LONDON AND CAIRO INITIAL SUEZ PACT FOR BRITAIN'S EXIT
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80,000 Troops to Leave in 20 Months, Ending 72-Year Military Occupation

BASE TO BE REAVAILABLE

West to Use It if Turkey or Arab States Are Attacked—7-Year Maintenance Set

The text of the Anglo-Egyptian agreement is on Page 2.

By ROBERT C. DOTY
Special to The New York Times.

CAIRO, July 27—Britain and Egypt tonight reached agreement on broad terms for ending seventy-two years of British military occupation in this country.

The accord, initialed at 9:20 P. M., Cairo time, in the office of Lieut. Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, the Egyptian Premier, promises to end once and for all the long drawn dispute over control of the Suez Canal zone that has poisoned relations between Egypt and the West and cost forty-seven British lives and at least twice as many Egyptian in sporadic guerrilla warfare.

The first immediate effect of the initialing of the agreement was the lifting of all onerous restrictions, imposed on British personnel in the zone when feeling between the two countries ran high.

Maj. Salah Salem, Minister of National Guidance, said British military personnel would again be welcome in Cairo, Alexandria and other Egyptian cities provided they were in mufti.

The limitations on the sales of all kinds of merchandise, including particularly fresh fruits, vegetables and beer by Egyptian vendors to the British personnel would be speedily ended, Major Salem said.

Nasser Hails Agreement

"This is a good agreement on which we can start at once to build a new basis of relationship with Britain and the West," Premier Nasser said.

He and his fellow negotiators faced crowds of Egyptians pouring into his office to embrace the leaders emotionally and to offer congratulations to the men who, finally, appeared to have achieved the goal of full Egyptian independence.

In statements to the press, and to the public in a short radio broadcast, Premier Nasser stressed the fact that with the achievement of full sovereignty the task before the revolutionary leaders and all Egyptians was to build up the country socially and economically. In this the regime hopes to have assistance from the United States, which thus far has withheld economic aid at the request of Britain pending settlement of the canal zone dispute.

The main provisions of the "Heads of Agreement" call for the evacuation of the last of the 80,000-man British force from the canal zone within twenty months from the signing of a detailed agreement that is still to be negotiated; agreement for seven years from the date of signature permitting the re-entry of British forces to meet an attack on Egypt, any Arab state or Turkey; and for the maintenance of British stores and installations in the base by British or Egyptian

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civilian contractors during the period of the agreement.

The communiqué announced that the "Heads of Agreement" setting forth the principles "upon which it is proposed to draw up an agreement regarding the Suez base" had been initialed by Premier Nasser and Antony Head, British Secretary of State for War.

The terms agreed upon represented a compromise by both delegations on the points that threatened to bog down the negotiations less than a week ago. Only the arrival of Mr. Head, armed with authority from the British Cabinet to make and demand concessions, permitted the conclusion of the agreement tonight, just a day and a half after his arrival in Cairo.

The British gave up their insistence on a long-term agreement of from ten to twenty years covering the reactivation of the base. They accepted the seven-year term, agreed upon in the abortive negotiations of last fall, plus a provision that during the last twelve months of the agreement the two governments would consult on arrangements necessary at that time.

Premier Nasser and his colleagues yielded to the British view on the length of time necessary to complete the evacuation of combat troops, some supplies and the turnover of the installations to civilian contractors for maintenance.

Last fall it had been agreed that the troops were to leave within fifteen months from the signing of an agreement. Since drafting of the agreement, then and now, is expected to take at least three months, this meant in effect that Britain had eighteen months in which to vacate under the old formula. This, the Egyptians had insisted on maintaining until tonight, while the British argued that the more complete evacuation envisaged at this time would take two years.

The formula adopted—twenty months from the signing of the new agreement—means that Britain's Mid-East command will have very close to two years in which to pack up and be off.

Britain made a further concession by withdrawing her demand that an attack on Iran should also be made the occasion for reactivating the base. On the other hand, Britain got a commitment from Egypt to engage in "immediate consultation" in the event that any of the countries that are to be covered by the base came under "threat of attack."

Other points of the agreement listed in the ten-paragraph document and annex of six paragraphs cover the conditions under which British or Egyptian commercial concerns shall maintain on behalf of Britain certain key installations in the $750,000,000 base.

The number of civilian technicians to be employed is not specified. According to one of the Egyptian negotiators, the total probably will be fewer than 3,000. The British Government retains the right to inspect the installations retained for British requirements.

Mr. Head was en route back to London tonight aboard a Royal Air Force plane.

The accord was reached in the seventh negotiating session in a period of seventeen days, beginning July 10 when Sir Ralph Stevenson, the British Ambassador, handed the new British proposals to Premier Nasser.

Since 1946 five previous attempts to settle the Suez question and pave the way for the strengthening of the West's defenses in this area had failed.

Throughout the last two years United States Ambassador Jefferson Caffery has played a significant role in efforts to bring about a settlement of Britain's dispute with Egypt that blocked effective application of United States policy here and elsewhere in the Middle East. He is credited with obtaining from Premier Nasser the agreement to include Turkey among the states in whose defense the canal base would be reactivated.

This produced a reciprocal concession in the form of Britain's decision to leave the base entirely in civilian hands. This provided the basis for renewed negotiations that ended successfully tonight.

Following the initialing the Egyptian Cabinet met and approved the accord. Premier Nasser and Squadron Leader Hassan Ibrahim, Minister for Affairs of the Republic, then went to visit Maj. Gen. Naguib, Egypt's President, at his home in suburban Zeitoun.

The two visitors spent forty-five minutes with the President but did not disclose the nature of their errand. President Naguib was defeated by Premier Nasser in a political test of strength last spring.

Premier Nasser, in the past, has been at pains to get the President committed on each major policy decision, both to enlist his popular following in support of a given action and to forestall any attempt by President Naguib to go into opposition again.

President Naguib, when asked by reporters to comment on the accord, replied that he was tired, suffering from rheumatism and had not had time to study the document.

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