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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: AUG 21 2018

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Lieutenant General Mohamed Abdel Halem Abou Ghazala
Minister of Defense and Military Production
Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Defense
Cairo, Egypt

Dear General Ghazala:

(S) In response to our recent conversations and your letter of October 12, 1981, we have moved forcefully in a number of important ways to demonstrate United States support for Egypt. We are also accelerating equipment deliveries to Sudan. As I assured you, we are doing our best to meet Egypt's and Sudan's most urgent security needs in the context of events in the region.

(S) Two AWACS aircraft were temporarily deployed to Egypt to conduct joint training and surveillance operations. We are prepared to conduct additional AWACS deployments in the future as the situation in the region requires and we mutually agree.

(S) Exercise BRIGHT STAR 82 has been expanded to include participation of AWACS aircraft and an element of U.S. Air Force F-16 aircraft. Some of the F-16 aircraft will remain in Egypt after the exercise to begin the promised early training for Egyptian Air Force personnel.

(S) The U.S. Air Force has been directed to provide air-to-air refueling training for Egyptian Air Force F-4 pilots and is ready to proceed immediately with detailed planning.

(S) With reference to your priorities and programs, we have focused initially on those items that you identified as "immediate" needs, required by June 1982. As you know, many deliveries are already scheduled in that time frame and we have been able to make other significant improvements. As a result, the following major equipment will be delivered to Egypt by the end of June 1982:

- 183 M60A3 tanks
- 13 M88A1 tank recovery vehicles
- 296 M113A2 armored personnel carriers (including 40 just released to the freight forwarder)

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- 79 M106A2 mortar carriers
- 41 M125A2 mortar carriers
- 20 M577A2 command post carriers
- 54 M548 cargo carriers (including 12 just released to the freight forwarder)
- 18 M113 fitters
- 17 M113A2 ambulances (including 16 just released to the freight forwarder)
- 113 ground TOW launchers (40 of these are for the Improved TOW Vehicle program)
- 2400 Improved TOW missiles
- 300 CBU-20 ROCKEYE Bombs
- 9 F-16 fighter aircraft

(S) We can also meet your requests to accelerate the current 12 I-HAWK battery program, including the delivery by April 82 of a tactical I-HAWK battery to be used as a training battery. However, I must caution you that acceleration could have an adverse impact on your I-HAWK program; it will disrupt the careful synchronization which we have planned between equipment arrival and training programs. Because of this potential impact I propose sending a team of U.S. experts to discuss the various I-HAWK acceleration options and what risks they impose on your program. After a joint review in Cairo with the Air Defense Command, and their report to you, I will take the actions necessary to implement your decision in this matter.

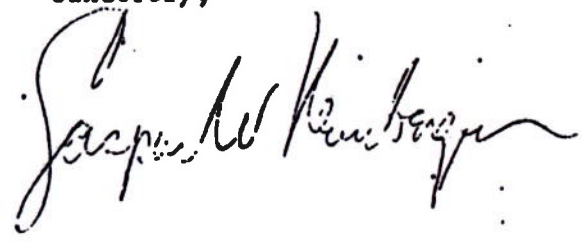
(S) I am sure you will concur that these projected deliveries constitute a major response to your most immediate needs. We cannot, however, meet all your requests for accelerated deliveries because of a variety of constraints: special configuration requirements, production line capacity and schedules, non-availability from U.S. stocks, and current funding limitations. It will be important to discuss the detailed implications of these constraints as well as your post June 1982 requirements at the first U.S. Egyptian Military Coordinating Committee meetings.

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(S) In the interim, I want to stress again to you our full support for Egypt and our determination to do everything possible to meet your most urgent security needs.

Sincerely,



Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
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