

Britain's Baroness Cox is losing the battle, and the war, against Sudan

by Hussein Al Nadeem

More than a century after the victory of the Great Al-Mahdi of Sudan against the British colonial army, Sudan is scoring a new victory against its former colonial power and the colonialists' modern surrogates: Uganda, Ethiopia, and Eritrea. Unlike poor Gordon Pasha, British Baroness Caroline Cox (a Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords and chairman of Christian Solidarity International), who has led efforts on both sides of the Atlantic and in the Horn of Africa for war and economic sanctions against Sudan in recent years, will be able to return to London with her head on her shoulders, to become another shameful stain in Britain's imperial record. And, unlike last century's Egypt, through which Gen. Horatio Kitchener started his campaign against Al-Mahdi's revolution, today's Egypt is a leading force in the war against Britain over its support for terrorism.

All the military assaults against Sudan which have been launched in the last three years by Uganda, Eritrea, and Ethiopia, under British direction and intensive support from international non-governmental organizations, the United Nations, and Israeli military intelligence, have dramatically failed. The forces of John Garang, the British-controlled leader of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), are disintegrating and joining the Khartoum government's peace initiative. The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) of northern Sudanese opposition parties, which was founded in Asmara, Eritrea in June 1995 under the direct sponsorship of Baroness Cox, is falling apart, and its leaders, one after the other, are calling for dialogue with the government.

Despite the fact that the Sudanese people most courageously defended their country against military and economic warfare imposed on them through the United Nations Security Council, because of their resistance to the dictates of the International Monetary Fund, and in pursuit of building an independent and powerful national economy, the final blow to this supranational effort came from Egypt. Realizing the grave dangers which the destabilization of Sudan posed to its national security, Egypt restored its strategic, historical relations with Sudan.

Historically, Egypt has considered Sudan as its geostrategic extension, because of Egypt's total dependence on the water of the Nile for its survival. This aspect has become more

important since Egypt started its major agricultural infrastructure projects to irrigate the desert in the west of the Nile valley and in the Sinai, using water from the Nile. The Egyptian public could no longer remain passive when the armies of Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Uganda started an invasion of Sudan in January 1997, and calls were made by popular Egyptian figures to assist Sudan against the invasion. The year before, Eritrea had occupied, with Israeli assistance, the strategic Hanish Islands, which had been under Yemeni sovereignty. These islands are located in the southern Red Sea about 150 kilometers from the Bab Al-Mandab Strait, which gives their occupiers the potential to control navigation from Asia and East Africa through the Suez Canal to the Mediterranean. Furthermore, Israel, Egypt's strategic rival, has been building a marine base in the Eritrean Dahlak archipelago.

Britain, not Sudan, harbors terrorists

The first explicit expression of the shift in Egypt's stance vis-à-vis Sudan came from President Hosni Mubarak, who, outraged by the terrorist massacre of 62 people in Luxor, Egypt on Nov. 17, 1997 by the London-based Islamic Group, declared publicly that the Luxor murderers "live in Britain and Afghanistan and other countries, where they finance and plan their crimes." Exonerating Sudan from allegations of harboring "Islamic" terrorism, Mubarak told the international reporters: "No. No, Sudan has changed. The situation is much better there now concerning terrorism. But there is a coordination between those who are in England, and those in Afghanistan." Since then, Egypt has become the leading force in the Islamic world exposing the British policy to support international terrorism.

Meanwhile, President Mubarak gave instructions to his government to start a process of normalization of relations with Sudan. The relations between the two states had deteriorated in the past few years because of wild allegations by Baroness Cox and the British and U.S. mass media, of Sudan's support for and harboring of "Islamist" terrorists targeting Egypt and other neighboring countries. This was further aggravated when an assassination attempt against Mubarak was orchestrated in Adis Abeba, Ethiopia in June 1995, and Sudan was falsely blamed for plotting the attempt.

Who sold this dying horse to Albright?

The only secret behind Britain's success in horse trading, is the existence of dumb buyers. In the case of U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, they managed to sell her a dying horse. During her early December 1997 visit to Kampala, Albright met with the Sudanese opposition group, the National Democratic Alliance, and reportedly pledged support to overthrow the Khartoum government. As was obvious, the NDA was disintegrating, and the Egyptian government, one of the United States' most important allies in the region, made clear its position in support of Khartoum and its rejection of the NDA's plans, which have been crafted by the British. The NDA and Garang had lost all hope of continuing their treasonous

acts against Sudan. The only reason for such a move was to implicate the United States in the lost war against Sudan, and let the United States take credit for an entirely British operation. Albright danced cheerfully into that trap.

As Lyndon LaRouche and *EIR* warned in September 1997 (see *EIR*, Sept. 26, 1997, "Sudan Target of Rice War," and "British Agents in Washington Gun for War Against Sudan"), this operation was being prepared by rabid Anglophiles in the U.S. State Department and Congress, such as Assistant Secretary of State of African Affairs Susan Rice, who was obviously running the show in Kampala; John Pendergast; and members of the U.S. Congress such as Reps. Chris Smith (R-N.J.) and Frank Wolf (R-Va.). As expected, political groups and the media in the region zoomed in on Albright's statements, accusing the United States of being behind the destabilization of Sudan and the region, a war in which the United States, as the Arabic proverb states, has "no load or camel."

Pace of normalization has been 'breathtaking'

The speed with which the normalization process between Sudan and Egypt has advanced has been breathtaking, and has given no chance to outside forces for destabilization and sabotage. The first meetings between high-level officials of the two countries took place during the summit meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Teheran in December 1997, which was attended by Sudan's President Omar Al-Bashir and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa. Another important meeting took place in Tunis on Jan. 5-6 between Egyptian Interior Minister Habib Al-Adli and his Sudanese counterpart Brig. Bakri Hassan Saleh, on the fringes of the Arab Interior Ministers' conference on combatting terrorism.

Following the meeting, Al-Adli said that "the meeting aimed at promoting the two countries' security relations." He added, "Security cooperation among countries should not be affected by political stances. The security cooperation serves all nations, and any threat to security will jeopardize all parties, and not only the country targeted by terrorists." The Arab Interior Ministers' meeting was focussed on combatting terrorism coming from Britain and other Western countries. This was followed by a meeting between Egyptian Foreign Minister Mousa and Sudanese State Minister for Foreign Relations Dr. Mustafa Othman Ismail, in Cairo on Jan. 12, to discuss preparations for a summit between the Presidents of Egypt and Sudan, and to discuss "threats posed to Sudan's territorial integrity and stability, normalization of relations, water, and economic cooperation," according to the Egyptian official daily *Al-Ahram*. Following their meeting, the Sudanese minister said that "the talks are a follow-up to the proposals and instructions made by the Egyptian leadership and Pres-

ident Mubarak on solving the issues related to the normalization of relations between the two countries for the benefit of the two nations." Dr. Ismail concluded: "Egypt is concerned about the situation in Sudan, because its national security is connected to Sudan's national security. Egypt is completely aware of its role in preserving its peace and security, and this has been emphasized several times by Egypt's political leadership."

Garang gets a warning

The Egyptian leadership gave a number of significant signals of its determination to preserve Sudan's national unity and security. In late November 1997, Mubarak and Mousa met with SPLA leader Garang, and reportedly told him that Egypt rejected all attempts to create a separate state in the south of Sudan, or any other structure which could undermine the territorial integrity of Sudan. In late December, Foreign Minister Mousa told the Arabic daily *Al-Hayat* that "Egypt will not accept any threats to the national unity of Sudan, especially these coming from the south."

On Jan. 7, Egyptian Presidential political adviser Dr. Osama Al-Baz described Egyptian-Sudanese relations as "very special and everlasting." Al-Baz, who was addressing an Islamic Forum in Al-Azhar Mosque in Cairo, added: "We consider the Sudanese people as twin brothers to the Egyptian people. We call the two the Nile Valley people, although there is no official or constitutional unity between the two countries." He emphasized that "the Khartoum government is eager to restore ties with Egypt back to normal; we are ready and we will be pleased to restore cooperation with the Sudanese people in all fields." Al-Baz voiced anew Egypt's support for the territorial integrity of Sudan. "Egypt stands

against the division of Sudan. This country should remain united," he said. "The Egyptian stance is not based on water [interests], but because of the historic relations and the desire to maintain security and stability in the region."

On Jan. 13, the Chairman of the Sudanese Parliament, Dr. Hassan Al-Turabi, was invited to attend the emergency meeting of the Arab Parliamentarians Union (APU) in Luxor, in support of Egypt's fight against terrorism. The Deputy Chairman of the Sudanese Parliament, Abdul-Aziz Sheddo, attended. In that meeting, Mubarak made a harsh statement, although not referring to Britain by name, against states harboring and protecting terrorists. The APU issued a statement demanding the extradition of terrorists, and appealing to the United Nations to convene an international conference on terrorism to demand that states that are proven to be harboring and supporting terrorists, be punished. The Egyptian official press made explicit statements on the possibility of bringing the British government to international arbitration to force it to extradite terrorists enjoying asylum in Britain.

The latest meeting between officials of Sudan and Egypt took place on Jan. 15 during the sessions of the Egyptian-Sudanese High Commission on Commerce, and included Sudan's Trade Minister Othman Al-Hadi and his Egyptian counterpart Dr. Ahmed Al-Geweli. The two sides reached agreements for doubling the volume of trade between the two nations, and increasing river and land transport. The Sudanese side proposed that Egypt provide technical assistance in irrigation and building infrastructure for cultivating huge areas in northern Sudan. Egyptian companies are also planning to assist Sudan in building roads and railways linking southern and northern Sudan and Egypt.

SPLA suffers heavy losses

As these developments were unfolding, the Sudanese Army made a major attack on the bases of the SPLA in southern Sudan, and the SPLA has reportedly suffered heavy losses. On Jan. 9, international media reported from Sudan that more than 7,000 members of Garang's SPLA in Bahr Al-Ghazal province have abandoned their positions and have sought refuge with pro-government forces in the south of the country. Brig. Abdul-Rahman Sirr-el-Khatem, spokesman for the Sudanese Army, was quoted as saying that "this is a historic turning point toward peace and unity" in Sudan. Within only 48 hours, some 6,000 of the SPLA members fled to areas under government control in Tung, Kwajina, Awel, and Waw. Meanwhile, a force of 1,000 rebels who had been encamped around Waw, contacted the military commander of the town to announce their surrender.

This major development started in late December, when the government army and its southern allies launched a major attack on the SPLA bases in Bahr Al-Ghazal region. A spokesman for one of the SPLA units in Waw told the Sudanese daily *Al-Jumhuriya* that Karbino Kwaynin (a former southern

rebel leader who signed a peace treaty with the government in 1997) convinced him to join the peace process with the government. The groups that have left the SPLA are mainly from the Nuba Mountains area, which is one of the main power bases of Garang. The leaders of these groups have reportedly sought asylum in Europe for fear of revenge by Garang.

Attack from Eritrea thwarted

This major victory thwarted a plan for a military attack from Eritrea against northeast Sudan, under the cover of National Democratic Alliance operations against the Sudanese Army. On Jan. 6, Brig. Mohammed Abdullah Awaidha, chairman of the Security and Defense Committee in the Sudanese Parliament, revealed the involvement of Israeli military experts in the current buildup by the Eritrean Army on the eastern border of Sudan. Awaidha said that "these fresh moves by Eritrea coincided with the visit by British Baroness Caroline Cox to Eritrea and follow Madeleine Albright's tour in the region." Awaidha added that "the scheme which is being implemented, and in which Isaias Afwerki, President of Eritrea, is participating, is aiming at the control of the Red Sea all the way down to the Horn of Africa, and putting it under the Israeli and imperialist interests."

This attack was planned to coincide with bloody riots in Khartoum, the capital, provoked by NDA agents in Sudan, especially the Sudanese Communist Party. The Communist Party hideout in Khartoum was raided by the security forces, and its members arrested. The Communist Party is directly linked to London's NDA, and has been influential as a provocateur in the University of Khartoum and Um Durman. The Sudanese security officers stated that they found out that the Communist Party was planning to provoke a wave of violent riots and sabotage, to coincide with a major military offensive from neighboring states.

Britain readies counterattack

It is to be expected that the response to these encouraging developments would come in the form of typical efforts to destabilize the region. Military measures have proven futile, and with Egypt entering the scene as a major player on the side of Sudan, it would be unthinkable that the attempt to overthrow the Khartoum government militarily and divide Sudan by force, would be opted for. However, the possibility is open for political and economic warfare, especially against Egypt's, and also Sudan's water infrastructure projects. The attack in Luxor, for example, was an attack on Egypt's economy which is dependent to a great extent on the revenues from tourism. However, the greatest threat would come from attempts to create conflict on the issue of water rights in the Nile basin states.

For example, in a double attack on both Egypt and Sudan, the Ethiopian Foreign Minister announced at a press confer-

ence in Adis Abeba on Jan. 12, that his government “is completely opposed to the agricultural projects carried out by Egypt to irrigate the Sinai desert using water from the Nile.” He described these projects as “an Egyptian card of pressure which it will use in future negotiations against the states of the Nile basin.” He also attacked Sudan, saying that “Sudan should comply with the United Nations resolution concerning the extradition of three Egyptian terrorists accused of carrying out the assassination attempt against Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Adis Abeba, Ethiopia, in 1995.” This attack also expresses the Ethiopian regime’s frustration with Egypt’s normalization of relations with Sudan, and also Egypt’s success in its initiative to achieve peace and national reconciliation in Somalia, which resulted in the signing of a peace agreement by the Somali factions in Cairo in late December. Egypt might also initiate an attempt to reconcile the Khartoum government and the northern opposition. Following his meeting with the Sudanese State Minister for Foreign Relations, Egyptian Foreign Minister Mousa told the press: “We can definitely mediate [between Sudan’s government and the opposition]. I can’t say whether we were asked to do that, but I can say that this issue is among a number of

issues we are discussing.” One week earlier, Mousa had met with the Sudanese opposition leader, Assadiq Al-Mahdi, who proposed that Egypt lead a mediation initiative between the government and the opposition. Despite the fact that both the Egyptian and Sudanese ministers said that such an initiative should take place within the framework of the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development group, which has served as a mechanism through which Britain has unified Sudan’s neighbors for a war on Sudan, Egypt’s support for Sudan’s national unity could turn the tables on this Uganda-Ethiopia-Eritrea-dominated group. The latest peace talks between Sudanese government officials and SPLA leader Garang in Nairobi included a proposal by Garang to create a confederated state in southern Sudan.

So, with Britain, and not Sudan, exposed as *the* center of international terrorism, with Britain losing the striking force of its stooges in the region, and with the Muslim world recognizing that Britain is the source of terrorism and that it should be punished for it, the British oligarchy is not only losing the battle against Sudan, but also its capability to destabilize and manipulate the nations in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa.

LISTEN TO LAROUCHE ON RADIO



*Frequent Interviews with
Lyndon LaRouche on the
Weekly Broadcast “EIR Talks”*

ON SATELLITE
Saturdays
4 p.m. ET
Galaxy 7 (G-7)
Transponder 14.
7.71 Audio.
91 Degrees West.

SHORTWAVE RADIO
Sundays, 5 p.m. ET
2200 UTC
WWCR 5.070 mHz

**Cassettes Available to
Radio Stations**

**Transcripts Available to
Print Media**

Local Times for “EIR Talks” Sunday Shortwave Broadcast on WWCR 5.070 mHz	
Adis Ababa.	0100*
Amsterdam.	2300
Anchorage.	1300
Athens.	2400
Atlanta.	1700
Auckland.	1000*
Baghdad.	0100*
Baltimore.	1700
Bangkok.	0500*
Beijing.	0600*
Belfast.	2200
Berlin.	2300
Bohemian Grove.	1400
Bogota.	1700
Bonn.	2300
Bombay.	0330*
Boston.	1700
Bretton Woods.	1700
Bucharest.	2400
Buenos Aires.	1900
Buffalo.	1700
Cairo.	2400
Calcutta.	0330*
Caracas.	1800
Casablanca.	2200
Chattanooga.	1700
Chicago.	1600
Copenhagen.	2300
Denver.	1500
Detroit.	1700
Dublin.	2200
Gdansk.	2300
Guadalajara.	1600
Havana.	1700
Helsinki.	2400
Ho Chi Minh City.	0600*
Honolulu.	1200
Hong Kong.	0600*
Houston.	1600
Istanbul.	2400
Jakarta.	0500*
Jerusalem.	2400
Johannesburg.	2400
Karachi.	0300*
Kennebunkport.	1700
Kiev.	2400
Khartoum.	2400
Lagos.	2300
Lima.	1700
Lincoln.	1600
Lisbon.	2300
Little Rock.	1600
London.	2200
Los Angeles.	1400
Madrid.	2300
Manila.	0600*
Mecca.	0100*
Melbourne.	0800*
Mexico City.	1600
Milan.	2300
Minneapolis.	1600
Montreal.	1700
Moscow.	0100*
New Delhi.	0330*
New York.	1700
Nogales.	1500
Norfolk.	1700
Oslo.	2300
Paris.	2300
Philadelphia.	1700
Pittsburgh.	1700
Prague.	2300
Rangoon.	0430*
Richmond.	1700
Rio de Janeiro.	1900
Rome.	2300
St. Louis.	1600
St. Petersburg.	0100*
San Francisco.	1400
Santiago.	1800
Sarajevo.	2300
Seattle.	1400
Seoul.	0700*
Shanghai.	0600*
Singapore.	0530*
Stockholm.	2300
Sydney.	0800*
Teheran.	0130*
Tel Aviv.	2400
Tokyo.	0700*
Toronto.	1700
Vancouver.	1400
Vladivostok.	0800*
Venice.	2300
Warsaw.	2300
Washington.	1700
Wellington.	1000*
Wiesbaden.	2300
Winnipeg.	1700
Yokohama.	0700*
Yorktown.	1700

* Mondays