

I feel I should not be doing my duty if I did not let you know what I believe to be the truth of the matter.²

[Here follow additional remarks about the European Defense Community.]

Kindest regards,

WINSTON

² According to a memorandum of telephone conversation which Secretary Dulles had with President Eisenhower on Dec. 23, 1953, the President "asked whether the Secretary had a copy of the latest one? [Telegram from Churchill.] He got it late last night and was very annoyed. He read portions of it--said he would have to acknowledge it but he was getting tired, we would have to get this back in diplomatic channels." (Eisenhower Library, Dulles papers, "Telephone Conversations")

No. 1262

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

President Eisenhower to Prime Minister Churchill

TOP SECRET

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1953.

DEAR WINSTON: I have your reply to my message.¹ We shall study it and you will hear further from us, probably through the State Department. Foster knows that I am anxious to find a way for us to conform as far as possible to your views on Egypt. Of course you know of our conviction that if we can together reach a prompt and completely successful arrangement with Iran, this will immeasurably strengthen our hands here at home against any opponent seeking to weaken our support of the efforts you are making to reaching a proper arrangement in Egypt.

Merry Christmas to you and yours.

As ever,

IKE

¹ *Supra*.