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 FOREIGN DISSEMINATION CONTROL WATCH

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 DEPT. *DC/R-2 01-6 EUR-5 UNA-4 P-1 E-4*
 REC'D *2/20*
 OTHER *CIA-7 USIA-10*
 SUBJECT: RECENT EGYPTIAN PRONOUNCEMENTS ABOUT THE SUDAN.

15 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION <i>NEA-4</i>	DEPT. <i>DC/R-2 01-6 EUR-5 UNA-4 P-1 E-4</i>	IN <i>REP 1</i>	NO <i>REP 1</i>	OTHER <i>CIA-7 USIA-10</i>
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February 15, 1954
 DATE

DC/R
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The recent return of Major Salah Salim from an extended visit in the Sudan, coupled with the anniversary, on February 12, of the signing of the Anglo-Egyptian agreement on the Sudan, has been the occasion for several official Egyptian pronouncements regarding Sudan affairs.

In a press conference on February 10 Major Salim made a number of references to the Sudan. Referring to British protests against his visit on the grounds that it was a breach of the Sudan agreement which provided that a free and neutral atmosphere should prevail, the Minister retorted: "With the presence of hundreds of Britains who can effect the freedom of self-determination and who have power and influence, could the visit of the Salah Salim, who has no power or influence, be regarded as a breach of the agreement?" After discussing the point at some length Major Salim threw down a challenge to the British Government, saying: "I feel it is my duty to state that I would heartily welcome an attitude on Britain's part towards the Sudan similar to that taken by Egypt. Why should Mr. Eden not visit the Sudan, meet its people and talk with them about British objectives in the Sudan? I assure you that Egypt would never protest against any such visit".

Speaking on the current situation in the Sudan, Major Salim stressed the difficulties faced by the Sudanese national government on account of the state of the budget, the large number of civil servants and the indemnities to be paid to British officials who would be retired as a result of the Sudanization policy. He alleged that the country's conditions in all fields were bad, "thanks to British imperialism". "In view of the circumstances," the Minister said, "Egypt would give the Sudanese Government all possible support to enable the Sudan to stand on its own feet and enjoy real liberty." Major Salim added that he was studying what practical steps might immediately be taken in this respect.

In a lecture inaugurating the season's activities of the Fellah Society on February 14, Major Salah Salim went into further details on existing conditions in the Sudan and "exposed the imperialist policy of Britain which obstructed all chances of natural development in this part of the Nile Valley". Some of Major Salim's allegations in this regard, as reported in the press, were: 1) Under British rule no railway line was constructed to connect the

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northern and southern Sudan. 2) Since the British took over the administration, not one plan for the exploitation and development of the country's natural resources had been studied. 3) Thousands of acres could immediately be turned into rubber plantations in the south. 4) There are only three doctors in the southern provinces which have a population of three million.

The press reported that the "dancing major" closed his lecture to the Fellah Society with the following statement: "The Sudan is passing through one of the most critical periods of its history. Each Minister knows very well that the British officials of his Ministry are waging all-out war against him and hiding the facts from him while trying to lead him astray.

"We are with the Sudanese with all our heart; by deeds and not merely by words. You will hear the news of numerous reforms which will commence from the beginning of next month and continue throughout the transition period. The struggle against imperialism will be bitter because the liberation of the Sudan means the collapse of British imperialism."

Summaries of the messages broadcast to the Sudanese people by President Muhammad Naguib and Major Salah Salim on February 12, the first anniversary of the signing of the Sudan agreement are enclosed. The occasion was celebrated as a national holiday in Egypt.

Enclosure: *[Signature]*

[Signature]
Jefferson Caffery

Messages by Naguib and Salim.

Copies to:

London
Khartoum

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All Papers Feb 13.

Messages Broadcast by Maguib and Salah Salim

The first anniversary of the signing of the Sudan Agreement was celebrated on February 12 in Egypt and the Sudan.

In a message broadcast to the Sudanese people, President Muhammed Maguib said: "A year ago today the Sudan Agreement was signed in an atmosphere of apprehension, rumors and lies. Imperialism had succeeded in bringing about a rupture between Egypt and the Sudan, and had erected an iron curtain between them. Some of us had, therefore, surrendered to apprehension forgetting that no hope or endeavor can become fruitless if it was dedicated to the common interest.

"But we did not have to wait long to observe that the ties uniting Egypt and the Sudan are not the work of individuals or the result of any fixed policy. It is the work of God who has given us a common river, a common language and religion, and who has united us throughout our history.

"Imperialism did but strengthen these ties in inflicting occupation on the two peoples. This united our efforts in one struggle with one objective in view.

"We signed the agreement without being weakened by discouraging and defying talk around us. We believed that the liberation of the Sudan from the imperialist yoke, the evacuation of the occupation troops, and the Sudanization of the Government, are objectives which deserved every possible sacrifice."

President Maguib recalled that the Sudanese found themselves united when the agreement had been concluded. Unity, he said, was always the foundation for strength and success. The unification of the Sudanese Unionist parties had considerably consolidated their position, he said.

Continuing, President Maguib said: "The Sudanese people then underwent the bitter and dangerous experience of the elections. The whole world watched them to see how they would come out of such experience. The result was a great success for that glorious nation in the North and in the South. The Sudanese people were able to maintain their unity and their characteristic properties of self-control, perseverance and patience. They deserved, therefore, the respect and admiration of the whole world, as the elections became yet another testimony for their constitutional spirit and success".

President Maguib then stressed the success of the Sudan elections which had enabled the Sudanese to express their will to live in unison with the peoples of the whole Nile Valley.

In conclusion, the President said that the results of the agreement would teach the Egyptians, firstly, that God was always on the side of the just and, secondly, that when the weak unite they become more powerful than

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those who are strong but unjust.

In an address broadcast to the Sudanese people, on this occasion, Major Salah Salim, Minister of National Guidance and Minister for Sudan Affairs, said:

"The Sudan Agreement was signed by the tremendous efforts made by both the Egyptians and the Sudanese. They were able to wrest the Agreement from the British who, for over half a century, ruled the Sudan according to their imperialist interests, and exploited its tremendous resources, while undermining its values and morale.

"The Agreement", he said, "was not the ideal objective because it contains loopholes of which we are fully aware, but which we and our Sudanese brethren had to accept. But despite the obstacles put in the way of its implementation, and the allegations repeated by the British about Egypt's ambitions in the Sudan, the Agreement found its way to practical application".

Major Salim then drew the attention of the Sudanese to the pitfalls with which imperialism was strewn their path and stated that the Sudanese Government should do everything in its power to build up the country on solid foundations. The Sudanese people should unite round their leaders.

Once the occupying power had evacuated the country, its economy would improve and the people could then demand that their Government carry out reforms in all spheres.

Major Salim said, in conclusion, that his visit to the Sudan had enabled him to observe that the Sudanese people were more resolved than ever to obtain their rights and continue the struggle for complete liberation.

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