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FROM : USLO, Khartoum

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DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

January 12, 1954

DATE

REF :

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SUBJECT: Views of Chairman of Governor General's Commission

① Mian Ziaud DIN, The Pakistani Chairman of the Governor General's Commission gives one the impression of being a friendly, affable man. The Sudanese fear that he is under British influence and the British Administration fear that he is wishy-washy and will not take a stand (i.e. agree with the British point of view). In a long frank talk with the reporting officer he outlined his attitude and spoke of some of the problems he anticipates. (A biographic sketch issued by the Public Relations Branch of the Sudanese Government is attached as Enclosure No. 1, Unclassified.)

1. Ziaud Din is not happy with his appointment as Chairman of the Governor General's Commission. He considers Khartoum an undesirable place and throws up his hands in horror at the lack of sanitary facilities, the absence of recreational facilities and is disappointed with the inadequate living quarters and servants placed at his disposal.

2. The instructions he received from his Government were to do what he thought best for the welfare of the Sudanese people as a whole. If they want independence he will support that, if they want union with Egypt he will support that.

3. He has not met the Sudanese leaders and finds it very difficult to arrange any sort of a meeting with them. He feels they should take the first step and come to see him.

4. He is not a great admirer of the British and is sensitive about their attitude toward the non-British world. He pointed out that they consider him a black man, (he was particularly hurt by not being given membership in the Sudan Club, which is limited to British persons).

5. He is concerned about rumors that Ibrahim Ahmed the pro-Umma member of the Governor General's Commission will be rejected by the pro-NUP parliament. If this happens he pointed out that the balance of the Commission would be upset. If the

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REPORTER

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NUP appointed ...

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NUP appointed one of their supporters to replace Ibrahim Ahmed then, as Ziaud Din sees it, his position would be that of a rubber stamp. As he put it, "I and the British member would be outvoted every time."

If Ibrahim Ahmed is replaced by an NUP appointee he believes he will recommend to his Government that a less important Pakistani representative be appointed in his place as Chairman of the Committee. He is torn a bit on this decision because personally, as he put it, he would do just about anything to get out of the Sudan.

6. Ziaud Din does not consider the Sudan particularly important in world affairs. He highlighted this view by suggesting that the Pakistani Government was not making the best use of his abilities by this assignment. He realized that in the Pakistani quest for leadership of the Muslim world that it would be impossible to refuse to provide a member on the Governor General's Commission, but he saw no reason for appointing an Ambassador to this post.
7. Ziaud Din now believes that at best the Governor General's Commission will only last two years at the outside.
8. If he can wind up the current affairs of the Governor General's Commission within a month he hopes to take a brief trip around the Sudan and then go back to Pakistan and spend the summer there. As he sees it now his position can only be tolerable if he can get out of the Sudan for lengthy periods, particularly during the hot season.

Joseph Sweeney

Joseph Sweeney,
United States Liaison Officer.

Enclosure: Biographic Sketch - Mian Ziaud Din

cc: London
Cairo

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