Washington Is Silent
Special to The New York Times.
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WASHINGTON, May 20—A State Department spokesman declined tonight to comment on reports the United States was backing a reported British plan for ending London's dispute with Egypt over the Suez Canal zone.

He declared, however, that no joint approach with Britain was being planned on any such proposal. He declined to say whether the United States was willing to back quietly the reported plan or whether it had even been informed on the proposal.

The United States in the past has shied away from any "joint approaches," preferring to remain in the role of "honest broker" between both sides to the dispute. But last spring, it was recalled, the United States did join with Britain in urging Egypt to reopen the suspended talks on the canal zone.

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