

No. 1220

641.74/9-533: Telegram

*The Secretary of State to the Embassy in the United Kingdom*¹

SECRET

WASHINGTON, September 12, 1953—1:39 p. m.

1354. In general and informal conversation with British Ambassador, Under Secretary took opportunity express Department's views re Egypt. He stated that neither the Secretary nor he wished to be in position of attempting to "quarterback"-negotiations which British were conducting. He stated however we had certain information from Egyptians we felt should be passed to British and wished at same time make certain observations. Substance of Cairo's 292, 293 and 302 given Makins.

Smith stated it was our own view that "poker game" was just about played out, and that we had feeling present Egyptian concessions on duration given Caffery were very close to all that could be obtained. He also pointed out from military point of view we felt present Egyptian position was satisfactory.

Makins reporting above conversation along with substance above-mentioned cables to London.

DULLES

¹ Repeated to Cairo as telegram 289. Drafted and approved by Byroade after being cleared in draft with the Under Secretary of State.

No. 1221

641.74/9-1953: Telegram

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

SECRET

NIACT

WASHINGTON, September 19, 1953—2:33 p. m.

324. Selwyn Lloyd in New York and British Ambassador here have presented latest British position on Egypt to the Secretary and Department. They state this to be their final position as worked out by the Cabinet after extensive deliberations. They request our full support, indicating their belief that with our support their offer would be accepted. Their position as follows:

Duration to be total of 7 years after conclusion of agreement (British Ambassador uncertain whether this means signature or

¹ Repeated priority to London as telegram 1481 and priority to the Secretary of State in New York as telegram 132. Drafted and approved by Byroade after the substance of the last paragraph had been cleared with Under Secretary Smith.