

No. 3461

**SYRIA
and
EGYPT**

Joint Defence Agreement (with exchange of letters and annex). Signed at Damascus, on 20 October 1955

Official text: Arabic.

Registered by Syria on 5 July 1956.

**SYRIE
et
ÉGYPTE**

Accord de défense commune (avec échange de lettres et annexe). Signé à Damas, le 20 octobre 1955

Texte officiel arabe.

Enregistré par la Syrie le 5 juillet 1956.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3461. JOINT DEFENCE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT. SIGNED AT DAMASCUS, ON 20 OCTOBER 1955

The Governments of Syria and Egypt,

With a view to strengthening the principles of the Pact of the League of Arab States² and reaffirming the loyalty of the contracting States to those principles,

Desiring to develop and strengthen military co-operation between them with a view to protecting the independence of their two countries and safeguarding their security; firmly believing that the establishment of a security system common to their two countries will constitute a major factor in guaranteeing the security and independence of each; wishing to achieve their desire for their common defence and the maintenance of security and peace in accordance with the principles and purposes of the Pact of the League of Arab States and the Charter of the United Nations,

And pursuant to the provisions of the first paragraph of article 9 of the Pact of the League of Arab States,

Have resolved to conclude an agreement for that purpose and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

For the Government of the Syrian Republic:

His Excellency Mr. Rashad Barmada, Minister of National Defence,

For the Government of the Republic of Egypt:

His Excellency General Mahmoud Riad, Egyptian Ambassador to Syria,

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The two Contracting States affirm their desire for the maintenance of security and peace and their determination and resolve to settle all their international disputes by peaceful means.

Article 2

The two Contracting States consider any armed attack against either State or its forces as an attack against both. Accordingly, and in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence, they undertake to hasten to each other's

¹ Came into force on 6 November 1955 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Damascus, in accordance with article 13.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 70, p. 237.

assistance in case of an attack and to take immediately all appropriate measures and use all the means at their disposal, including armed force, to repel the attack and to restore security and peace.

In accordance with article 6 of the Pact of the League of Arab States and Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, the attack, and the measures and procedures adopted to repel it, shall be immediately reported to the Council of the League and to the Security Council.

Each Contracting State undertakes not to conclude a separate peace or to enter into any agreement with the aggressor without the consent of the other.

Article 3

The two Contracting States shall, at the request of either of them, consult together whenever international relations are seriously strained and disrupted in a manner affecting the territorial integrity or independence of either of them.

In the event of an imminent threat of war or of a sudden dangerous emergency, the two Contracting States shall immediately take the preventive and defensive measures required by the situation.

Article 4

In the event of a sudden attack on the frontiers or the forces of either Contracting State, the two States shall immediately determine the necessary measures to put the provisions of this Agreement into effect, in addition to the military measures taken to meet the attack.

Article 5

With a view to accomplishing the purposes of this Agreement, the two Contracting States have agreed to establish the following bodies :

- A Supreme Council ;
- A War Council ;
- A Joint Command.

Article 6

1. The Supreme Council shall consist of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Ministers of War (or Defence) of the Contracting States. The Council shall constitute the official authority to which the Commander-in-Chief of the Joint Command shall be subordinate and from which he shall receive all higher directives on military policy. The Council shall have the power to appoint and dismiss the Commander-in-Chief.