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## \$3 Million Bribery of Nasser by U.S. Bared

Miles Copeland, former U.S. diplomat and author of "The Game of Nations," had been a close friend of the late Gamal Abdel Nasser since 1953, when Copeland first served as a consultant to the Egyptian government. Here Copeland describes some of Nasser's attitudes toward Israel and the United States.

In an accompanying article, correspondent George Weller of the Chicago Daily News Foreign Service calls Copeland's relationship with Nasser "the greatest personal duel in modern espionage."

# Egyptian Paid Off In \$10 Bills

By George Weller  
Chicago Daily News Service

With the final rest of U.A.R. President Gamal Abdel Nasser in his neighborhood mosque, that uneasy soul ends the greatest personal duel in modern espionage: the gentlemanly struggle between him and the CIA.

Nasser's most massive monument is the great dam and lake at Aswan named after him, and built by the Russians. But the monument by which the American agency will be remembered in Nasser's age is the soaring white pencil of the "Tower of Cairo," a \$3 million joke.

When Nasser came to power in 1952, the CIA had a notion that they had to pay him to keep his friendship. Three million dollars seemed about right as an opener.

### Wanted to Know More

When \$2,999,990 in \$10 bills was delivered to him — a quick-fingered Lebanese middleman took the extra \$10 — Nasser hesitated whether to toss it back to them scornfully.

But knowing how stingy the intelligence services of other powers are, Nasser decided to find out more about the lavish Americans.

Instead of salting the American bribe away in Switzerland in the customary fashion of African and Latin

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statesmen, he built a deliberately unfunctional tower. Even today, beside the Nile, it looks like a missile that aborted and never left the ground.

Since the covers of the CIA men were transparent, Nasser was early confronted with the same problem as the Israelis: How to make friends with the spies, without seeming to compromise their disguise.

Why did he not simply throw out the spies?

Because he, like the Israelis, valued them as a second pipeline through which to send Washington his own views, which might be screened too crudely if sent through the State Department.

### Gains Agent's Confidence

Gently he drew tall, amiable Miles Copeland, the CIA agent trained in Syria's intrigue, into his confidence. He once told him: "The genius of you Americans is that you never make clean-cut stupid moves, only complicated stupid moves. In that way, you make us work at the possibility that there may be something to them we are missing."

The frolic of Nasser and his confidant-spy came to a gradual decline when Copeland went into private business in Beirut.

Copeland has written a brilliant book, "The Game of Nations," on his years with Nasser.

A leading character is one of the current possibilities for president of the U.A.R., Gen Zachariah Mohieddin.

### Nasser War Version

Here is Nasser's version of how the six-day war got started, as Copeland learned it, when Nasser ordered Mohieddin to fly to New York and consult with the Americans.

"Nasser planned his operation in detail right up to the moment Vice President Zakariah Mohieddin, in Nasser's name, was to back down magnanimously (over the Straits of Tiran issue) in response to appeals from the United Nations.

"The Israelis had no wish to let Nasser get away with such a prestige-building gesture. Despite their promise to President (Lyndon B.) Johnson that they would hold off until Zakariah got to New York, the Israelis struck on the very morning Zakariah was supposed to depart. After all, they had been rehearsing their assault for years, and never again would they get such favorable circumstances in which to launch it."