

No. 1286

741.56374/2-1264: Telegram

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

SECRET

WASHINGTON, February 16, 1954—5:40 p. m.

938. We do not anticipate any UK Cabinet decision on Egypt for at least ten days and see only slim prospects for significant modification in "Heads of Agreement".

Cairo's 901 and previous describe Nasir as waiting for UK reply to his suggestion re Turkey. British show no inclination to reply especially in absence direct approach to them and RCC endorsement.

We believe pressure should be maintained on RCC and especially Nasir to consider exhaustively consequences rejection present UK offer. As long as Nasir continues hope his suggestion re Turkey will produce important changes UK position, he unlikely face up to actual situation.

Accordingly Embassy requested at its discretion remind Nasir US views (Deptel 820) and suggest he consider advisability approaching UK directly re Turkey.

SMITH

¹ Repeated to London as telegram 4223. Drafted by Burdett and approved by Byroade.

No. 1287

641.74/2-1754: Telegram

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

SECRET

CAIRO, February 17, 1954—2 p. m.

926. Embassy is naturally losing no opportunity to impress upon RCC advantages of Anglo-Egyptian settlement and to make clear US view that British unlikely make further important concessions (Deptel 933).

On other hand I must emphasize conclusions reached in joint estimate (B II) in connection with availability and uniforms. Nothing has happened since that time to make either me or British Ambassador or our staffs change our minds in their regard.

Also I must point out again Egyptian impression as set out in second paragraph mytel 891 that British were striving all along to include Turkey and Iran in availability formula, primarily Turkey,

¹ Repeated to London as telegram 302.