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 (By) *D* NARA Date *3/27*  
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*745w.00/5-1354*  
*XR 745w.11*

FROM : USIO, Khartoum 258  
DESP. NO.

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

May 13, 1954  
 DATE

REF : Khartoum's 252, May 8, 1954

58 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	MESSAGE
	REC'D	I N F O	TIME
	<i>AFSA-4</i>	<i>OC/RA-2 OH-6 EUR-5 P-1</i>	<i>12:15</i>
	<i>5-29</i>	<i>CIA-7 ARMY-3 NAVY-3 AIR-3</i>	<i>PM</i>

SUBJECT: SAR's Resentment Against Egyptian "Interference" *745w.00/5-1354*  
*How el' bin P. bin MA*

Sayed Abdel Rahman El Mahdi (SAR) is bitter against Egyptian "interference" in the Sudan. He believes this interference is increasing and he believes some action must be taken against it. Accordingly he has sent a communication to the Foreign Secretaries of Britain, Egypt and Pakistan protesting and, if this does not bring results, he plans to appeal to the United Nations. He would like American support.

SAR requested the reporting officer to come to see him to discuss this matter. This request was somewhat unusual in that SAR normally does not see visitors during Ramadan. He explained that he felt the matter was so important that he broke his custom of not seeing visitors. Attended by his son, Sayed Siddik, the President of the Umma Party, and Ibrahim Ahmed, former pro-independence member of the Governor General's Commission, and one of SAR's closest advisers, SAR made the following points:

1. If Egyptian "interference" continues it will lead to political chaos in the Sudan.
2. SAR and his advisers have sent protests about this interference on numerous occasions and thus far they have always been disregarded.
3. If the Egyptian Government now disregards the latest protests, SAR is considering attempting to raise the matter in the United Nations.
4. He asked me to urge my Government to use its good offices with Egypt to exert pressure to prevent further Egyptian interference in the Sudan.
5. He said he hoped the United States would urge Britain to maintain a firm attitude against Egyptian "interference". He is somewhat fearful the British are "giving up" on the Sudan.
6. He urged the United States to counsel Egypt's RCC against making an enemy of SAR and his followers.

There

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There followed a general discussion. SAR sat at a huge table on a wide expanse of putting green lawn in the midst of his turquoise porticoed palace in Khartoum. He had just broken his daily Ramadan fast. About the lawn paraded in stately fashion SAR's dozen tame golden crested cranes with red and white wings. SAR made his points with particular vehemence. When asked for proof of Egyptian interference SAR was far from specific. He said everyone knew the Egyptians were interfering and the latest instance was their pressure to secure the rejection of Ibrahim Ahmed from the Governor General's Commission. He was unable to present documented proof of Egyptian pressure although few people here would question that the Egyptians are exerting pressure on the NUP Government. SAR believes that the majority of the NUP leaders are in favor of independence for the Sudan, but when they try to obtain independence they will be foiled by their Egyptian masters who are more clever than they.

SAR explained that he and his followers would continue to try to solve the problems of the Sudan in a constitutional manner. He said specifically that he did not intend to start a civil war, although he qualified this by saying that in his quest for peace he must have peace with honor, and the Egyptians should be careful not to push him too far.

*Joseph Sweeney*

Joseph Sweeney  
United States Liaison Officer

cc: London  
Cairo

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