

Middle East. We have not available the information covering actual shipments during this period, but we may assume that it corresponds with the permits issued if allowance is made for a time lag between the issue of permits and the completion of delivery. It is very difficult to compile data on the actual deliveries, since it involves detailed enquiries from the customs clearance ports or, alternatively, a thorough study of export statistics in which items of this nature are buried as inconspicuously as possible and not, of course, related to the corresponding export permits.

9. We are inevitably unable to present a complete report on requests which have not been followed through and approved, since such requests may take the form of enquiries to private firms which are not pursued further and never reported. To supplement the information on permits issued, which appears in the Table mentioned above, I am preparing a list of requests or enquiries which appear in our files but did not lead to the issue of an export permit. I hope to submit this list to you in the near future, and while there can be no assurance that it is complete, I am confident that it will indicate all the important items.

J. L[ÉGER]

P.S.:

I might offer an additional comment on the question of the military capability of the 15 Harvards.

The release of such aircraft — whether as pure pilot trainers or as machines with (very limited) military capabilities — would seem to be quite consistent with the statement<sup>15</sup> which you made to the House on Tuesday covering the considerations governing the export of arms to the Middle East. It can scarcely be argued that such equipment would tend to disturb the stability of the Middle East or that its release to Egypt was improper unless it is maintained that the export of *any* military or semi-military items to *any* country in that area should be prohibited by Canada and presumably by all other western countries.

In the light of these considerations our approval of this transaction was not dependent on detailed knowledge of the particular version of Harvard in question. Enquiries from countries in the Middle East concerning the availability of modern combat aircraft, such as the F-86, have of course been treated as quite a different matter. Such enquiries have been received from both Israel and Egypt and have not been approved.

11.

DEA/50000-A-40

*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
pour le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

SECRET

[Ottawa], January 30, 1956

#### EXPORT OF ARMS TO SENSITIVE AREAS

I attach a table showing the amounts by countries of permits issued during 1954 and 1955 for the export of arms to sensitive areas. The total, as you will note, is just over five million dollars, while the total for the Middle East countries on which you have already reported to the House is just under three million dollars. Thus the figure for other sensitive areas is somewhat over two million dollars.

<sup>15</sup> Voir Canada, Chambre des Communes, *Débats*, 1956, volume I, pp. 191-192.

See Canada, House of Commons, *Debates*, 1956, Volume I, pp. 183-184.