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FROM : London

3975 DESP. NO.

JUN 9 1954

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

June 8, 1954 DATE

REF :

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NEA MESSAGE CENTER 1954 JUN 11 PM 2 33

SUBJECT: Visit to London of Representatives of Umma Party

1954-6-8, Azhari, Umma, Britain

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On June 4, 1954, during a conversation with an official of the African Department of the British Foreign Office, an officer of the Embassy was told that Siddiq, the son of the Mahdi, and Ibrahim Ahmad were in London and were calling on Mr. Selwyn Lloyd later in the day, ostensibly to pay their respects but also undoubtedly to complain regarding the situation of the Umma Party. To any such complaints and to possible allegations that the British Government was not supporting the Umma Party sufficiently vis-a-vis the NUP the reply would be made that "it was the duty of the opposition to oppose" and that the Sudan now possessed representative institutions of its own through which matters of this sort should be taken up. In other words, the Umma Party should clearly state its position in the Sudanese Parliament, which was the proper forum for discussing such questions.

When the Embassy officer expressed surprise that Siddiq was in this country the Foreign Office representative pointed out that Siddiq had cotton interests in Liverpool which he was looking into.

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR:

Evan M. Wilson

Evan M. Wilson
First Secretary of Embassy

cc: Cairo
Khartoum

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