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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

2012

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
Chairman Garang

The attached Memorandum of Telephone Conversation between the President and Chairman John Garang of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on March 22, 2004, is provided eyes only for the information of the Vice President, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Defense.

Gregory L. Schulte for
Gregory L. Schulte
Executive Secretary

Attachment

Tab A Memorandum of Telephone Conversation

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. § 552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 22 May 2019 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)
MDR: 15 -M- 1349

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: MAY 22 2019

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15-m-1349

OSD 75925-04

Sudan

23 Mar 04

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2012

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telcon with Chairman John Garang

PARTICIPANTS: The President
John Garang, Chairman of the Sudan People's
Liberation Movement

Notetakers: Andrew Boerstling, David Lee,
Chris Fatheree, and Brian Gilligan

DATE, TIME: March 22, 2003, 7:47 - 7:53 a.m. EST
AND PLACE: Oval Office

The President: Yes, good morning, sir. (U)

Chairman Garang: Oh, good morning, Mr. President. (U)

The President: I am honored you would take my phone call. (U)

Chairman Garang: The honor belongs to me. I am very happy you called. (U)

The President: Let me tell you what I believe. I believe there are moments in history when leaders must rise up to accomplish big things, and we are at that moment in Sudan. We are in a position to show the world it is possible to reconcile differences and possible to overcome distrust. Also, I am calling to thank you for being a leader and, secondly, to say I appreciate your willingness to stay at the table to see if we can't reach an agreement and begin to bring peace and prosperity to the Sudan. Jendayi, our mutual friend, tells me you agreed to Senator Danforth's proposal on Abyei, and I thank you for that. I also assure you it is important to continue working for an agreement and that both sides must show some flexibility. They tell me you have done a heck of a job negotiating. I won't tell that to the other side, but I assure you that when you reach an agreement . . . I am a positive thinker, note I said when you reach an agreement, there will be international monitors to make sure no one abrogates their responsibility. We want this newly

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united country to succeed. Therefore, I will work with Congress to ease back on sanctions so a unified country can prosper; so that is why I am calling. (U)

Chairman Garang: Thank you, Mr. President. We are very happy with your initiative. Since you came to office, every time you spoke on Sudan, the people of southern Sudan are very happy. You have lots of fans here that appreciate your work. (U)

The President: Thank you, sir. Key thing is they will appreciate your work when we bring peace and prosperity to the region. I look forward to welcoming you and your counterpart here to Washington when you reach an agreement. I will be calling the President of Sudan, President Bashir, and I look forward to assuring him of that. (U)

Chairman Garang: I want to assure you once more, Mr. President, that we are committed to peace. I personally will see that we reach an agreement. I assure you, from our side, peace is our agenda. It is good for our people. We have suffered here for 21 years and for the past 17 years during the peace process. Our major worry is the implementation of the peace agreement. Because these people are part of the international terrorism, they harbored Usama Bin Laden, they need to be kept moving in the right direction, the democratic transformation of our country, and we can thank you for this. (U)

The President: We're not going to leave you once we reach an agreement. It is important to eliminate terrorist safe havens. Most important is the chance for boys and girls to grow up in a peaceful world. It is important you get this deal by the end of the month. If there is not a firm ending, then this can drag on with no end. I promise you, I will deliver a strong message as soon as I talk to President Bashir. (U)

Chairman Garang: You can count on us. This is our agenda. It is good for our people. We cannot delay for a day more. (U)

The President: Get after it, sir. I am proud of you. (U)

Chairman Garang: Thank you. We have mutual friends in Texas, and I will call them to say the President called. (U)

The President: In Midland, Texas, right? (U)

Chairman Garang: Yes. I was there in December and had a good time with my wife Rebecca. (U)

The President: It's not a very pretty town to look at, but the people there are great. (U)

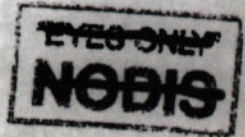
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Chairman Garang: Yes. (U)

The President: Okay. Thank you, sir. I will talk to you soon.
God Bless. (U)

Chairman Garang: Thank you. (U)

The President: Alright, John. (U)

Chairman Garang: Good-bye. (U)

The President: Good-Bye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --

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TO EXSEC

SUBJECT MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH CHAIRMAN GARANG

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FN Sudan

SEC

OCN2012

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DECISION DATE

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COORDINATION

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