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Authority (WJ) 969 045  
By (MC) NARA Date 7/26/01

DEPARTMENT  
**AIR**

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1968-4-3, Nasser, Students, ASU  
TO : Department of State

HANDLING INDICATOR  
UAR 11111111

APR 15 8 29 AM 1968

FROM : US Interests Section, Cairo, UAR

SUBJECT : UAR Internal Politics as Seen by a Student at Cairo University

REF :

A fourth year student at Cairo University who is from an upper middle class western-oriented family had the following to say on April 2 about the recent student demonstrations and current student attitudes toward President Nasir's "Program of March 30." He was careful to qualify his statements as not necessarily representative of all students' views, for, as he said, the student body is too large and heterogeneous for one person to have wide enough contacts within it to assess it in its entirety. In most instances, however, he felt that the views he expressed were representative of a majority of his fellows.

THE ARAB SOCIALIST UNION (ASU) IN CAIRO UNIVERSITY: Until about a year ago the ASU unit at Cairo University was active and there was a fair amount of student participation in the activity it sponsored. This activity consisted of seminars and discussion groups on political subjects, meetings to discuss university-student relationships, and two week sessions at ASU Youth camps devoted mainly to political indoctrination. Participation has dwindled almost to the point of no activity. The ASU unit within the University has become unimportant and is in general regarded as having been a failure and a sham. One main reason for this is that all matters concerning student-university relationships eventually wound up in the hands of "faculty advisors" to the ASU and were settled in favor of the establishment. Thus it became evident that the rigmarole of meetings and discussions was simply a meaningless exercise designed to lull students into a false sense of contributing to university management policy. A second reason is that the youth camp sessions were held in an atmosphere of complete isolation and were so patently an indoctrination device that students preferred not to attend.

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WBBromell/HEB 4,3,68

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