Cairo Firm on Curbing Passage
Special to The New York Times.
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CAIRO, Jan. 4—Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzi said today that Egypt's decision to release the vessel would not affect her position regarding her right to refuse canal passage to Israeli shipping.

Mr. Fawzi reminded the Ambassadors of the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, Iran and Turkey that a state of war still existed between Egypt and Israel. He added that Egypt already had refused to accept the Security Council resolution that the canal should be opened to all ships and that Egypt objected to further discussion of the subject.

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