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DOS REVIEWED 07-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

REFER TO DOS

TO THE SITUATION ROOM

SECRET

OSD REVIEWED 01-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION.

MARCH 15, 1975

HAKTO 40

TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT
FROM: ROBERT OAKLEY
SUBJECT: TRAINING FOR THE EGYPTIAN ARMY

1. THE QUESTION OF U.S. TRAINING FOR THE EGYPTIAN ARMY REMAINS STUCK ON DEAD CENTER. AMBASSADOR EILTS AND GEORGE GUAY TELL ME THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE INCREASINGLY CONVINCED THE U.S. IS DELIBERATELY STALLING SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO VISIBLE ACTION ON EVEN THE SIMPLEST REQUESTS.

2. AFTER TALKING TO GUAY AND EILTS AND LOOKING AT THE THICK FILE OF MESSAGES BACK AND FORTH WITH DOD, THE SITUATION APPEARS TO BE AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE EGYPTIANS LONG AGO REQUESTED SLOTS FOR TWO OFFICERS AT RANGER TRAINING AND A FEW ADDITIONAL SLOTS FOR SIGNALS TRAINING. THEY HAVE NOT BEEN MORE PRECISE ABOUT SIGNALS BECAUSE GUAY IS UNDER ORDERS NOT TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT WHAT SPECIFIC COURSES ARE AVAILABLE. GUAY'S LONG-AGO REQUEST FOR MANUALS HAS NEVER BEEN MET.

B. DOD IS STAFFING A STUDY OF WHAT EGYPT MIGHT NEED AND IS CONSIDERING SENDING A TEAM TO CAIRO TO MAKE A SURVEY BUT NO IMPLEMENTING ACTION IS BEING TAKEN AND GUAY IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO TALK TO THE EGYPTIANS ABOUT ANY KIND OF TRAINING SINCE DOD SAYS (AS OF MARCH 4) THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION IS STILL PENDING.

C. HAK TOLD SADAT AND GAMASY ON THE LAST TRIP THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD APPROVED TRAINING WITH NO RESTRICTIONS.

D. AMBASSADOR EILTS AND GUAY VERY STRONGLY URGE THAT DOD AUTHORIZE GUAY TO TALK TO THE EGYPTIANS AT ONCE IN ORDER FIRST TO GET A CLEAR READING ON THEIR DESIRES FOR SIGNALS TRAINING. (HE HAS ENOUGH INFORMATION ON HAND TO DO THIS.) THEN THEY URGE EARLIEST POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENT OF THE EGYPTIAN OFFICERS TO DEFINITE RANGER AND SIGNALS COURSES. THIS WOULD

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN, SEC FLE

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SHOW SOME GOOD FAITH. THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY MORE GENERAL PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GUAY AND THE EGYPTIANS ON TRAINING, AND BY PRESENTATION OF REQUESTED MANUALS.

2. ONCE THE EGYPTIANS BECOME CLEARER ABOUT THEIR NEEDS AND THE POSSIBILITIES OF U.S. TRAINING, CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HAVING A U.S. TEAM COME TO CAIRO AND AN EGYPTIAN TEAM COME TO THE U.S. FOR A BROAD SURVEY.

3. BASED ON MY KNOWLEDGE OF THIS GROTESQUE BUREAUCRATIC FARCE, I SEE NO REASON WHY GUAY SHOULD NOT BE AUTHORIZED BY DOD TO TALK TO THE EGYPTIANS ABOUT TRAINING. BY THE TIME HE IS ABLE TO PIN DOWN THE RANGER AND THE SIGNALS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS THERE WILL EITHER BE A SECOND-STAGE AGREEMENT IN SIGHT, SO WE SHOULD HAVE NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH CONGRESS OVER TRAINING A FEW EGYPTIAN OFFICERS, OR SUCH A MESSY SITUATION WILL HAVE DEVELOPED THAT THE EGYPTIANS WILL CANCEL THE REQUEST. EITHER WAY, WE WILL HAVE DONE WHAT WE DECIDED TO DO AND TOLD THE EGYPTIANS WE WOULD DO.

4. ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO BREAK THE LOG-JAM WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

5. I HAVE NOT BOTHERED HAK WITH THIS BUT WILL DO SO IF YOU WISH. ROY ATHERTON FULLY CONCURS.

6. WARM REGARDS.

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