

No. 13918

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND  
and  
EGYPT**

**Exchange of notes constituting an arrangement concerning  
assistance by the United Kingdom in the clearance of  
the Suez Canal. Cairo, 14 May 1974**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on  
28 April 1975*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
ÉGYPTE**

**Échange de notes constituant un arrangement relatif à une  
assistance du Royaume-Uni en vue du déblaiement du  
canal de Suez. Le Caire, 14 mai 1974**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 28 avril  
1975.*

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT CONCERNING ASSISTANCE BY THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE CLEARANCE OF THE SUEZ CANAL

I

*The British Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at Cairo  
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt*

BRITISH EMBASSY  
CAIRO

14 May 1974

Your Excellency

I have the honour to refer to discussions between this Embassy and officials of the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt concerning the offer by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of assistance in the clearance of the Suez Canal of mines and unexploded ordnance and to propose an arrangement in the following terms:

(1) The Government of the United Kingdom shall deploy Her Majesty's Ships *Maxton*, *Bossington* and *Wilton*, minehunters, and Her Majesty's Ship *Abdiel*, the mine counter-measures support vessel, with members of the Fleet Clearance Diving Team and such other UK personnel as are necessary for their support, called hereinafter "the British Force" to assist in the underwater clearance of explosive ordnance.

(2) The Government of the United Kingdom shall without setting a specific time limit to the availability of this Force keep the matter under review in consultation with the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The British Force shall co-ordinate their activities with those of the Egyptian Armed Forces and the forces of any other countries who may have been invited to participate in the operation, the arrangements for this co-ordination being as may be agreed between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Egypt from time to time. The Government of the United Kingdom shall bear the costs, including the pay of personnel, that would have been incurred by the units concerned even if they had not come to Egypt and shall, in addition, provide on grant terms for such supplementary costs as shall not be borne by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt. These grants shall be offset by a corresponding deduction from the loan funds made available under the United Kingdom/Egypt Loan Agreement 1972.<sup>2</sup>

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of Egypt, I have the honour to propose that this note together with Your Excellency's reply in that sense, shall constitute an arrangement between the two Governments which shall enter into force on the date of Your Excellency's reply and shall remain in force until the day of the departure of the British Force from Egyptian territory or territorial waters.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 14 May 1974, the date of the note in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 866, p. 33.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

RICHARD FABER

II

*The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt  
to the British Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at Cairo*

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

14 May 1974

M. Chargé d'Affaires

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of today's date which reads as follows:

[*See note I*]

In reply I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt who therefore agree that Your note and the present reply shall constitute an arrangement between the two Governments which shall enter into force on today's date. Further details concerning this arrangement will be worked out, as may be necessary, between the two Governments.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you M. Chargé d'Affaires, the assurance of my high consideration.

ISMAIL FAHMY  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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