

quickly in Nairobi, that the SPLA had no specific agenda. They were just critical of the agenda produced by the Sudan government. They were not willing to come up with their own agenda; there was no really clear vision of what they really wanted. It was also realized that the conflict has deep roots, and that here is a need for confidence-building, and so forth.

The government was willing to accept the mediation of Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, who at the time was the head of the Organization of African Unity, and a conference was held in Abuja, Nigeria in June 1992.

Just before this conference a split occurred in the SPLA. The SPLA went as two groups, negotiating with the government. Then, while they were negotiating, they united. The two parties reached certain basic agreements on certain principles. It was largely positive.

But when the SPLA delegation went back to their constituencies, they fractured again, into three groups. SPLA leader John Garang has been asserting that he is the leader of the SPLA. When actually, in the field, he is not. There are a lot of people who are equally important.

Now, the Al-Nasir group of the SPLA is talking about a two-state solution, separating Sudan into north and south. This is a change for Garang. His original theme was that he is *not* for the separation of the south. Rather, he is for the restructuring of the whole of Sudan, to restructure the identity and the composition and the government structure, and the sharing of power. He has held that Islamic-Arabic dominance should be replaced or restructured into an African identity. I don't know what culture he is referring to. But this was his theme, his concept. He was completely denying that he was for separation. Now he is hesitant.

Garang now seems to have dropped this global view. He had probably realized that in eight years his movement has never gained any northern support. It remained a southern movement and largely tribal. Therefore, he is probably realizing that his movement could not have been a global Sudanese movement because it never attracted any people from the north, except for a handful of individuals. It never appealed to Sudanese nationwide. It remained a largely Dinka movement, and other tribes working with him.

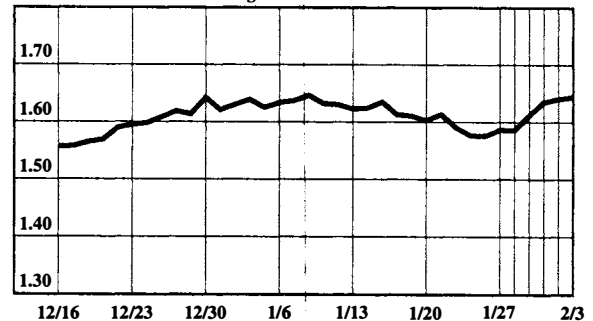
Even now, these new factions are along ethnic lines. There are also those people from the south living in Khartoum. There are about 2 million from the south living in Khartoum and other cities in the north. They are already in the society and in the government. These are people from the south, who either were there before, or were dislocated by the war.

The government is now waiting to resume negotiations, as soon as the different factions are ready to participate in peace talks. This war ought to stop. The government is now open for Abuja again, mediated by President Babangida; and now Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has offered to mediate.

Currency Rates

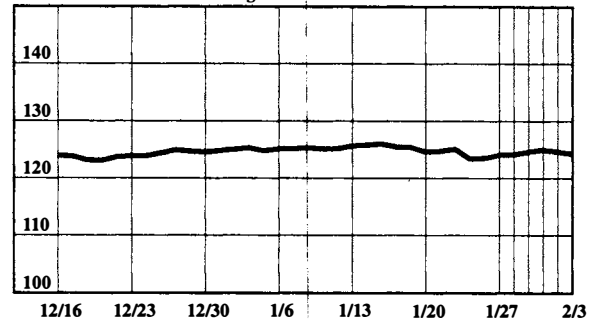
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



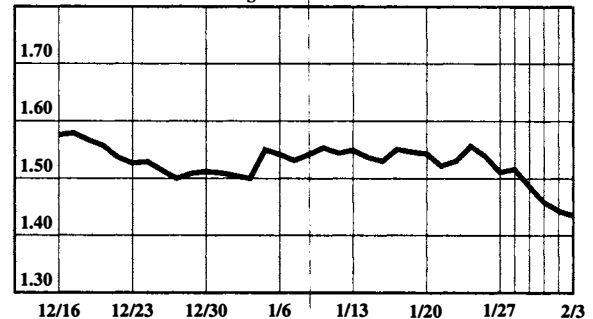
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

