

SUDAN

NUMAYRI SPEAKS OF SUDAN'S 23D NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

JN011929Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Jan 79 JN

[Speech by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on 1 January on the 23d anniversary of national independence]

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 1 January--[Passage indistinct] brothers, the May revolution is a call to national unity, affiliation and loyalty. The May revolution is a call to raising the homeland above parties, communities, sects, class differences.

The May revolution, brothers, is the messenger of comprehensive national unity, the unity of Sudan and the Sudanese, which does not distinguish one citizen from another and which is not partial to one region against the other.

Brothers, we must realize that work is the only way to achieve progress and prosperity. It is the only way to raise our people's standard of living, to fulfill basic needs and services required by our society and homeland.

The struggle to build the new Sudan requires personal efforts by everyone. It requires firmness and seriousness. Work and production are in need of men of production who will achieve, pioneering men who can shoulder responsibility and are not afraid of obstacles, do not shun responsibility and do not hesitate to make decisions.

Brothers, we have nearly completed the first phase of the scheme of job reorganization. We have raised the minimum wage level throughout the homeland and have laid down new regulations organizing production relations in irrigated agriculture. As a result of these reforms, our people will shoulder a huge burden, totalling about 100 million pounds.

Brothers, we shall remain a moderate and peaceful force and a factor of stability in both Africa and the Arab world. We shall be a peaceful force that seeks to solve disputes peacefully and by the logic of peace. This logic rejects chauvinism and dictating of viewpoints. It requires flexibility and realism. We fully realize that violent methods in practice among African countries and the bloody struggles among their various nationalities will lead Africa toward foreign hegemony and influence. [passage indistinct] the ordeals of millions who fled from their homelands, houses and families.

Famine and epidemics are taking away thousands of Africa's sons. Many die from need and illness after suffering long agonies. The only thing we can do is save the other sons from the fires of artillery and bombs. Military solutions can only impose a temporary calm. They are never capable of dealing with the causes of troubles, and they do not contribute to building a just and lasting peace.

Independent Africa is in no need of weapons arsenals. Independent Africa is more in need of tractors and dams than tanks and forts. Africa's real friends should supply it with what it needs. Africa's friends should respond to Africa's urgent need to combat hunger, epidemics, backwardness.

Brother free revolutionaries, the armed forces of independent Africa are those of developing countries that should not launch campaigns of aggression or be led by the greed of expansion. I repeat that these forces are to protect the national entity amid popular support and patriotic enthusiasm. The armed forces role must not be limited to protecting the national entity and defending it. They must also fully participate in building the national entity itself and supporting its pillars.

Let our brothers in Africa and Africa's friends be informed that our armed forces will not be forces of aggression, invasion or oppression. Our armed forces are forces to build peace and help in providing the requisites of peace and prosperity. They are armed forces to build the homeland's unity. They are the forces of national security, national unity and national development. Our armed forces will not relinquish their pan-Arab responsibilities and obligations no matter what the cost or the sacrifices.

Brothers, we shall remain a factor of moderation and stability in our African Continent and Arab homeland. We shall not act out of intransigence, conceit or chauvinism. We shall protect our national interests and preserve our national dignity while appreciating the interests and dignity of others. We shall not interfere in anybody's affairs, nor permit others to interfere in ours. We shall not take part in outbiddings, oneupmanship and villification campaigns. Our proud people will never accept tutelage, interference and imposition of will from anyone. Our proud people will not accept any harm to their sovereignty and their free will.

The building of peace and strengthening of stability requires a high sense of responsibility, which cannot be shouldered by those who hide behind smokescreens and the clamor of slogans.

Brothers, we shall not adopt the policy of axes in our regional and international relations. We shall not have our independent will depend on alinement. However, we shall not enclose ourselves in a shell and remain isolated. We are a country completely linked to the outside world, proud of its Arab, African and Islamic affiliation. We look for partners in development beyond geographic and cultural barriers, differences in regimes and ideologies.

Brothers, we are proud of our affiliation to the Third World, which is struggling to definitively liquidate all kinds of colonialism, discrimination and hegemony.

We are watching with interest the dialog between the EEC and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries [ACP] for the renewal of the Lome Convention, which expires in March 1980. President Numayri added that Sudan is looking to sign a new convention, God willing, in Khartoum in mid-1979. This convention will meet ACP's needs in the next stage in the sphere of trade, industrial and agricultural development, in the construction of regional projects and in financial and technical cooperation.

Africa is in need of economic and technical assistance. Africa needs to develop its resources, build its economic infrastructure, raise its standard of living. Africa is not in need of disputes among ideologies. Africa is not in need of power struggles. Africa is capable of finding African solutions to its political, economic and social problems, and does not need the interference of others.

In your name, I hail the new development in Chinese-U.S. relations and the return of normal relations between Japan and China. We consider this development an important factor in building peace and stability in the world. A strong and developed China will be a decisive factor in the international balance of power and in the balanced international relations.

These are the principles of our foreign policy. They are strength, peace, moderation and a factor of stability and struggle for a better new world where exploitation, discrimination and despotism will have no place.