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 By DA NARA Date 3/27/88
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FROM : USLO, Khartoum

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

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September 10, 1954

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	NEA-4	I N F O	PR
REC'D	9/22	OC/A.2 OLI-6 EUR-5 EUR/X-1 IO-4 P-1	
		CIA-7 USIA-10	

SUBJECT:

Increase in Communist Activity

1954-9-10, Arabi; Communists, wavy

The National Unionist Party Cabinet has recently become concerned about an increase in Communist activity in the Sudan. This increased activity has manifested itself through a series of minor labor strikes and a renewed effort by the Communist agents to sow discontent among the tenants of the Gezira Cotton Scheme.

In the first Parliamentary session of the new Sudan Government the NUP Cabinet opposed a measure to outlaw Communism on the grounds that the legislation was too severe. At this time virtually all of the Cabinet Ministers insisted to the reporting officer that Communism did not constitute a menace in the Sudan. Recently, however, they have been forced to note the increase in Communist activity. On three occasions within the past two weeks the CID have raided cell headquarters in the Khartoum area and confiscated Communist literature against the present Government. The Cabinet is so concerned about this activity that it plans to secure the Governor General's approval for a Provisional Order allowing the Government to take severe reprisal measures against Communists. The new Sudanese head of CID, Ahmed Hussein, is being sent to Aden for a two-week anti-Communist course under British auspices.

Despite this danger the Prime Minister believes that the best public approach to the problem is to play it down and not give it any publicity. However, it is impossible for the Government to play down the threat of Communism and at the same time obtain public support for a Provisional Order to ban or at any rate severely limit Communist activity.

Sayed Mohammed Ahmed Mahgoub, Leader of the Parliamentary Opposition, who displays a very wide knowledge of Communist activity in the Sudan, informed me that he is not concerned about the increase in Communist activity. He personally will oppose any Provisional Order banning Communism as he insists that the best weapon with which to fight Communism is a combination of more and more democracy and a concerted effort to raise the standard of living.

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J Sweeney/ht
 REPORTER

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A part of his attitude is apparently pique because under the Legislative Assembly the Leader of the Opposition was given access to police files on Communist activities but the present Government has not taken the Leader of the Opposition into its confidence on current Communist activity.

Joseph Sweeney
United States Liaison Officer

cc: London
Cairo

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