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~~CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT~~ NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

2011

March 23, 2004

~~EYES ONLY~~
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
President Bashir of Sudan

The attached Memorandum of Telephone Conversation between the
President and President Bashir of Sudan on March 22, 2004, is
provided **eyes only** for the information of the Vice President,
the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Defense.

James P. Wincup for
Gregory L. Schulte
Executive Secretary

Attachment
Tab A Memorandum of Telephone Conversation

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: NOV 20 2018

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 20 NOV 2018 Authority: EO 13526
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with President Bashir of Sudan

PARTICIPANTS: The President
Omar Hassan Ahmed Al-Bashir, President of
the Republic of Sudan

Notetakers: Andrew Boerstling, Jeff Blair,
Chris Patherree, and Brian Gilligan

Interpreter: Shuckam Kamal

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: March 22, 2004, 10:59 - 11:14 a.m. EST
Oval Office

The President: Mr. President, good day. Thank you for taking my call. It is great to talk to you. (U)

President Bashir: Thank you very much for your interest and this telephone call. (U)

The President: I am very interested, Mr. President, because I believe there are times in history when leaders must stand up and make a statement. Now is the time when you can make a significant difference for you and your country. I have made it very clear that when a peace has been achieved, the relations between Sudan and the United States will change. I want to re-make that statement to you by phone. I understand that there are still issues, but Jack Danforth has presented a plan that I ask you to accept. I also know that there are other issues on governance, but I am confident that by working and striving together, peace can be achieved. The United States Government will stay involved. We want this to succeed. I want to get this done by March 31. As you know, I have to report to Congress by April 21, but my hope is that a report won't be necessary because an agreement will have been reached by March 31. Finally, Mr. President, two things very quickly. First, I have also spoken to

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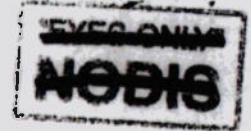
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the southern Sudanese leadership, Garang, and said the same thing to him, "That we expect to get something done." Secondly, at Darfur, it is important to open the access for the people there and to reign in the militias. I appreciate you taking my call and look forward to hearing your response. (U)

President Bashir: I thank you very much, Mr. President, for your follow through on our domestic problems in Sudan despite the fact that you have many issues that take up your time. We have received your proposal, Mr. President, that was given to us by Mr. Danforth, and it is a serious beginning for us to reach a compromise. We have directed our delegation to deal with this proposal seriously and with flexibility so we can achieve peace. In the same spirit, we have also accepted the proposal that involves power-sharing even though it does not give the central government in Sudan more than 50 percent of the wealth. We have accepted with the same spirit, also, the security arrangement including two armies. The one distinguishing factor about this proposal is that it makes it very clear and very definite all the arrangements that we made clear. It defines clearly a piece of land that is also clearly defined in existing documents. Although the proposal takes part of the north and annexes it to the south, with the possibility that it becomes another state. By dealing with this piece of land in this clear and specific manner, it makes it possible for us to see the light at the end of the tunnel. (U)

The President: That is very good. (U)

President Bashir: Mr. President, there are still issues that are pending and remaining regarding the governance and power. They are quite complicated and thorny issues, but we are going to deal with them. (U)

The President: That is excellent. That is all we can ask. It is important for your country. I want to say that when you get this done, then the relationship between the United States and Sudan will change, and it will change for the better. (U)

President Bashir: What I wanted to say, Mr. President, is that in spite of this incredible development, the bilateral relationship between our two countries has not seen similar developments. The Sudan Peace Act was issued after the Machakos Agreement was reached. In that agreement, we gave the southern part of Sudan the right of self-determination. In spite of all the steps that have been taken, there is still talk of going through with this law. Mr. President, the people of Sudan are waiting anxiously for you to assure them that the steps taken for peace are reciprocated. (U)

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The President: Yes, I appreciate that. What needs to happen is an agreement between the north and south for our Congress to move forward. I've told you I'm ready to move forward on sanctions, but I need an agreement. People are looking and are encouraged, but it is very important that you conclude the deal. I know that you can. Your spirit is strong, your vision clear, and you know what needs to happen. (U)

President Bashir: I want to tell you, Mr. President, that any steps you can take will make it easier for us to take the steps toward peace. You know the steps that you can take in your country. (U)

The President: I appreciate that very much. That is why I sent Senator Danforth. My advice, sir, is to do the best you can do and get this deal done. I wish you all the best and God speed. (U)

President Bashir: I thank you. Mr. President, in regard to Senator Danforth, I appreciate your interest very much in the humanitarian issues in Darfur. We are working with the international community to alleviate the consequences of the horrible things that have happened to the people there. (U)

The President: That is good of you, sir. (U)

President Bashir: Thank you, sir. (U)

The President: Thank you for the great phone call. I look forward to seeing you when we sign the agreement. God speed. (U)

President Bashir: Thank you, Mr. President. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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TO EXSEC

SUBJECT MEMORANDUM OF TELPEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT BASHIR OF SUDAN

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