

LaRouche Delegation in Sudan: Target the British Empire!

by Lawrence K. Freeman

April 18—The General Sudanese Student Union invited Lyndon LaRouche, who is well known as the economist who has fought for Sudan's development for decades, to speak at their World Conference for International Justice, Uniting Against Politicization of Justice, in Khartoum on April 5-7, 2009. LaRouche himself was unable to attend, but four members of his movement did participate: Lawrence Freeman, chief of the Africa Desk at *EIR*; Douglas DeGroot, an *EIR* Africa expert; Summer Shields, representing the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM); and Hussein Askary from the Swedish bureau of *EIR* and the Schiller Institute. Over the course of several days, the delegation had many opportunities to present its ideas to the conference, and to the Sudanese people through the media.

The LaRouche representatives brought a unique outlook to the event, which they expressed by mounting a sustained attack on the British Empire as the source of the assault on Sudan. The United States and Sudan share a common enemy, we emphasized, in our numerous interventions, and that is the British Empire. The LaRouche movement's track record with Sudan, which it has visited, and defended aggressively from international attack since the early 1990s, has given Lyndon and Helga LaRouche personally, as well as their associates, tremendous credibility in the country, and thus, the LaRouche movement intervention can be expected to have a major impact on the thinking in the country in the period ahead.

Grounds for Optimism

After our April 4-10 visit, which included excursions to the state of North Darfur, and the newly built Merowe Dam north of Khartoum, I can report on two features of the changing dynamic in Sudan which jumped out at me, compared to my previous visits there.

First, Sudan is more united behind President Omar Hassan al-Bashir than it was, prior to the International Criminal Court arrest warrant, which was issued on March 4. Contrary to the wet-dream fantasies of various liberal ideologues in the United States and elsewhere, who hoped that the ICC actions would lead to a weakening of the government, and the President's ouster, the exact opposite has occurred. The population has been aroused to a heightened sense of nationalism and patriotism, because people understand that it is their nation that is under attack, not just one man. Sudanese Muslims and Christians, who have objections to the "Bashir regime," have put aside their differences to stand behind their President and their nation.

Reflecting the change, is the fact that many Sudanese who have been living in the United States are returning to their country to participate in new economic opportunities, and a more open political environment. One member of the opposition Democratic Union Party (DUP), the attorney Abdel Budri, after have escaped in the middle of the night following the 1989 coup, has returned after 18 years to run for political office (see interview, in this section).



Lyndon LaRouche is the only Western statesman who has consistently defended Sudan from British financier efforts to balkanize Africa's largest country. Here, members of the LaRouche delegation receive a warm sendoff by two Sudanese collaborators (left to right): Delegation leader Larry Freeman, Osama Ali, EIR's Douglas DeGroot, Amar Mahmoud, and LaRouche Youth Movement leader, Summer Shields.

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Second, despite years of sanctions against Sudan by Western governments and institutions attempting to prevent the government of Sudan from developing its national economy, there is substantial progress taking place in basic, vital categories of economic infrastructure. Although these developments are impressive, the rate of investment in infrastructure must be increased further, to uplift the population from its poverty.

Once this dynamic of Sudan is properly understood, in contrast to the continuing horror story that describes most of sub-Saharan Africa, the nation's achievements stand out. Not because it has solved all its problems, but because it is pointing in a different, upward, direction, even though it faces difficult, dangerous times over the months and years ahead.

Sudan, because it has fought to overcome major obstacles during the last two decades, has "earned" the hatred of the British Empire, and that is one reason why the British-created ICC, has targeted this nation. With its strategic location as the largest country in the Nile River Basin, and its rich agricultural potential, Sudan, if it were to be allowed to fully develop, would not only have an immediate positive effect on the entire Horn of Africa, but on Central and North Africa as well. It is for those geopolitical reasons that Lord Kitchner conquered Sudan and sought control of the Nile River system in 1898 for the British Empire, and why Britain still op-

poses the sovereignty of Sudan today. The ICC charges and "Save Darfur" propaganda falsely alleging genocide, have only one intent: to overthrow the government led by President Bashir, and to return the country to civil war, fracturing the nation into warring regions, eliminating the sovereignty of the nation that is arguably the linchpin of Africa.

The British-orchestrated ICC attack on President Bashir was not just aimed at Sudan, but was also strategically designed to isolate the United States, by pushing President Barack Obama into endorsing the ICC's flagrantly illegal actions in his first two months in office. If that had occurred, the United States and its new President would have engendered the animosity of African and Arab nations, which otherwise would like to support the new President. Fortunately, a faction of "realists," in and around the institution of the Presidency, has prevailed over the "ideologues" thus far, in preventing Obama from falling into that British trap. Maj. Gen. Scott Gration, the new U.S. special envoy to Sudan, who spent over a week there in early April, is reported to have displayed an open mind in his discussions with government officials.

LaRouche's Ideas Spread

The conference began on April 5 in Friendship Hall, across from the Blue Nile, involving approximately 700 people, the majority of whom were students from



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir addresses the foreign delegations on April 5. After his remarks, Freeman spoke briefly to him, and Askary gave him an Arabic translation of So, You Wish To Learn All About Economics, by Lyndon LaRouche. The foreign delegations were also briefed by Dr. Mutrif Sidding Ali, Under Secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

all over Sudan. They were joined by several dozen foreign guests representing student movements from the Arab and African nations, and a delegation of 12 from the United States. In addition to members of the LaRouche movement, the American delegation included three professors from Howard University; a Nigerian journalist, Akbar Mohamed, a long-time vocal advocate for Sudan; and other friends of Sudan. Also participating was well-known Austrian legal scholar Dr. Hans Köchler, president of the International Progress Organization.

Before the main opening address of the conference by Dr. Mostafa Osman Ismail, an advisor to the President, several Arab student leaders were called up to give greetings. *EIR*'s Freeman,

who was also asked to give opening remarks, immediately pointed out that the real culprits behind the creation of the ICC were George Soros, and Lord Malloch-Brown, both agents of the British Foreign Office. His identification of the British financial empire, and not the United States, as the actual instigator of this fake international court (to which the United States is not even a signatory), sparked a discussion about the British that continued until the end of the conference.

Following the opening session, at a meeting of the student organizations, LYM leader Summer Shields was the final speaker; he presented a picture of the United States drastically different from and contrary to the limited understanding of the U.S. espoused by many of the Arab student associations. Shields developed for the students the policies of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and LaRouche, which represent the real America.

On the first full panel of the conference on April 6, Hussein Askary presented his paper, "The Strategic and Economic Reasons Behind the Targeting of Sudan," which focussed on the significance of the Merowe Dam and Sudan's untapped agricultural potential. He concluded with a short video which showed how Africa could be developed, if LaRouche's proposals for continent-wide high-speed rail infrastructure projects connecting Africa to Eurasia were adopted.

Freeman, speaking on the same panel, discussed LaRouche's forecast of the current global economic-monetary breakdown, and the actions that must be taken to avoid a further collapse into a New Dark Age. He then

elaborated the diametrically opposing policies of the British free-trade system of globalization, and the American System conception of economic development of Africa articulated by President Roosevelt in the 1940s and LaRouche today. (See speech, in this section.) The full written texts of Askary and Freeman were printed in the official *Conference Book*, in English and Arabic.

Askary was also the keynote speaker at a seminar at the University of Africa in Khartoum, before 100 students from African and Asian countries.

The conference ended with

Sudan



a presentation by Vice President Ali Osman Mohammed Taha, who is highly respected in Sudan for his exceptional work with the late John Garang, leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A), in negotiating the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that in January 2005, ended the long costly civil war between the North and the South that killed millions. Speaking to the foreign delegations and Sudanese students, Taha warned that that "the war in Sudan is not over yet." The ICC has destroyed itself by its own measure, but the new front of the war against Sudan will have the slogan of "humanitarian need."

Asked to make a recommendation to Taha just before the final session of the conference came to an end, Freeman declared that the British Empire was the common enemy of both Sudan and the United States, and we should "hit them on the flanks." He suggested that if Soros and Malloch-Brown were publicly named as the creators of the ICC, you would hear the London oligarchs scream, here in Khartoum.

Outside the conference venue, Freeman and Askary were asked to address the Sudan Lawyers Association, where they presented their ideas to a standing-room-only audience of senior lawyers and law students. Once again, Freeman explained that the ICC was not an American creation, but its arrest warrant was designed by the British to also undermine Presidency of Barack Obama. Several of the lawyers expressed agreement with Freeman's analysis, while others were irritated by it.

During their stay in Khartoum, the LaRouche delegation was also able to speak directly to the Sudanese people, with Askary and DeGroot being interviewed on television. Askary appeared on the evening news.

A Visit to Darfur

On April 7, about 30 guests and media flew to El Fashir, the capital of North Darfur. North Darfur is 292,000 square kilometers—12% of the total land area of Sudan and 57% of Darfur (which is made up of three states: North, South, and West Darfur). The most recent population figures for North Darfur are 2.4 million people—about 6% of Sudan's total population of 40 million. The Wali (governor) of North Darfur,



EIRNS/Hussein Askary
Vice President Ali Osman Mohammed Taha addresses the student conference on April 8.

Osman Yosuf Kibr, gave an extensive briefing to the group.

Approximately 163,315 people live in five camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in his state, he said (287,000 displaced persons live outside camps). The foreign delegations visited the Al-Salam (Peace) camp. Water, shelter, food, and medical services are made available to the residents. Nobody lives well in IDP camps, and human beings are not meant to live this way; but nobody lives well in this entire region of Africa. Darfur is an inhospitable, desolate region that encompasses eastern Chad, the northern portion of the Central African Republic, and southern Libya. In addition to the dislocation

caused by the insurgency in Darfur, people come to the camps simply because they cannot find a way to live on their own.

It is sad to say, but conditions in the camps are not worse than areas of extreme poverty that exist elsewhere in Sudan and throughout Africa. The brainwashed zombies who babble over and over again about the government committing genocide in Darfur, blind themselves to the truth, by imbibing their own propaganda. The reality is: The primary cause of death and hardship in Darfur is the lack of water, infrastructure, and economic development. Why doesn't the "Save Darfur" coalition scream for economic development? Have they lost the power to think, or are they controlled by some alien force that makes them mindless?

Man Transforms the Desert

After the conference concluded, a small group of guests took a day-long trip to the newly operational Merowe Dam, 350 km north of Khartoum. This is the most ambitious infrastructure project in Africa today, and portends the type of projects Sudan intends for the country. There are also plans for a railroad to be built from Port Sudan on the Red Sea, south to Khartoum, then branching off east to El Fashir, and south to El Obeid.

The Merowe Dam is an excellent example of how man physically transforms the environment to make it more propitious for human existence. On the four-hour bus ride to Merowe, through desert conditions, all one



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

This example, in Darfur, of how the most precious commodity, water, is brought from well to residence, is typical all over northern Sudan. An intensive, high-technology program to develop infrastructure, industry, and agriculture will uplift the entire population, North and South.

sees, except for sand, is, from time to time, a skinny camel, or a goat nibbling on a small bush or tree with no foliage. Outside of checkpoints or “pit stops,” one sees no people, and nothing green, just hundreds of kilometers of sand.

Then you come upon the city of Merowe, and you think you are in a different universe. Modern buildings, rows of lush green trees, modern agriculture, and water gushing out of the Merowe Dam. When you leave the Dam complex, you leave behind a shining demonstration of man’s scientific-technological achievement—the greening of the desert. Sudan’s desert soil has demonstrated its ability to react quite nicely to water, once man unites them. Think of the enormous potential for the production of food in this vast northern area of Sudan, once water is brought to the region.

The Difficult Road Ahead

Sudan still has large numbers of its people living in extreme poverty, conditions which hopefully will begin to be alleviated through the nation’s impulse for investment in large infrastructure projects that can provide potable water, electric power, and rail transportation. The West has refused to provide any assistance to Sudan or any other sub-Saharan nation in building basic infra-

structure corridors. The idiotic sanctions imposed on Sudan, added to the recent drop in the price of oil (which Sudan exports), only make it that much more difficult to develop the full economic potential of this large nation.

While the success of the CPA remains the number one priority of the government, since the issuance of the ICC arrest warrant for Bashir, attention and energy have been diverted from the CPA negotiations to the defense of the nation from this assault by the ICC. Honest American intelligence professionals, scholars, and diplomats understand that resolving the remaining thorny disputes between the North and South are absolutely essential for the survival of Sudan as a nation.

There are growing signs of internal difficulties in the South. Already, the date for the national election, stipulated by the CPA to take place no

later than July 2009, has had to be postponed until February 2010, which leaves very little time to prepare the country for the mandated 2011 referendum to determine separation or unity of the South with the North. It would be irresponsible to ignore the possibility of a return to civil war, if the CPA is not strengthened in the immediate weeks and months ahead.

The illegal actions by the ICC, and the zombie-like chanting about genocide in Darfur, only worsen the conditions for the people of Sudan, and further delay the prospect for real peace and prosperity there.

Discussions with General Gration in Sudan were reportedly amiable and could be the first step towards a working relationship between the United States and Sudan, which has been missing from recent U.S. administrations. The Obama Administration has not yet put forth a coherent policy for Sudan and the rest of Africa, although many Africans are hopeful. At this juncture of U.S.-Sudan relations, action speaks louder than words. A U.S. policy to energetically help “green the deserts” of Sudan, would be seen as a true sign of friendship by Sudan and the whole African continent. Most importantly, it would establish a new direction for American foreign policy. One that Franklin Roosevelt would be proud of.

Kick the British Out of Africa!

Lawrence Freeman is the EIR Africa desk chief, and a regional coordinator of the U.S. LaRouche movement. He gave this address to the Conference of the General Union of Sudanese Students, which took place in Khartoum, April 5-7, 2009.

It is good to be back in Sudan and to enjoy Sudanese hospitality.

I want to thank the organizers of this conference for inviting my colleagues and me to this most important conference regarding the unlawful actions by the International Criminal Court. First of all, let me tell everyone here at this conference, that Lyndon LaRouche has deployed our association to dissuade our newly elected President, Barack Obama, from supporting the ICC indictment against Sudan's President, Omar Hassan al-Bashir.

The ICC is not a legitimate court, and has no standing in law to intervene against the sovereign nation of Sudan. If President Obama were to be manipulated into giving credence to the actions of the ICC, by listening to uninformed or deliberately misleading advisors, the United States would not only lose credibility in the eyes of the rest of the world, but it could potentially set off a new round of warfare in Sudan and the Horn of Africa, which would result in a level of destruction beyond most people's imagination. So far, President Obama has not allowed himself to be sucked into this British trap, but in the interests of Darfur, Sudan, the United States, and the rest of the world, we must overturn this indictment, and dissolve the ICC.

The United States has no principled conflict with the people of Sudan or President Bashir. The British do. I am referring to the British Empire as it exists today as the center of oligarchical financier interests, which con-



President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill at the Yalta summit, 1945. The two wartime allies conflicted sharply over postwar policy toward the colonies. FDR insisted on their independence, and "increasing the wealth of a people by increasing their standard of living, by educating them, by bringing them sanitation—by making sure they get a return for the raw wealth of their community."

trols the financial and commodity cartel conglomerates that dominate trade and finance around the globe. It is absolutely no exaggeration to identify the ICC as a creation of the British Empire. The two individuals most responsible for bringing the ICC into existence are both servants of the British Empire: George Soros, a financial megaspeculator and the world's biggest drug pusher who, in his youth, collaborated with the Nazi occupiers of Hungary; and Lord Mark Malloch-Brown, Minister of State in the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office for Africa, Asia, and the UN.

This so-called "world court," created by the British duo of Soros and Malloch-Brown, has no lawful jurisdiction to arrest a sovereign head of state: This action by the ICC is in violation of recognized natural law, which respects the inviolability of the modern sovereign nation-state. The purpose of the ICC is to act as an imperial court, to crush any resistance by nations to the kinds of

fascist economic policies that the British intend to impose in response to the present breakdown of the financial system. We should rightly see the existence of the ICC as an abomination, opposed to the welfare of all nations, and it therefore should be dissolved immediately.

There Is a Solution to the Global Meltdown

The policy decisions that the United States will make regarding Sudan (and all other countries), as well as those that the nation of Sudan will have to consider, are bounded by the ferocious rate of economic collapse that is causing untold suffering in both developed and underdeveloped countries. Ultimately, it will be nations—in opposition to the so-called markets—that will have to intervene to reverse this collapse, or the world will continue to devolve into a New Dark Age. Thus, it is in the interest of all nations on this planet not to allow this British-created ICC to have the power to ride roughshod over the sovereignty of nation-states.

Many people may honestly believe that they are accurately depicting the present financial-economic crisis, when they describe it as the most severe since the Great Depression of the 1930s. However, they are wrong. *It is much worse than that.* What we are living through, is the breakdown of the financial system, which is the end-point of the last 40 years of wrongheaded policy following the burying of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Bretton Woods system by President Richard Nixon on Aug. 15, 1971. After two decades of hyperinflationary liquidity pumping, initiated by former Federal Reserve Board chairman Sir Alan Greenspan, our global financial system has turned into a gigantic bubble of fictitious monetary values with \$1.4 quadrillion in unsecured, that is, worthless, derivatives.

Contrary to the vast number of articles and reports claiming that no one saw this crisis coming, Mr. LaRouche forecast the precise nature of this economic breakdown on July 25, 2007, in an address to an audience in Washington, that was broadcast over the Internet. He said the following:

There is no possibility of a non-collapse of the



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

Lawrence Freeman told the conference of Sudanese students that “Lyndon LaRouche has deployed our association to dissuade our newly elected President, Barack Obama, from supporting the ICC indictment against Sudan’s President, Omar Hassan al-Bashir.” Here, Freeman is interviewed by a Sudanese reporter.

present financial system—none! It is finished, now! The present financial system can not continue to exist any longer under any circumstance, under any Presidency, under any leadership, or any leadership of nations.... Only a fundamental and sudden change in the world monetary financial system will prevent a general, immediate chain-reaction collapse. At what speed we don’t know, but it will go on, and it will be unstoppable! And the longer it goes on before coming to an end, the worse things will get.

Three days later, the financial system began its meltdown, with the outbreak of the subprime mortgage crisis, which was merely the weakest point in the system. Here we are, 20 months later, and the world continues to

slide—faster and faster—into economic hell!

Now we must leave this dead system of fictitious monetary values for a new, living system, based on physical-productive values, if the nations on the planet are to survive this decade. Mr. LaRouche has proposed such a new system of economic relations—a New Bretton Woods system—to replace the failed policies of free trade and globalization administered by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and other kindred institutions.

The measures that must be taken immediately by the Obama Administration, as prescribed by Mr. LaRouche, are the following:

- Conduct an orderly bankruptcy reorganization of the insolvent banking system, in accordance with U.S. law, as President Franklin Roosevelt did in 1933. Instead of issuing trillions of dollars to bail out worthless derivatives and related debt, cancel these worthless obligations from the books of the banks. At the same time, provide government backing for those debts arising from legitimate, productive activity that is in the economic interests of the nation.

- Establish a National Bank, as prescribed by Alexander Hamilton, to take responsibility for assuming the legitimate bank debt of chartered banks.

- Re-regulate the banking system through the Federal government.

- Issue government-created credits for domestic and global long-term infrastructure projects, which will be the primary means for rebuilding national economies throughout the world.

- Create a New Bretton Woods system, anchored by an agreement among the four major powers of the world—the United States, Russia, China, and India—to establish new trade and credit arrangements for all participating nations, with agreed upon, fixed rates of exchange.

These measures, put forth by Mr. LaRouche to deal with the financial crisis, have a precedent in U.S. history. They resemble the executive actions taken by President Roosevelt, in the immediate hours after he took the oath of office, on March 4, 1933. Those emergency measures were taken by Roosevelt because he was steeped in the unique tradition of the American System of political-economy, which became the foundation of American economic policy, beginning with the inauguration of Gen. George Washington, guided by the genius of his Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton.

I have been asked to respond to the ICC from an

American perspective. I will rather give a response that flows from the principles of the American System, as they relate to what our foreign and economic policy should be towards Sudan and the whole of Africa, which is diametrically opposed to that of the British System of empire.

Roosevelt's Vision To End Colonialism

Since the victorious revolution of the United States over the British oligarchy in 1783, the United States has been viewed as the primary enemy of, and obstacle to, British geopolitical domination of the planet. Unfortunately, since the death President Roosevelt—the last U.S. President who knew the British were our enemy, and acted on that understanding—the United States has, for almost the entirety of the last 64 years, been controlled by an Anglophile tendency, emanating from the financiers of Wall Street, who still take their marching orders from the City of London.

Roosevelt's American System opposition to British "free trade" imperialist policies was a source of constant irritation to Prime Minister Winston Churchill during their wartime discussions, in which Roosevelt argued that, after Hitler's Nazi army was defeated, the world must be free of British, French, and Dutch colonialism. In their meeting off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, in August 1941, Roosevelt forced Churchill to accept the Atlantic Charter, which outlined the principles of freedom and economic development for all nations and all peoples, in a world free of colonialism at the end of the war.

In these meetings, Roosevelt told Churchill:

"I am firmly of the belief that if we are to arrive at a stable peace it must involve the development of backward countries. Backward people. How can this be done? It can't be done, obviously, by eighteenth-century methods."

Churchill objected: "Who's talking eighteenth-century methods?"

Roosevelt responded:

"Which ever of your ministers recommends a policy which takes wealth in raw materials out of a colonial country, but which returns nothing to the people of that country in consideration. Twentieth-century methods involve bringing industry to these colonies. Twentieth-century methods include increasing the wealth of a people by increasing their standard of living, by educating them, by bringing them sanitation—by making sure they get a return for the raw wealth of their community."

Discussing the conditions in Africa, Roosevelt

pointed out that, by bringing water from the Mediterranean Sea to the desert, “The Sahara would bloom for hundreds of miles.” He continued: “Wealth. Imperialists don’t realize what they can do, what they can create! They’ve robbed this continent of billions, and all because they were too short sighted to understand that their billions were pennies, compared to the possibilities! Possibilities that must include a better life for the people who inhabit this land.”¹

After visiting British Gambia, Roosevelt was outraged at the British for their slave-labor policy of paying Gambians 50 cents a day for their work.

After the death of President Roosevelt, only President John Kennedy shared President Roosevelt’s concern for the development of Africa. However bad U.S. policy has been toward Africa since the election of President Nixon in 1968, America has never been an empire, nor ever had the proclivities to act like an empire. What did happen, was that after the assassination of President Kennedy, the Nixon regime adopted the centuries-long, British racist policy of genocide against Africa, with the completion of the infamous National Security Study Memorandum 200 (NSSM 200), initiated and authored by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Kissinger’s study, “Implications of Worldwide Population Growth for U.S. Security and Overseas Interests,” was completed at the end of 1974, but remained classified until Dec. 31, 1980.

The two primary tenets of the study are: 1) The West must have an uninterrupted supply of strategic minerals and vital natural resources which are deposited in large quantities in the countries in the “underdeveloped sector”; and 2) these countries must be forced to practice population reduction to ensure that these resources are not used up by the internal growth of their economies.

Thus, as NSSM 200 demanded, the West intentionally enforced underdevelopment and economic backwardness, and did so by banning any long-term investment in necessary categories of infrastructure. To eliminate resistance to the looting of these natural resources by the West, it was also necessary to keep the governments of these countries weak, and the people divided by internal conflicts, to prevent the emergence of strong, true nation-states. One experienced former American diplomat admitted that the United States had

not invested in any infrastructure in Africa since the early 1970s, and, only recently, became concerned by the large scale of infrastructure projects undertaken by China in Africa.

Consider the following two passages from NSSM 200:

“Rapid population growth is not in itself a major factor in pressure on depletable resources (fossil fuels and other minerals), since demand for them depends more on levels of industrial output than on numbers of people. On the other hand, the world is increasingly dependent on mineral supplies from developing countries, and if rapid population growth frustrates their prospects for economic development and social progress, the resulting instability may undermine conditions for expanded output and sustained flows of such resources.

“Wherever a lessening of population pressures through reduced birth rates can increase the prospects for such stability, population policy becomes relevant to resources supplies and to the economic interest of the United States [and the West].”

This is a policy of genocide and enforced economic prostration. Thirty years after the death of President Roosevelt, U.S. policy towards Africa and the “Third World” ceased to be American and became British, with adoption of Kissinger’s NSSM 200. It is therefore intelligible that Kissinger, speaking at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London in 1982, proclaimed his support for Churchill over Roosevelt, and announced that, as White House national security advisor, he kept the British Foreign Office better informed than the U.S. State Department.

The British ‘Game’ in Africa

The U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Susan Rice, is lying—and she knows it—when she says that the government of Sudan is responsible for “ongoing genocide” in Darfur. This falsehood is part of a “Big Lie” campaign to whip popular opinion into a mindless frenzy in support of the ICC, and, potentially, a military assault on Sudan, in the form of an aerial attack on Sudan’s small air force. There is not a shred of evidence—none—for the claim that thousands of people are dying in Darfur today. And the claim that 300,000 to 400,000 have died in Darfur as a result of the conflict, since the insurgency erupted in February 2003, is a great exaggeration. Counting on the short attention span and complete ignorance of the population and of government officials, this “Big Lie” campaign has effectively cov-

1. All quotes from Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill are from: Elliott Roosevelt, *As He Saw It* (New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1946).



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

The crucial issue for Sudan, and much of Africa, is providing infrastructure to supply water. Sudan's new Merowe Dam, discussed in an accompanying article, is a splendid example—but only the beginning.

ered up the real cause of genocide: the implementation of NSSM 200, through the deliberate withholding of investment in life-saving categories of infrastructure, most especially infrastructure for water.

The people of Darfur, like those of the bordering areas of Libya, Chad, and the Central African Republic, living in this arid and inhospitable region, depend on marginal quantities of arable land and water for their very survival. The overwhelming majority of deaths in this whole desolate region, which includes Darfur, are not caused by injuries from combat, but from disease, starvation, and illnesses like diarrhea, which are due to a lack of potable water. We face similarly threatening conditions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but on an order of magnitude worse, with 6 million Congolese dying in the last decade. Roosevelt, in 1943, had the vision to see the future “blooming of the Sahara,” but just the opposite has occurred.

Who is responsible for the failure to bring one single additional drop of water to Darfur, especially since the severe droughts of the early 1980s and the spreading desertification? Why don't we name those individuals and institutions guilty of genocide of tens of millions of Africans? To seek to arrest President Bashir, when the real crimes against humanity have gone unpunished, is worse than hypocrisy; it is downright evil.

We must insist—over the objections of those shallow-minded empiricists who live only in the present—that one cannot understand what is going on in Sudan and the rest of Africa today, unless one knows the history of British imperial policy towards the continent. As in Sudan, the events taking place in Nigeria, Somalia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and South Africa today have evolved from the successes and failures in the history of their struggles to free their nations from British colonial rule.

British imperial control over Sudan was consolidated by two crucial events in September 1898, which have multiple effects on the Darfur

crisis today. Sudan first became an independent state after defeating British mercenary Charles “Chinese” Gordon in 1885. The Mahdiya state existed for 13 years until Lord Herbert Kitchener on Sept. 1, 1898, with 25,000 troops, gunboats, cannon, and the Maxim machine gun, defeated the Mahdi, and returned Khartoum to Britain's control. Winston Churchill, then a soldier and journalist, watched with excitement the slaughter of tens of thousands of followers of the Mahdi, as they were mowed down by the superior firepower of the British troops.

Kitchener then immediately raced up the Nile to Fashoda to confront a French force led by Maj. Jean-Baptiste Marchand. Marchand's much smaller numbers had slogged eastward across Central Africa from Senegal in an attempt to limit Britain's domination of East Africa. The armies met in Fashoda on Sept. 19. The French were trying to connect their empire east to west, while the British sought to consolidate their empire under imperialist Cecil Rhodes, from Cape Town to Cairo. The Nile River system was the “prize” that each empire sought, which would give the conqueror geopolitical control, from the Horn of Africa, south to Uganda.

The French caved in to the British out of consideration for future alliances in Europe that eventually led to World War I. In return, they were allowed all of that

FIGURE 1
Rail Lines in Africa



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Such railroads as Africa currently has, were mainly built by the colonial powers, to deliver raw materials looted from the interior areas to the ports. Developing the continent urgently requires a massive program of railroad building, east-west and north-south.

expanse of territory west of Darfur, and northward to the Mediterranean, that was not yet occupied by another European power.

As a result of Kitchener's twin victories, the Anglo-Egyptian condominium was signed in 1899, placing Sudan under the suzerainty of Egypt, on behalf of the British Empire. Do the people who repeatedly babble about genocide in Darfur or chant "never again," know even this much? The people of the Chad/Darfur region are the same Africans on two different sides of an artificial border, manipulated to wage war against each other, based on British imperialist machinations from more than a century ago.

To understand how conflicts like the one in the Darfur region are created and nurtured, one must know the history of the continent. After colonial troops were removed from Africa in the years following British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's 1960 "Winds of Change" speech, the primary tools for maintaining control were two: the rigging of currency valuations and

terms of trade for commodities; and, using profiled responses by various ethnic, tribal, religious, and geographical groups to foment inter-tribal rage against each other, rather than allowing them to work together to create sovereign nations.

Was not Nigeria, established under British Lord Frederick Lugard, created in such a way as to intensify divisions between the Hausa, Ibo, and Yoruba, which still undermine that nation today? Look at how the British ripped apart Kenyan cultures with their Nazi-like persecution in the 1950s, which has generated homicidal rage between the Kikuyu, Luo, and Kalinjin ethnic groups over control of the land—rage that is still boiling over today. Was it not the British themselves who, in the 1920s, created the division between northern and southern Sudan?

These are but a few examples of how African nations were intended to remain divided and weak after their formal independence from British rule. As a result of more than two centuries of imposed backwardness, Africans have been forced to live in almost subhuman conditions.

The greatest fear of the Britain-centered financial oligarchy is that African nations will fight back, and emerge as independent, economically viable sovereign nations. That potential—for Sudan to develop its economy, especially its capability to vastly increase its export of agricultural products through increased use of technology—has earned Sudan the hatred of the British, and has marked it for dismemberment.

A Real American Policy for the Future of Africa

What should be the principles of a real American policy for Africa, once we thoroughly reject the hideous Malthusian ideology of NSSM 200? First, we must keep people alive by increasing the material standard of living for all. The death of several million children under five years old, each year in Africa, is a loss to mankind. Every child is precious because he or she possesses the intangible, but nevertheless ponderable power of creativity, which is a universal quality shared by all human beings. Democracy is sophistry if it does not promote the general uplifting of the economic conditions of life necessary for families to raise their children free from poverty, disease, and famine.

The single most important contribution that can be made, and should have been made decades ago, is the investment in infrastructure for African economies, which is precisely why Kitchener, Lugard, and

Rhodes, among others, consciously avoided building nationwide and regional infrastructure grids. Kwame Nkrumah, the first President of Ghana, from his education in the United States, was well aware of the importance of infrastructure in uniting and developing Africa, which is why he called for the “United States of Africa.” Africa has an abundant quantity of fertile soil for farming. The production, transportation, and preservation of food products would be increased by a least one order of magnitude, if the farmers, even on small, undercapitalized farms, operated in an environment saturated with roads, rail lines, electrical power, and irrigation. A relatively modest investment in these categories of infrastructure would yield an increase in agricultural productivity. What would be the effects on Africa if we applied the most scientifically advanced, capital-intensive technologies, such as nuclear power, water desalination, and magnetic levitation rail lines?

To resolve the crisis in Darfur, step outside of Darfur and Sudan. Let your eyes focus on the eastern end of the Horn, where Djibouti, Somalia, and Eritrea meet at the Gulf of Aden. Now move westward across Eritrea and Ethiopia to Sudan through Khartoum, continuing west through Northern Darfur into Chad. We have now traversed some of the most uninhabitable, desolate territory on the planet. We continue our journey into West Africa, through Nigeria. Traveling toward the Atlantic Ocean, we pass through several more countries until we end at Senegal, the western tip of the African continent. Now, imagine a high-speed train or, better yet, a magnetically levitated train, traversing the entire width of the continent, with an electrical power grid and gas pipe lines running parallel. How much freight tonnage could then be transported across the continent, creating new levels of commerce, new manufacturing centers, and brand new cities? The economies of western Sudan and Chad would undergo a revolutionary transformation.

Let us think about using nuclear-powered desalination plants along the Mediterranean, Red Sea, and Gulf of Aden to create billions more cubic feet of water, equal to the volume of the Nile. With the installation of South African-built, 200-megawatt pebble-bed modular nuclear power plants, Africans could finally have sufficient amounts of a continuous flow of electric power to light their homes and streets, and power their industries.

Now let us think about constructing rail lines to connect Southern, Central, and North Africa, which will then cross into Europe through a new tunnel between Morocco and Spain, and a tunnel from Tunisia to Sicily.

If we have the vision and the will to implement these quite feasible, but long-term projects, Africa will bloom and develop as part of an expanding world economy.

We could end all of the manipulated conflicts in Africa that are borne from shortages of the necessities for human life. The conflicts arise because people are not permitted to live with the full rights and dignity that each human being is entitled to. Some may say that the kind of generational long-term infrastructure projects that I have just outlined are a dream, a mere nice idea, but that it is impossible, that it will never happen. Others may ask, what good does it do for us now? I maintain that it is the only hope for Africa.

First of all, it is the only way to guarantee a future for the children who will be born tomorrow, and a generation from now. This approach to infrastructure as a driver is necessary to stimulate our minds, to get us to think big thoughts, to dare us to imagine a continent where people’s daily existence is not dominated by simple survival. Yes, we need to survive, and do what is necessary to maintain our existence, but we must do it with a vision of the future that provokes our imaginations, and stimulates our minds.

It is this future for Africa, seen with clarity in our mind’s eye, that must guide our actions in the present.

I would like to conclude on a personal note. For the entirety of my adult life, I have never accepted that human beings should perish needlessly when there are no objective reasons for the premature loss of life. For children to die in large numbers in Africa from malnutrition and preventable diseases such as diarrhea, is the most hideous example of the complete disregard for human life by the Western governments and institutions. All wealth flows from the unique human ability to discover new scientific principles that create new technologies, which transform our economic mode of activity to constantly higher levels of productivity and physical output. Any economic policy that does not promote the development of human life is not only immoral and economically insane, but is in violation of the laws of the universe, and will fail.

This is the only way forward. We must choose this path. Therefore, we cannot allow this fake “world court,” created by drug-pusher George Soros, to foment the break-up of Sudan in violation of the principle of national sovereignty. If we were to permit this to happen to Sudan, that would be a crime against humanity, because then, no nation would be protected from such an intervention by an outside supra-national institution.

Sudan's 'TVA': A Development Model for All of Africa

by Hussein Askary

Arrad Arrad, kabari wa sad!

April 17—You will hear this phrase chanted in Sudan whenever there is a political meeting about the targeting of Sudan and its leadership by the International Criminal Court (ICC), and whenever President Gen. Omar Hassan al-Bashir visits a city or town in Sudan. It means, “Our response [to the ICC] is bridges and a dam!” An excellent choice of weapons by a nation that has experienced more than 30 years of civil wars and foreign incursions on its territories, but managed to defeat all of them. And, it has achieved a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) with the southern Sudanese rebels, the SPLA, who are, today, an integral part of the Sudanese government and nation.

In the past two months, since the illegal “arrest warrant” was issued by the ICC against Bashir, the President has inaugurated several infrastructure projects, including the Merowe Dam and the Tuti Bridge in Khartoum. The latter connects, for the first time, Khartoum city to the island of Tuti, which is located at the confluence of the Blue and White Nile rivers at the capital.

I have written several times about the economic potential of Sudan, and specifically, the Merowe Dam hydropower and the water project in its vicinity (see, for example, “Defying Britain’s Genocide System: Sudan’s Great Project in Agriculture,” *EIR*, July 18, 2008), and their impact on the agricultural potential of Sudan as the “Breadbasket of Africa.” However, after visiting Sudan earlier this month, seeing the magnitude of the development projects, and talking with young Sudanese engineers at the Dam Implementation Unit (DIU), I realized that my view of the whole process has to be adjusted to match the reality.

This is not a single dam project. What is happening in Sudan today, in terms of economic development, is nothing less than what U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt established as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to lift the that region out of the Depression of the 1930s. This is correctly viewed by the Sudanese people

and leadership as one of the main reasons why their nation is targeted by the British Empire, which wants to keep Africa in poverty, recolonize its independent nations, and loot its natural resources. In addition to the water resources and soil, Sudan is known to have a great amount of oil, minerals, and uranium deposits. These are located in the contested areas between south and north Sudan and in the Darfur region!

The projects that were initiated in 2003, those that have been completed, and those still being constructed under the supervision of the DIU (the Sudanese TVA), are affecting an area to the north of the capital, Khartoum. Of course the electricity generated by the dam projects affects all of Sudan, but the area of construction and development extends hundreds of kilometers, in three states along the Nile, all the way to the border of Egypt.

The plans have included the building of three major dams, five major bridges, highways, water canals, new agricultural production centers, new villages and towns with modern health care and education, electricity, clean potable water and sewage systems, airports, railways, new food-processing and industrial projects, etc. The projects directly affect millions of Sudanese, and help ease the demographic pressure from Khartoum and Um Durman, where one quarter of the total population is concentrated.

Why Sudan Is Targeted

As Lyndon LaRouche has repeatedly warned, the targeting of Sudan is not simply an attack on that nation by the forces of empire, but on the very concept of the independent sovereign nation-state anywhere. This means that every nation on the planet, including the the United States, is a target. However, the choice of Sudan was not a random one, especially in this time of global economic crisis. The Sudanese have “violated” several dictates of the Empire (the British, the EU, and especially, the U.S. Bush-Cheney Administration).

Since 1993, President Bashir’s government has



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

The author, Hussein Askary, with the Merowe Dam behind him. The Dam will add 1,250 MW to the national grid by the end of 2010, when all 10 generators will be operational. This will double the power supply in Sudan, as well as providing freshwater for drinking and irrigation, in what is now desert.

and its allies, because these nations would wish to use their natural resources for their own development, instead of being looted by the imperial powers.

But, Sudan broke with the enforced backwardness, and with the environmental madness and brainwashing imposed on the populations of formerly industrialized nations by such British institutions as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) of Prince Philip. The WWF and other European and American environmental groups have launched many campaigns specifically against dam projects in Africa, and are continuing to do so. The fact that human beings and nations can transform nature through acquiring knowledge and science for their own benefit is another violation of the rules of empire.

taken the following steps:

- broke with the International Monetary Fund and its conditionalities, and decided to rely on Sudan's own resources, produce its own credit, and work with other nations to get low-interest, long-term credits for development;
- worked to become self-sufficient in food supply;
- insisted on a national development program, in spite of wars and sanctions;
- used its oil and other natural resources for its own development through a policy of oil for technology;
- started a nation-to-nation economic cooperation process which defies the system of free market and globalization. The cooperation Sudan established with China, India, and Malaysia is a model for all other nations in Africa;
- in the midst of an horrific food crisis, Sudan has threatened to become the "breadbasket of Africa."

Many of these policies challenge what was promoted as U.S. policy by then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in his 1974 National Security Study Memorandum 200 (NSSM 200), which viewed population growth and economic-technological development in "Third World" countries as a strategic threat to the U.S.

I was happy to see that the young people of Sudan had a healthy view of man's relationship to nature: that, as the religion of Islam instructs them, human beings are the heirs of God on Earth; that they should build it and improve it. It is called the principle of "*Istikhlaf*" in Islam. This is similar to the instructions in the first book of Genesis, that humans should be fruitful, and multiply, and subdue the earth.

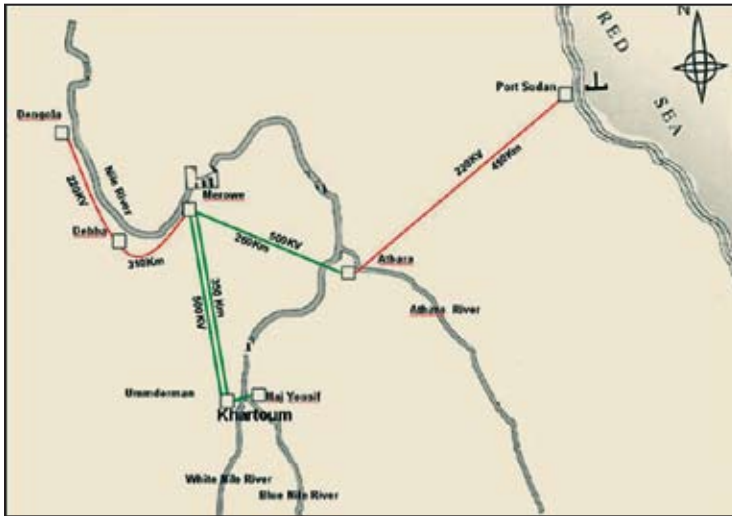
The DIU's Scope of Projects

The comprehensive development plan, which was assigned to the DIU by President Bashir, includes the following:

Dams: 1. Merowe Dam (construction completed); 2. Kajbar Dam (work starts this year); 3. Atbara Dam (work starts this year).

Bridges: (From Khartoum/Um Durman northwards) 1. Shendi-Al-Matamma 2. Atbara-Al-Damer (completed); 3. Merowe-Karima (completed); 4. Dongola-Al-Slaim.

Highways: 1,000 km of new paved highways. Main routes: 1. Northern Artery (Khartoum/Um Durman-Merowe: 350 km); 2. Merowe-Atbara (265 km); 3. Karima-Nawa (180 km); 4. Karima-Alslaim-Dongola (194 km).



sudaninside.com

The Merowe Dam (upper left), and the connecting highway and canal system.

Airports: Merowe Airport, the largest airport in the whole of Sudan, with a landing field 3.8 km long and 60 meters wide. The total size of the airport is 18 sq. km, with modern arrival and departure buildings. It has the potential to become a connecting point among Europe, Africa, and the Gulf States, with refueling facilities for aircraft. It is capable of handling “jumbo” Airbus and other large aircraft.

Hospitals: Merowe specialized hospital. With 350 beds and state-of-the-art cancer diagnosis and treatment technologies, the Merowe hospital is unique, in the whole of Sudan. Modern health centers are built throughout the region of the Merowe Dam for the population which was relocated by the construction of the dam.

Agriculture: New agricultural areas: All relocated villages, Hamdab, Almanasir, and Amri, with a population of 70,000, were compensated with new agricultural land. The agricultural plots, already yielding harvests of wheat and potatoes, are fed by a large number of canals extending hundreds of kilometers, with modern pumps, powered by the electricity from the Merowe Dam, and water from the Nile.

There is almost no limit to how far the agricultural projects can extend. Enormous areas of fertile and flat land that are mere desert today, can become cultivated farms. The area we visited where the New Hamdab modern village was relocated is literally carved out of the desert. With water, electricity, and roads, the desert can be made to bloom. Modern machinery is already in use on a large scale.

Agriculture storage facilities: As in other African nations, much of the agricultural output is destroyed due to lack of adequate storage and transport facilities. In Merowe, a large cooled storage building has been constructed to protect the potato output in the area. On the other side of the river from Merowe, in the city of Karima, there is a large food and fruit preservation factory. With electricity from the dam, enhanced production, and nearby high-speed transportation, its production will increase enormously.

Railways: Railway development has not yet become a focus of the development program. The colonial system is so old and outdated, that it needs a totally new structure. The first 18 km of new rail were constructed to transport large machines and material to the Merowe Dam site. Many of the railway connections are located in the south of the country. But with more investments in

the railways, Sudan can speed up its development potential and become a bridge between Asia and Africa.

Two examples are sufficient to give a picture of how this new “Tennessee Valley Authority” in the heart of Africa is transforming a whole country at breathtaking speed. The area including Khartoum state, Nile State, and Northern State, encompassing a radius of more than 400 km is transformed into one economic unit, where movement of individuals, goods, and services is being reduced by degrees of magnitude.

- The Merowe Dam, located about 350 km north of Khartoum, will add more than 1 million acres of farm land, with modern canals, electrified pumping stations, fertilizers, modern machinery on the farms, health-care centers, and modern housing units for the 70,000 relocated farmers.

Farmers today can cultivate the land three times a year, compared to once a year earlier. The increase in productivity is surprising everyone, including the farmers themselves. There is a focus on growing wheat and potatoes, which did not exist before the recent food crisis. The traditional (British-induced) Sudanese focus was on producing cotton and corn.

In February, the DIU announced the successful operation of the first two turbines (125 mw each), and on Feb. 22, celebrated the linkage of the two turbines with the internal network of the Merowe Dam electricity station. Electricity started flowing from the Dam to Khartoum and other cities in early April.

Merowe Dam will add 1,250 mw to the national grid



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

These Sudanese children, living in a displaced persons camp in Darfur, can look forward to a better future, as evidenced by the extensive infrastructure-building program the Bashir government is carrying out throughout the country. The bridge is one of many over the White Nile; north of Khartoum, the desert is being prepared for irrigation.



EIRNS/Douglas DeGroot

by the end of 2010, when all 10 generators will be operational. This will mean a doubling of the power supply in the country. What it has done already is to revolutionize the agricultural process, not only in the regions near the dam, but also in outlying regions where power is lacking, to draw river water and ground water for agricultural use. Sudan has actually been using only 16% of its share (64 cubic km/year) of the water of the Nile, according to the Nile Waters Agreement among the Nile basin nations.

The dam's electricity reached Northern State on March 18, when the transmission stations at Dongola, Dabba, and Merowe were started up. On March 23, electricity from Merowe Dam reached River Nile State (central province) and the Atbara transmission station. By June, the electricity will reach Renk (south). In October, the electricity will reach El-Obeid

in Northern Kordofan (central-west) and in April 2010, the remaining two turbines of the dam will be in operation.

The Chinese-Sudanese companies which built the Merowe Dam have now acquired the scientific and technical capabilities to achieve such major projects faster and more effectively. Engineers at the Dam proudly informed visitors that some of the Sudanese engineers who worked on this dam have become recognized experts with world-class knowledge of such projects. As part of the contract with China, the Sudanese government demanded that 4,000 Sudanese engineers and technicians be part of the work force. In addition, the government demanded that special courses be arranged for the Sudanese engineers. So, the next dam will see more Sudanese working on its construction, and the one after that, maybe a majority of the work-

force will be Sudanese. This way, Sudan will acquire the know-how and skilled workforce to help other African nations in their development.

- The Atbara-Aldamer bridge, the Atbara-Merowe road, and the other roads going north to the border with Egypt, represent a second example of how the country is being transformed. This bridge in River Nile State crosses the Atbara River, for a length of 440 m, and connects to the finished Khartoum-Ed Damar highway. This project will save travelers and truckers 400 km going from the capital to Port Sudan! Earlier travelers had to go from Khartoum to Gadarif and Kassala in the south and southeast direction first, and then northward to Port Sudan, a journey that took more than twice the time it takes now. In the other direction, truckers say that it took them days to transport goods from Port Sudan to Merowe, Dongola, and Wad Madani in the North. Now the trip takes only 8-9 hours. The Northern Artery Road, which cuts the desert directly from Khartoum to Merowe in a south-north direction, takes 3-4 hours today, while previously, travel on the dirt road took two days.

So the speed of economic activity is being enhanced in the whole of the northern part of Sudan, with great saving of time, energy, less damage to goods, and more efficient transport.

Merowe's Contribution To Solving the Darfur Crisis

To say that there is no crisis in Darfur would not be true. There is a crisis in Darfur, but it is not genocide as the ICC and European and media and governments claim. The crisis is the result of manipulation by imperial forces of an internal economic and social problem. The drought of the recent two decades, and lack of development of water resources and infrastructure created severe living conditions for the mostly rural and nomadic population in the three states of Darfur. Darfur and the neighboring Kordufan region contain a great part of the grazing grounds for the second-largest cattle source in Africa. Lack of water forced large groups of nomads and ranchers to invade more wealthy areas. In 2002 and 2003, this was used by politically motivated groups, who get most of their support from Britain and France and their allies in Africa, to launch a military attack on the government in the region.

The governments of Sudan and Darfur realize that the solution to the crisis is more fresh water and infrastructure development, as well as a gradual phasing out of the

nomadic lifestyle which creates great problems all over the country.

The governor of North Darfur, Osman Yosuf Kibr, who briefed foreign guests on April 7, confirmed, in reply to question posed to him by this author, what I had reported in my previous articles and my speech at the World Conference for International Justice, in Khartoum April 5-7: that there is a massive groundwater lake under Darfur, in the Um Rawaba Basin, which is about 22,000 sq. km, and contains billions of cubic meters of freshwater. Kibr agreed with the assessment that electricity from the Merowe and other dams will be helpful in drawing on that reserve in the short term as an emergency solution for water scarcity, while waiting for pipelines or canals to bring water from the Nile, or from nuclear-powered desalination of Red Sea water. He stressed that the government of Sudan has launched massive development campaigns for infrastructure and water in all the three states in Darfur.

Flying over the desert from Darfur to Khartoum, makes it clear what the biggest problem is: Even in more developed areas like Khartoum or Merowe, as soon as you step a few kilometers from the Nile Valley, you immediately face sand dunes, that will overtake the roads and towns unless stopped.

Water and reforestation will shut the door on the expansion of the desert.

There is much more to be said about other developments, such as the oil industry, mining, auto industries, and so forth, but this report should suffice to give a sense of the transformation this country is creating.

The Sudanese people, 80% of whom are under 30 years of age, are full of optimism and pride for the great strides their government and their labor force have taken to utilize the oil and other resources for the development of the country. They also realize that this is the road to follow for any African nation that wants to rid itself of poverty and disease. And they realize that the Western powers do not wish to see Sudan develop and become a model for other nations. They are hopeful that the United States, with a new policy, that will also encourage Europe, will support a new, just world economic order.

As I told a gathering at the Sudanese Lawyers Association, the solution to the world crisis will not come from Sudan. It will only come if the United States forges an alliance with Russia, China, and India to spearhead such a new system. However, Sudan can serve as a great example to show the world what is possible to achieve all over Africa.

Military Intervention Would Destroy Sudan

Abdel Budri is an attorney, who was jailed after fundamentalist Islamist Hassan al-Turabi seized power in Sudan in 1989. He later managed to flee, and spent the next 18 years in exile, 16 of them in the United States, where he became a U.S. citizen.



EIRNS/Lawrence Freeman

Originally from northern Sudan, Mr. Budri was able to return to his native country in 2006, after President Bashir made a peace agreement with the South. He was interviewed in Khartoum, on April 11, by EIR Africa desk chief Lawrence Freeman.

EIR: You left Sudan in 1989, and recently returned, in 2006. What were your reasons for leaving, and what were your reasons for returning?

Budri: I left the country in 1989, because, at that time, the elected democratic government was overthrown by the military group. And the group at that time—the situation was very crucial, and they actually dismissed the political parties and the union, and actually, the country became totally a dictatorship regime. After that, I was in Cairo, and I left to the United States of America. I applied for political asylum, and my case was granted. After five years I became a citizen.

During my time in the United States of America, we were with a Sudanese group, and we actually started working to install democracy for Sudan. And we put pressure on the regime, and gradually the regime actually started to change, and started accepting the other group, until the government reached an agreement with the group in the South of Sudan—Dr. John Garang and his group—and they signed the Naivasha Agreement, and the situation then totally

changed. Now, we can actually talk, and we can actually participate in every political aspect, and we can talk to our people, and the situation now is changing. Now there is a national government, and this is why I came back. All politicians and professionals came back to Sudan to work from inside. This is why I came back to Sudan.

EIR: When you said, “the regime in 1989,” were you referring to General Bashir and Hassan al-Turabi overthrowing the government of Sadiq al-Mahdi? How do you view the relationship between General Bashir and al-Turabi?

Budri: Actually, there is no relationship now. Bashir and Hassan al-Turabi became two [separate] groups, and two political parties, actually. Turabi has his Islamic National Party, and Bashir is president of the National Congress Party now. Turabi is now standing against the Bashir group. So there is actually no dialogue between these two groups. This is why the situation started changing, because Turabi is now not controlling the country.

Upcoming Elections

EIR: You are a member of the Democratic Union Party, called the DUP, and that is headed by Mr. al-Mergani. You are going to be actively campaigning in the upcoming election. Could you tell us more about the plans of your organization?

Budri: The Democratic Union Party, led by Mr. Mohammed Osman al-Mergani, is one of the biggest parties in Sudan. Mr. Mergani came back recently from exile, and we are working to participate in the upcoming election, in February 2010. Sometimes the leaders are outside the country. Now we are thinking about the conference, to put the strategic planning for the election and for the political future for the party.

EIR: So you are optimistic about the changes that have taken place in Sudan, in terms of freedom for political parties, freedom of expression, the media, open dialogue. And you think that this is a good period in which your party may actually make some political gains?

Budri: Of course. This is the right time, and the atmosphere of the country now is open—not only for our party, but for the other parties to address their people, address their group, and this became open society, and free media. It is easy for us to participate in any political activities.

EIR: Obviously the major issue in the media, around the world today, is the arrest warrant for President Bashir, the arrest warrant by the International Criminal Court. How do you think that this arrest warrant by the ICC is going to affect Sudan?

Budri: Of course, the issuing of the arrest warrant for the President of Sudan, Hassan al-Bashir, is actu-

“I think it is better not to make any military action against Sudan, because ... it is going to open the country for the fundamentalist group to come and dominate the country. This is a bad idea, and I hope it is not going to happen to Sudan, because this ... would dismantle the largest country in Africa, and affect all African countries and people.”

ally making him more popular. And even people from the different parties and different views, are now standing with the President, because all Sudanese think that this issuing of an arrest warrant is not going to affect Mr. Bashir as an individual, but is going to affect the country. The whole country is in a dilemma, because arresting Bashir is going to open some problems, not for the regime, but for the country. This is why the whole Sudanese people from the different parts of the country, and from different groups stand with him: because the issue is not Bashir, but because the issue has now become Sudan. And this is why Mr. Bashir gets more support after this issuing of an arrest warrant.

EIR: You spent 16 years in the United States, so you got to know America quite well. What kind of message do you want to give to the American people?

Budri: All I can say—the Sudanese people—they love America. The Sudanese people know the relationship historically, the relationship from America to Sudan. Because the relationship between the Sudanese and the Americans started earlier, during the regime of Ibrahim Abboud in 1958. At that time, the Sudanese got

aid from America which had a different outlook. Now the Sudanese are looking for a good relationship between Sudan and America, between the Sudanese people and the American people, especially after Obama became President of the United States. They hope America will make a change, through dialogue. Not through any military action, because to intervene with the military in Darfur—.

In the case of Darfur we need the American government to open a dialogue with the Sudanese government, and with the Sudanese people to polish the bad image of the Bush Administration. I am now happy when I am hearing and reading that [General] Graton is actually working well, and I hope soon the relationship between the government of Sudan and the government of America is going in the right direction through dialogue, not through any other direction.

Sudan: The ‘New Africa’

EIR: What do you think the effects would be on the rest of Africa if there is a destabilization in Sudan?

Budri: I think it is better not to make any military action against Sudan, because this is going to be another Somaliland problem. Africans saw what happened in Somalia after the interference of the American military, and now the situation in Somalia is very bad. Africans now don’t want to see any interference or military action against Sudan. Because Sudan is surrounded by nine countries, and if something happens to Sudan, it is going to affect the whole area. It is going to open the country for the fundamentalist group to come and dominate the country. This is a bad idea, and I hope it is not going to happen to Sudan, because this is going to be very crucial and would dismantle the largest country in Africa, and affect all African countries and people.

EIR: You mentioned earlier that Sudan should be seen as the new Africa. What did you mean by that?

Budri: Sudan is a big country, surrounded by nine countries. And the people of Sudan are a group of different tribes and different colors and different groups. Most of the Sudanese people come from different groups, like the tribes from Chad like the Zaghawa, groups of people from Uganda, Kenya, Egypt. This is the Sudanese people. People from different African and Arab countries. Sudan is the example of how people from different groups and different areas can live peacefully in one country.

Sudan Counters Effect of Foreign-Backed Rebellion

by Douglas DeGroot

April 17—The London-based imperial financial cartel, creators of the illegitimate International Criminal Court which issued an arrest warrant for Sudan President Omar al-Bashir, is seeking to give credibility to the ICC charge by projecting the image of an overwhelming humanitarian crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan. George Soros and his colleague and reputed controller, Lord Mark Malloch-Brown, were instrumental in founding the ICC. Malloch-Brown is now Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the British government with responsibility for Africa, Asia, and the United Nations.

After the Sudan government expelled a small number of NGOs for collaborating with the ICC, the imperial cartel immediately sought to raise the “humanitarian crisis” issue to a higher level, to give credibility to the March 4 ICC charges. The ICC claim of genocide being committed in Darfur by the Khartoum government, however, is a lie; it does not correspond with what is actually taking place on the ground.

In what has become a big fight over what the Obama Administration’s policy towards Sudan will be, the imperial cartel, with the media of the Western industrial nations and the anti-Sudan activist movement that has been built up in the United States firmly in tow, is beating the “humanitarian crisis” drum, with the intent of entrapping the Administration into an anti-Sudan policy that will wreck U.S. foreign policy overall. The African Union and the Arab League are both united behind Sudan, in face of the ICC assault on Bashir. If the Administration backs the ICC (of which the United States is not a signatory), its foreign policy initiatives in Africa and Southwest Asia won’t have a chance.

Origin of the Darfur Rebellion

At the end of 1999, the Sudan government made a nationalist turn against Hassan al-Turabi, the Speaker

of the National Assembly, and an asset of the British Intelligence-controlled Muslim Brotherhood, removing him from the government. Turabi had played a key role in Bashir’s becoming President in 1989, but wanted to turn Sudan into a base for the global Islamist movement. It was during his period of influence in the government, that Osama bin Laden and other radicals were invited to Sudan, turning Sudan into a pariah nation.

With Turabi no longer playing a leading role, the Bashir Administration was able to initiate the talks with the South that culminated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005, which would have ended Sudan’s pariah status.

As the agreement with the South was being worked out, the Muslim Brotherhood capability in Sudan, which had lost its position inside the government with Turabi’s ouster, shifted its attention to Darfur. In a region already in crisis for many years, a rebellion which targeted law enforcement and other elements of government was launched in early 2003.

The government’s counterinsurgency campaign prevented the rebellion from sabotaging the CPA, but the effects of that government campaign, on top of the fighting in Darfur among local groups, which had been going on before the Bashir government came to power, resulted in people being driven from their homes and becoming internally displaced persons (IDPs). The pre-existing breakdown of the Darfur economy due to drought, compounded by a high level of immigration from neighboring Chad, plus the effects of the government’s anti-insurgency campaign, resulted in many people moving to IDP camps. This issue has been used by the propaganda arm of the rebels (the British-led Western media) as the pretext to maintain Sudan as a pariah state.

According to UN sources, by the beginning of 2005, when the CPA was signed, the violence in Darfur dropped to pre-2003 levels. By 2008, of the 1,520 conflict-related deaths in Darfur, 600 resulted from conflicts over grazing lands among nomadic tribes. Of the remaining 920, UN peacekeepers reported that more civilians were killed by rebel movements than by government-organized counterinsurgency forces. People in the camps, and those living outside them, are living under difficult, desert conditions. Only the industrial, agricultural, and infrastructural development of Sudan could rectify this situation, but the development of Sudan is ardently



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Author Douglas DeGroot visits a displaced persons camp in Darfur, April 7, 2009. Those living both inside the camps and outside them in Darfur, are living under harsh desert conditions, which can only be rectified by economic development. The ICC and its media promoters aren't interested.

opposed by the controllers of the anti-government activists.

Expelled NGOs

Sudan revoked the NGO status of 13 international NGOs operating in the country, out of a total of 188. Eighty-one of these groups were operating in the Darfur region. Ten of those which had operations in Darfur, had their registration revoked and were expelled on March 4.

The following NGOs operating in Darfur had their status revoked:

1. IRC-USA
2. CARE-USA
3. SC-USA
4. CHF-USA
5. Mercy Corps-USA
6. Solidarities-FRANCE
7. MSF-FRANCE
8. ACF-FRANCE
9. OXFAM-UK
10. MSF-HOLLAND

According to a briefing by Hassabo Mohammad Abdal Brahman, commissioner for humanitarian aid in the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) of the Min-

istry of Humanitarian Affairs, these NGOs had carried out the following types of activities, which were not in accordance with their established purpose, and to which the Sudan government objected:

- signing cooperation agreements with the ICC;
- fabricating reports on rapes, racial cleansing, and genocide;
- urging international intervention against Sudan;
- participating in sending people from Darfur to neighboring countries and ICC headquarters, as witnesses against the Sudan government;
- facilitating the transmittal of reports and statements on alleged rape cases to human rights organizations. According to recovered documents, people involved in facilitating these reports were designated as working on "outreach."

The HAC has documents of NGOs, such as the International Rescue Committee, which contain "Guidelines on Cooperation with the International Criminal Court." The NGOs facilitated the visit of teams to Darfur, to give more credence to unverifiable claims being sent to the ICC.

A UN report indicated that there was no increase in the death rate, and no health deterioration after the 13 NGOs were expelled.

Sudanese sources say that the NGOs do not deal with the root causes of the problem in Darfur: where the weapons come from, and who provides logistical support to the rebels. The Justice for Equality Movement (JEM) and the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA) are the two main rebel groups. The leaders of the JEM, except for Khalil Ibrahim, live in London. SLA leader Abdelwahid Muhamed al-Nur lives in Paris. They are able to fly around the world to attend conferences and negotiations; but no one ever says who is paying their expenses.

The NGOs are also not very efficient. Sudanese sources report that up to 80% of NGOs funds are spent on administration and other overhead costs. The number of organizations operating in Darfur increased from 23 in 2003, to 258 in 2008. These organizations account for a staff of 15,392 people, of whom only 674 are foreigners, according to HAC statistics.

The NGOs have been authorized to work in the



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Hussein Askary of the LaRouche delegation talks with youngsters in a Darfur camp for displaced persons.

areas of: preventive and curative medicine, education, water, social work, and resettlement of people into villages.

As of now, the population of Darfur is 6,750,000. The number of displaced and affected people is 1,777,470, of whom 327,470 are IDPs in 21 camps.

Joint Sudan-UN Assessment

According to a joint assessment, dated March 6, 2009, on the Darfur humanitarian situation by HAC Commissioner Hassabo Rahman and UN Humanitarian Coordinator Ameerah Haq, it was determined that:

1. Food distribution to affected people for March/April has been completed.
2. Food is available until the end of the year. Plans are being finalized for new partners needed for some of the food distribution that had been handled by the expelled NGOs.
3. The report confirms the continuity and stability of health services in Darfur, including availability of medicine, personnel, and operating budget.
4. Only 4.7% of health facilities were supervised by the expelled organizations.
5. The affected health facilities, which had to be taken over by others because of the expulsion of the NGOs, amount to only 43 out of 908 in Darfur.

6. All water stations are operating.

7. Only 38 water stations were affected, out of a total of 840 (4.5%).

8. More than 90% of staff in the water and health sectors are Sudanese.

9. All humanitarian indicators are stable.

10. The government confirms its commitment to the provision of the necessary funds until the end of the year.

11. The government confirms that it will use the Sudanese personnel who worked with the expelled organizations.

12. The UN confirms its obligation to work jointly and in coordination with the government of Sudan.

13. The government confirms its obligation to facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid to Darfur.

The following are the agencies, as of now, which will replace the expelled agencies, according to the HAC:

Action Contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger) distributes food on behalf of the World Food Program in the Dar al-Salam area; it will be replaced by the American Humanist Association (AHA) and the Sudan Red Crescent.

OXFAM (British): Its work in North Darfur on water and sanitation at the camps of Abo Shawk, al-Salam, Kabkabya, Saraf Umara, and Tawela will be replaced by the Water and Environmental Sanitation project (WES), the Islamic Medical Society, and the Sudan Red Crescent.

International Relief Committee (IRC) worked at the Abu Shawk Medical Center and Medical Clinic in Dar al-Salam; this work will be carried out by the Islamic Medical Society and the Ministry of Health.

CHF International (originally established as the Foundation for Cooperative Housing in 1952) worked in the areas of Hashaba, al-Helief, Malum al-Hawsh, and al-Wakhyim. Its health services will be carried out by staff from the State health project. Its water services will be carried out by staff from the WES.