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INFORMA<del>CONFIDENTIALE</del>T

COUNTRY Anglo-Egyptian Sudan

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DATE DISTR. 22 Dec 1948

SUBJECT

Formation of the Internal and External Fronts

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SUPPLEMENT TO

- 1. The parties constituting the National Front met with the Sudan Graduates' General Congress on 19 June 1948 at the Ordurman Schools Club and agreed to establish the "Internal Struggle Front." Each party in the new front will be represented by two members; the Graduates' Congress was allotted four representatives. The Internal Struggle Front was designed to obstruct the enforcement of the Constitutional Reforms Ordinance. Khidr Omer, Secretary-General of the Ashiqqa Party, was elected as its Secretary.
- 2. The new front held its first meeting on 10 July 1948 and resolved to fight all government programs for the Sudan, while endeavoring to realize a union of the Sudan with Egypt under the Egyptian Crown. A committee reviewed the situation and decided to send telegrams of protest against a new law which forbids government officials to engage in political activity. It also issued a statement urging the Sudanese people to help the front because "the front is pledged to foil the imperialist Sudanization schemes." The composition of this front is as follows:
  - a. Graduates' Congress: Nubarrak Zarruk, 'Abd-al-Rahman Hamza, and Hasan Abu Gabal.
  - b. Ashiqqa Party: Luhammad Hur-al-Din, Khidr Omer.
  - c. Unionist Party: 'Abdullah Mirghani, 'Abd-al-Moneim Massaballa.
  - d. Unity of the Hile Valley Party: Dardiri Ahmad Ismail, Ahmad Singi.
  - e. Liberal-Unionist Party: Ahmad Huhammad 'Ali, Tayeb Huhammad Kheir.
- 3. The front met again on 24 July 1948 and passed resolutions to send representatives to the provinces to conduct a propaganda campaign against the proposed constitutional reforms. A number proposed a notion to demand a credit of %E 60,000 from the Egyptian Government in rulfill the aims of the front. At another neeting Sudanese journalists were called to a press conference to devise methods by which the press could contribute to the front's objectives. It was stated at the meeting that members of the Congress and the pro-unity parties would have to contribute a "struggle tax" toward the funds of the front.

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#### CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- I. In defiance of the newly-promulgated laws, the front asked all civil servants belonging to pro-unity parties to continue their political activities. The front also amounced its intention to hold political gatherings in many towns immediately after the Bairam holidays. These activities led to many clashes with the law, beginning in August 1948. On 14 August, al-Obeid police arrested five members of the secretariat of the National Front, following the distribution of seditious pamphlets signed by the front. Soon leaflets signed by the Internal Struggle Front appeared in and around Khartoum.
- 5. On 14 August 1948 Sudanese elements in Cairo under the leadership of 'Ali Bireir formed the "External Struggle Front," independent of the dissolved Sudanese Delegation, headed by Ismail Azhari. They proposed to carry out the same program in Cairo as did the Internal Front in the Sudan. The aims of this External Struggle Front were stated to be as follows:
  - a. To explain the Sudan question to the Egyptian public, the Arab world, and the international public.
  - b. To explain to the Sudanese public the developments in Egypt, and to help the Internal Struggle of the Sudan by all means.
  - c. To work with all available means against the Sudanization schemes and to struggle to realize the Unity of the Nile Valley under King Faruq.
- 6. The External Struggle Front formed a committee which was composed of the following individuals:
  - a. 'Ali Bireir, President.
  - Sheikh Mustafa Tayeb, Vice-President.
  - c. Husayn Mansur and Khidr Hamid, Secretaries.
  - d. Gamal al-Din Sanhuri, Propaganda Officer.
  - e. Muhi al-Din Bireir and Sulayman 'Ali, Treasurers.

