

rangements we may make between ourselves for the common good of our two countries.

I realize that this is a long and possibly a tedious cablegram. But it is quite necessary that there be the clearest kind of understanding between us if we are at one and the same time to operate together in some of these critical situations abroad and still be able to withstand any kind of political problem and criticism that can arise in our respective countries.

I shall look forward to early receipt of your comments.

With warm personal regard,

As ever,

IKK

No. 1259

641.74/12-2153: Telegram

*The Ambassador in Egypt (Caffery) to the Department of State*¹

SECRET

CAIRO, December 21, 1953—2 p. m.

702. Stevenson told me this morning that when he saw Fawzi December 19 (Embtel 697)² the latter affirmed that Egyptian policy, like that announced by Eden, is to continue efforts to reach an agreement. They agreed also that two most important outstanding points are availability and uniforms about which they might at a later date talk on a strictly personal basis.

Stevenson asked Fawzi to explain his "dark hint" to Hankey just before Hankey's departure to effect that "storm blowing up in Egypt". Fawzi replied that he had nothing specific in mind. In Egypt, as in UK, there is public opinion problem. He thought that if no agreement achieved, Egypt might very well feel it necessary to realign its policy in direction of neutralism.

RCC negotiators met yesterday with Egyptian Ambassadors from UK and US and another meeting planned December 24. My general impression, which is shared by British Embassy, is that it may take some days for RCC to study outcome parliamentary debate and oral reports of Ahmed Hussein and Haki and that in consequence Egyptians may withhold major moves until after holidays.

¹ Repeated to London as telegram 243.

² Ambassador Caffery reported in telegram 697, Dec. 19, not printed, that Stevenson had returned from consultations in London, and that he was seeing the Egyptian Foreign Minister later that day to try to ascertain what Egypt's intentions were with regard to resuming the negotiations. (641.74/12-1953)