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MEDIATION IN CAIRO DISAVOWED BY U. S.

But Washington Is Continuing to Use Its 'Good Offices' and to Urge Moderation

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29—The United States is using its "good offices" to bring the British-Egyptian dispute to an end, but it has no plans to mediate "in any formal sense," the State Department announced today.

The reluctance of the Government to take a more active part in the much-desired settlement of the London-Cairo conflict, it was indicated, is based on two factors: First, the United States has not been invited to mediate and, second, it is felt here that the United States is not qualified to act as mediator in view of its co-sponsorship with Britain, France and Turkey of the proposed Middle East command, which Egypt has rejected.

Michael J. McDermott, State Department press officer, set forth the United States position in a brief statement at a news conference, at which he was asked what the "next move" might be. Aside from "urging moderation" and "using good offices" to end the controversy and bloodshed, he said, there would be no mediation.

In Touch With Both Sides

"Suggestion that the United States is mediating or will mediate the Anglo-Egyptian dispute in any formal sense is pure speculation, nothing more," the State Department's spokesman said.

"The United States was and is a party to the four-power proposal made to Egypt—the Middle East command. We are, of course, in touch with the British on the situation in Egypt and Ambassador [Jefferson] Caffery is in close touch with the Egyptian Government. We are exercising our good offices to the extent that that is possible at the present time. But I emphasize that we are not mediating in any sense of that word."

Asked how the "good offices" of the Government were being exercised, Mr. McDermott replied: "We are urging both sides to use moderation."

Asked whether, in view of the reluctance of the United States Government to mediate, it would propose a more eligible country for that role, Mr. McDermott said he did not believe anyone had given any thought to that possibility.

Mr. McDermott said that the United States was not yet ready to comment on the new Egyptian Government. Asked whether it was planned to resubmit the Middle East Command proposals to the new regime, he said he did not know of any plans.

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