BRITAIN LIFTS BAN ON ARMS TO EGYPT
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pg. 1

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Says '50 Curb on Aggression Stands—Israel Makes Plea for Security Assurance

Special to The New York Times.

LONDON, Aug. 30—The embargo on the sale of British arms to Egypt was lifted today as a result of the agreement on the Suez Canal base. The ban was imposed in October, 1951, after Egypt had abrogated the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936.

The Foreign Office, in making the announcement, said the Government of Israel also had been informed of the decision.

[Israel called Monday for deeds to back up United States and British reassurances on her security. She criticized arms aid to Arab states and the British-Egyptian accord on the Suez Canal zone as signs of a lack of concern for her welfare.]

The British spokesman called attention to the fact that the purchase of arms still was governed by the assurance that the weapons would not be used for aggression.

That assurance was spelled out in the three-power agreement of 1950, in which Britain, France and the United States proclaimed the sanctity of the existing boundaries in the Middle East. Egypt and all other nations in the area had to give such an assurance before they were

Continued on Page 4, Column 2

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Continued From Page 1

allowed to purchase weapons, and the assurance still is binding.

Israel's reaction can be expected to be sharply unfavorable, but the British answer is that today's action only removes a one-sided discrimination against Egypt and restores a situation in which Egypt, not a manufacturing nation, traditionally turned to Britain for armament.

Israel, which also uses many British arms, is equally free to purchase them here, although Britain hopes the outcome will not be an arms race.

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