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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

November 18, 2004

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~~NOBIS~~

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. LEWIS LIBBY
National Security Advisor to
the Vice President

CAPT WILLIAM P. MARRIOTT, USN
Executive Secretary
Department of Defense

MR. KARL HOFMANN
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Telephone Conversation with
Dr. John Garang of the Sudan People's Liberation
Movement

The attached Memorandum of Telephone Conversation between the
President and Dr. John Garang of the Sudan People's Liberation
Movement on November 16, 2004, is provided eyes only for the
information of the Vice President, the Secretary of State, and
the Secretary of Defense.

Stephanie Dames Smith for
Gregory L. Schulte
Executive Secretary

Attachment
Tab A Memorandum of Telephone Conversation

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Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: OCT 27 2017

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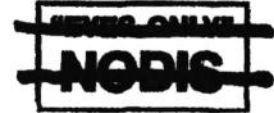
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Chairman of Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) (U)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Dr. John Garang, Chairman, Sudan People's Liberation Movement

Notetakers: Laura Hart, Jared Thomas, Tess Moore, and Chris Gilmore

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: November 16, 2004, 7:48 - 7:54 a.m. EST
Oval Office

The President: Good day. How are you? (U)

Dr. Garang: Fine. Fine. Mr. President, it is good to hear your voice. Thank you for calling. (U)

The President: Thank you for taking my call. You may have heard that I've been somewhat busy for the previous weeks. Now that the election here is over and I'm free again, I wanted to touch base with key players on vital issues around the world and you happen to be one of those. ~~(U)~~

Dr. Garang: Thank you. ~~(U)~~

The President: We believe now is the time to complete the North-South agreement. We have been diligent and feel the deal is as good as it is going to get. I am calling as a friend to urge you to complete the agreement, and I will be calling your counterpart as well. You've done a good job, and it is time for reasonable people to come together. Now is the time to close the deal, or otherwise it goes away. ~~(U)~~

Dr. Garang: I very much agree, Mr. President. First though, I want to express my heartfelt congratulations for a splendid victory in the election. People in southern Sudan and all over Sudan are calling me and many are celebrating your victory as

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their own victory. They have been calling me and are celebrating across southern Sudan. In the south, I was visiting the small town of Rumbek. At one celebration, they slaughtered more than 30 bulls in honor of your victory. I did not know I would talk to you today. It is my pleasure to tell you and my pleasure to pass their sentiments to you. ~~(S)~~

The President: Thank you for your compliments. Do that sir, and tell them I am honored. Now we need to get to work. ~~(S)~~

Dr. Garang: In terms of the victory, we are very happy, all of us in southern Sudan. With respect to peace, we are nearly complete. We have six protocols signed by partners and sealed. The only thing left to sign is the cease-fire agreement. You don't sign six agreements and not sign the cease-fire agreement in order to implement modalities of them. From our point of view, these two things can be done in a very short time. I want to assure you that, as before, we are committed to it. It is in the best interests of the movement, the people of southern Sudan's interests, and in all our interests. It is not only an agreement for the Sudanese people, but for the region. Sudan is such a big country. Sudan borders nine countries. It is good for the stability of the region. I am committed to coming to speak to United Nations Security Council. From our side, we are ready. ~~(S)~~

The President: Thank you, Dr. Garang. That's very good news. I appreciate your leadership. I'm sure you know Colin Powell resigned. He has served for 4 years. He served the nation well. In three hours, I will name Dr. Rice as his replacement. I tell you this so that you know there is continuity and consistency in our foreign policy. We will stay focused on Sudan. I appreciate your leadership. ~~(S)~~

Dr. Garang: Thank you for your information. I have spoken to her before. She called me when I was in (gap). Colin Powell's outreach moved us towards peace, and he has done tremendous work. Dr. Rice is a wonderful woman, and I am sure she is the right person for the job. ~~(S)~~

The President: Yes, sir. ~~(S)~~

Dr. Garang: I went to Texas, to Midland. We have something in common in Texas. Please pass my regards to the Christian community in Texas and other parts of the United States. ~~(S)~~

The President: They still remember your visit in Midland. ~~(S)~~

Dr. Garang: I will come again. ~~(S)~~

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The President: Let's get this thing done, and you will go down in history as a peace maker. (S)

Dr. Garang: I hope to see you in the White House after signing. I have concerns about how to reconstruct southern Sudan, terrorism, and Islamic terrorist organizations in southern Sudan. Sudan is well placed to be a buffer. Sudan has a role to play, and when Dr. Rice takes over, I would love to come and talk to her about this. I would love to be in the Rose Garden. (S)

The President: Well, right now it's cold. Better wait until the weather is better. (S)

Dr. Garang: Yes. Thank you, sir, very much. (S)

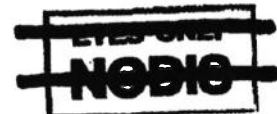
The President: Bye-bye. (U)

Dr. Garang: Bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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LIBERATION MOVEMENT

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COMMENTS ~~THIS DOCUMENT IS~~

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