Documents submitted to Comrade V.M. Molotov

Foreign Minister Molotov

28.5. (1952.) [[1]](#footnote-1) ad notum

Summary

Zorin presents the note, "The Sudanese issue in the Anglo-Egyptian conflict and the internal political situation in the Sudan", which states that Sudan is one of the richest African colonies in the British Empire and an important strategic military base for the British in the Middle East. Sudan’s largest cotton plantations are in the exclusive possession of the English syndicate, which accounts for 70% of the total cotton gathered in Sudan. The British have the whole irrigation system on the Nile in their hands. At the end of April of this year, the puppet Sudanese legislative assembly adopted the British constitution, which provides Sudanese "self-government". This Constitution, with the British governor-general retaining full authority, legitimises Sudan’s colonial situation. Once the Egyptian government began seeing these British actions as a threat of a final break between Egypt and Sudan, it began to persistently seek recognition of Egypt’s sovereignty over Sudan and for the withdrawal of British troops. The Egyptians agreed to carry out a plebiscite under the supervision of an UN international commission on the condition that their stated demands would be adopted and implemented. The Americans recommend that Britain and Egypt agree to a plebiscite in Sudan by no later than three years after the signing of the new Anglo-Egyptian agreement and prior to the plebiscite to restore condominium. This suggestion suits the British. As for the Egyptian government, it fears the Egyptian public’s reaction, and does not dare to make a deal on the issue of Sudan based on the conditions proposed by the Americans. The most influential political force in Sudan is the ‘Sudanese Congress’, which includes a number of parties that advocate the unification of the countries of the Nile Valley, and express the interests of the middle and petty bourgeoisie, peasants and intellectuals. The ‘Sudanese Congress’ boycotts pro-British legislature and opposes Sudan’s colonial constitution. The Communist Party of Sudan is in favour of a united front between the working people of Egypt and Sudan in the fight against British imperialism. However, it does not back the demand for Sudan to be unified with Egypt, believing that the future fate of Sudan must be determined by the Sudanese nation itself. However, objecting in principle to unification of Sudan and Egypt, the Communist Party, for tactical reasons, does not currently oppose the slogan of unification of the countries of the Nile Valley. At a meeting between political and trade union organizations in the beginning of this year, and with the proposal by the Communist Party, a decision was taken to establish a "united front in the struggle for the liberation of Sudan".

8 copies sent to all members and to Vyshinsky.

[RSASPH, f. 82. inv. 2. fold. 1042. p. 185]

Keywords: Sudan

1. This information goes into the summary report under the sequential number 1 for 28. 5.1952. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)