

clared policy of two govts to maintain unity of Sudan as single territory and that Governor General's special powers not be exercised in manner which would conflict with this policy; and also by re-drafting definition of Governor General's powers in Article 100 in less autocratic way.

Salem pointed out there are three main issues in Article 100: (1) existence of Governor General's special responsibilities; (2) Governor General's right to withhold assent to legislation; (3) Governor General's right to issue administrative orders regarding south. Of these three issues, Egypt's greatest concern is implied diminution in authority of Sudan Cabinet and Parliament represented by (2) without provision for subsequent action, and point (3).

In reporting foregoing, Stevenson has suggested to FonOff possible compromise whereby in case of Governor General using powers to suspend legislation, issue would then be reconsidered by Sudan Cabinet on directive of Governor General who would, in drawing up directive, obtain advice of commission in purely consultative capacity.

FonOff somewhat encouraged by foregoing conversations between Creswell and Salem, although it recognizes that latter often much more reasonable in his approach to Sudan problem than other members of military junta. It is, nevertheless, considering Stevenson's suggested formula to which its first reaction appears favorable.

GIFFORD

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No. 1053

745W.30/12-2452: Telegram

*The Ambassador in the United Kingdom (Gifford) to the  
Department of State*<sup>1</sup>

SECRET

LONDON, December 24, 1952—5 p. m.

3528. Following regarding Sudan obtained from Foreign Office.

1. Foreign Office "cautious optimism" reported Embtel 3479 Dec 23<sup>2</sup> based primarily on what it regards as more flexible Egyptian approach reflected in working level discussions. Foreign Office indi-

<sup>1</sup> Repeated to Cairo as telegram 177.

<sup>2</sup> In telegram 3479 from London, Dec. 23, not printed, Ambassador Gifford reported that the Foreign Office was optimistic about the chance for an early settlement of the Sudan question. Foreign Office officials indicated that much progress had been made in Cairo on the basis of the formula reported in telegram 3406 from London, *supra*. (641.74/12-2352)