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SUBJECT: COLONEL ABD AL FATTAH HASAN REPLIES TO SELWYN LLOYD.

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Lt. Col. Abd Al Fattah Hasan, Deputy Minister of State for Sudan Affairs, in a press interview yesterday commented on the statement on the Sudan recently made in the House of Commons by Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, British Minister of State.

Lt. Col. Hasan said: "Mr. Selwyn Lloyd has reiterated his allegations regarding what he has called Egyptian interference in the Sudan. I would have preferred not to reply to his statement in order to preserve an atmosphere of stability in which the national government in the Sudan can overcome the difficulties it faces. But it seems that Mr. Lloyd, contrary to our policy, wishes to create an atmosphere of instability and anxiety in order to realize Britain's aim, namely to proclaim a constitutional or economic breakdown in the Sudan".

Lt. Col. Hasan continued: "Mr. Lloyd, with or without a motive, keeps on declaring that the situation is not stable in the Sudan and predicts chaos in both Northern and Southern Sudan, thus creating anxiety and shaking political and economic stability in the Sudan. He has chosen to forget or to ignore that under the Sudan agreement both Britain and Egypt shoulder the responsibility of enabling the Sudan to determine its own future in an atmosphere of stability and calmness so that the Sudanese may say their word in full freedom. Mr. Selwyn Lloyd threatens to deprive the Sudanese people of the experience of British officials and the good impression they have left. But he has failed to give us one single example of the good impression left in the Sudan as a result of the British administration".

Colonel Hasan remarked: "Mr. Lloyd, like other British personalities, knows what the British administration has done in the Sudan. There is no need for me to deal with this now as I am anxious that calmness should prevail among all. It is sufficient for us that Mr. Lloyd has in his statement recognized the natural ties that link Egypt with the Sudan and the brotherly relations between the two parts of the Nile Valley. Let us hope that this statement may be the beginning of a new policy different from that which the British have adopted in the past to create problems and obstacles for the national government in the Sudan".

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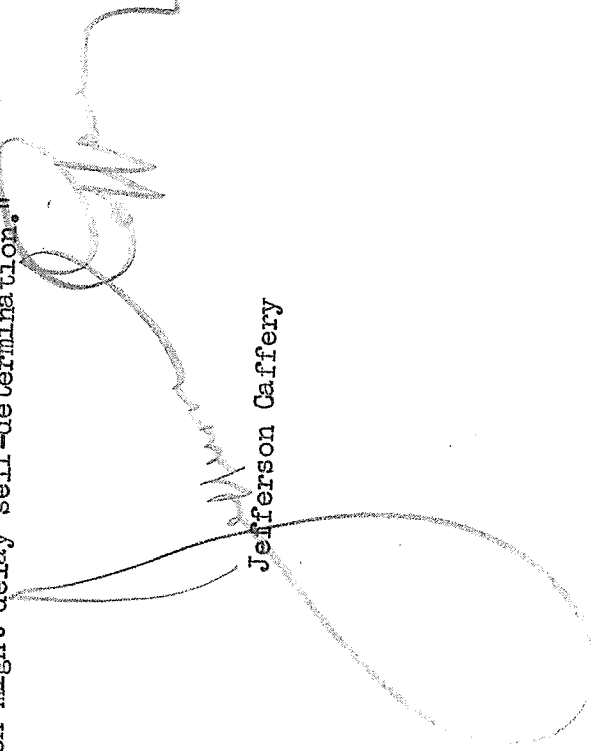
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"All we want is that the text of the agreement should be respected and that Sudanese authorities will be able to carry out their responsibilities in an atmosphere of quietness", he added.

Concluding, Colonel Hasan said: "We have always said and still declare that we have no aims or ambitions in the Sudan except to liberate it from imperialism, as we are working for the liberation of our own country. The whole world knows who is interested in stirring up trouble and disorder in the Sudan which might delay self-determination."



Jefferson Caffery

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