

installations or in transit between them they will normally wear distinctive civilian working dress. They may wear service uniforms when so directed by the Base Commander. The Base Commander shall so direct on appropriate occasions." This is in accord our view UK should meet Egyptian position on uniforms. Problem does not arise until after British forces withdraw by which time popular feeling towards British should have materially altered. By this time probable Egyptians willing authorize use service uniform on ceremonial occasions when desired by British.

London requested discuss with Foreign Office. At same time Embassy should inquire when British plan make next approach to Egypt. Our understanding of last meeting is that British told Egyptians they would consider situation and communicate with Egyptians.

DULLES

---

No. 1246

641.74/11-1258: Telegram

*The Ambassador in the United Kingdom (Aldrich) to the  
Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET

LONDON, November 13, 1953--7 p. m.

2095. Deptel 2570 re Suez base discussed today with Foreign Office official who undertook furnish comment soonest on our proposed wording re availability and uniforms. Foreign Office has sent instructions to British Ambassador Washington to inform Department that Foreign Office does not believe Egyptians oppose British availability formula on grounds possible invocation in an Arab-Israel conflict. Foreign Office believes Egyptian opposition more likely based on reluctance, admittedly understandable, make base automatically available under certain conditions without prior consultation.

Re wording Department reference telegram, preliminary Foreign Office reaction is that addition of specific recognition of responsibilities under UN Charter and Uniting for Peace resolution would probably not be objected to by British if this wording satisfactory to Egyptians. Foreign Office inclined to doubt latter would be case in view its interpretations, given above, of Egyptian opposition to availability formula but obvious unable speak for Egypt on this score.

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Cairo as telegram 51.