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 By D NARA Date 3/21/84  
**FOREIGN** TCH

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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

April 27, 1953  
 DATE

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SUBJECT: Communism in the Sudan Defense Force

A serious potential threat to security in the Sudan is created by infiltration of Communism among the privates in the Sudan Defense Force, according to Babiker ED DEEB, Assistant Commissioner of Police. According to ed Deeb, five per cent of the privates are Communists or Communist sympathizers at the present time. Privates compose about sixty per cent of the SDF, the remainder being commissioned and non-commissioned officers. Ed Deeb claims there are no Communists or fellow-travellers in the officer ranks, although there is a large group of dissatisfied younger officers whose sentiments are largely pro-Egyptian.

Cooperation between the police and the SDF on matters of security is bad, according to ed Deeb. He said that he informed the Kaid (commanding officer in the SDF), Major General R. L. SCOONES, that he was concerned over the strength of Communism in the SDF, but the Kaid refused to take note indicating that the SDF counter-intelligence system of the SDF was working efficiently enough so that police aid was unneeded by the military. According to ed Deeb, the counter-intelligence system of the SDF is ineffective, partly because of the lack of trust between British officers and Sudanese in the Defense Force.

Comment:

In the absence of further information at the present time, the Liaison Office hesitates to comment on the accuracy of the above comments. Both Major General Scoones and Assistant Commissioner ed Deeb are highly competent men. However, the incidence of Communism among privates in the SDF would be a very dangerous fact, if true. An indication of potential Communist strength in the Sudan security system and of Communist plans of disruption was apparent in the illegal Police Strike of 1952. This strike was due in large part to similar Communist influence among the "privates" in the police force, according to ed Deeb. During the police strike Mohammed Sayed SALAAM and Shafie Ahmed ESH SHEIKH, Communist President and Secretary of the Sudan Workers' Federation, respectively, were arrested and imprisoned for

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urging the police to continue the strike. It is the opinion of the Assistant Commissioner of Police that a similar "strike" by the SDF is being averted now by the presence of British and Egyptian troops in the Sudan.

*Joseph Sweeney*

Joseph Sweeney,  
United States Liaison Officer.

cc: London  
Cairo

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