable adjustment. He should add that he has been instructed to request delay in break in order permit US Government determine whether it able make any useful suggestions.

Immediately after call on Egyptians Caffery should inform Hankey<sup>2</sup> and advise him Embassy London approaching Foreign Office in same manner. Embassy London should act upon notification by Caffery of his call on Egyptians.

FYI Although we believe US should inject itself in talks only in extreme circumstances, our present thinking is we should be prepared to submit compromise formula in effort prevent breakdown talks.

DULLES

<sup>2</sup> Charge d'Affaires of the British Embassy in Cairo.

No. 1213

641.74/8-2553: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Egypt (Caffery) to the Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET

CAIRO, August 25, 1953—3 p. m.

253. British Embassy today supplied following re British-Egyptian talks yesterday (Embassy's 250).<sup>2</sup>

1. For Egyptian Foreign Minister Fawzi, Nasir and Hakim Amir; for UK Hankey, Robertson and Brig Dove. After unsuccessful attempt get Egyptians to express their views Robertson advanced substance new British formula London's 745<sup>3</sup> without giving text

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to London as telegram 84.

<sup>2</sup> Not printed.

<sup>3</sup> Ambassador Aldrich reported in telegram 745, Aug. 21, not printed, that the British Foreign Office had just given him a revised Canal Zone base reactivation formula, which was to be put to the Egyptians at the next meeting in Cairo:

"In the event of United Nations action to resist an act of aggression, or in the event of an attack on any Arab country by an outside power, the base area shall be at the full disposal of the UK. An attack on Turkey shall be regarded as an attack on an Arab country for the purposes of this agreement. In the event of an attack on Persia, or in the event of a threat of an attack on any of the above-mentioned countries, there shall be immediate consultation between the UK and Egypt." (741.56374/8-2153)