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EXCHANGE OF NOTES

between the Government of the Union of South Africa
and the Egyptian Government

regarding

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

Cairo, May 8/31, 1939

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON

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EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA AND THE EGYPTIAN GOVERN-
MENT REGARDING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

Cairo, May 8/31, 1939.

No. 1.

Sir M. Lampson to A. Yehia Pasha.

British Embassy,

Cairo, May 8, 1939.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, at the instance of His Majesty's Government in the Union of South Africa, to invite a reference to my note of the 19th December, 1938, in which I conveyed to your Excellency the proposals of the Government of the Union of South Africa for the conclusion of a preliminary commercial agreement between the Governments of the Union of South Africa and Egypt. As the negotiation of such a preliminary agreement must necessarily occupy some time, and in view of the desire of the two Governments to regulate their commercial relations pending the conclusion of such an agreement, I have the honour, on behalf of the Government of the Union of South Africa, to inform your Excellency that the Government of the Union of South Africa will extend to products of Egypt imported therefrom into the Union of South Africa and the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa the benefits of most-favoured-nation treatment, excluding the special privileges accorded to members of the British Commonwealth of Nations and to adjoining territories, on condition that products of the Union of South Africa and of the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa are accorded similar benefits on their importation into Egypt, excluding special privileges accorded to any countries adjoining Egypt.

2. The two Governments, however, agree that the goods benefiting by this proposal shall be confined to goods imported direct to the territory of either contracting party from the territory of the other; and that such goods must be accompanied by certificates of origin in addition to bills of lading.

3. I have the honour to state further that, if the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Egyptian Government, this note and your Excellency's confirmatory reply in similar terms shall be regarded as constituting an agreement in this matter between the Government of the Union of South Africa and the Royal Egyptian Government, with retroactive effect from the 16th February, 1939, provided, however, that the agreement will lapse if not ratified by resolution of both Houses of Parliament of the Union of South

Africa during the present session of Parliament, and, if so ratified, it shall remain in force until superseded by the more comprehensive agreement now under discussion or until the expiration of three calendar months from the date on which notice of termination shall have been given by either Government to the other.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your Excellency the assurance of my very high consideration.

MILES W. LAMPSON.

No. 2.

A. Yehia Pasha to Sir M. Lampson.

Ministère des Affaires Étrangères,

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le Caire, le 31 mai 1939.*

J'AI l'honneur d'accuser réception de la lettre de votre Excellence du 8 mai 1939 ainsi conçue :

[As in No. 1.]

En réponse, je m'empresse de confirmer à votre Excellence l'accord de mon Gouvernement sur les bases ci-dessus, et je saisis l'occasion pour vous renouveler, M. l'Ambassadeur, les assurances de ma très haute considération.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,

A. YEHIA.

(Translation.)

Ministry for Foreign Affairs,

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Cairo, May 31, 1939.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Note of the 8th May, 1939, which reads as follows:—

[As in No. 1.]

In reply I hasten to confirm to your Excellency the agreement of my Government to the conditions mentioned above, and I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to you, M. l'Ambassadeur, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A. YEHIA,

Minister for Foreign Affairs.