

No. 1308

714.00/3-2754: Telegram

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

CONFIDENTIAL NIACT CAIRO, March 27, 1954—midnight.

1187. Good natured crowds started pro RCC demonstrations this evening downtown Cairo thence to RCC headquarters and dispersed. Press sources say other groups, mostly Wafd, meanwhile demonstrated pro Naguib.

ESB announced transport, textile, merchant, agricultural workers, and printing press syndicates various areas have come out against civilian government. Other sources say syndicates organizing sit down and hunger strikes against restoration political parties.

Few hours ago Major Amin Shaker called press conference and issued statement "in name RCC" denouncing Naguib as playing into hands of subversive elements. Shaker queried by well known Egyptian newsman later said he issued statement own authority not on behalf RCC and is withdrawing it. Meanwhile, wire services have sent stories.

CAFFERY

¹ Repeated to London priority as telegram 394.

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

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY CAIRO, March 28, 1954—noon.

1188. Re Embtel 1187, RCC subsequently denied Shaker statement.

On return from visit to Alexandria last night King Saud and Naguib held midnight meeting which Nasir and Sanhoury were shortly after invited to join. This morning's press announces meeting broke up 2:30 a. m. and will reconvene again this morning. Also announces Saud has postponed departure 24 hours presumably to mediate Naguib-RCC dispute.

¹ Repeated to London as telegram 395, to Amman as telegram 76, to Beirut as telegram 87, to Baghdad as telegram 50, to Damascus as telegram 40, to Jidda as telegram 32, and unnumbered to Paris, Bonn, Rome, and Valletta.