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TAGS: OVIP (POWELL, COLIN L.), PREL, EAID, PGOV, PTER, SU

SUBJECT: (U) SECRETARY POWELL'S JUNE 29, 2004, MEETING WITH SUDANESE PRESIDENT AL-BASHIR

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY: DOUGLAS C. GREENE, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, S/ES, DEPARTMENT OF STATE. REASON 1.4 (D)

2. (U) JUNE 29, 2004; 2215; KHARTOUM, SUDAN

3. (U) PARTICIPANTS:

U.S. THE SECRETARY CHARGE D'AFFAIRES GERARD GALLUCCI, U.S. EMBASSY, KHARTOUM USAID ADMINISTRATOR ANDREW NATSIOS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS DATE/CASE ID: 17 APR 2006 200502039

UNCLASSIFIED
A/S RICHARD BOUCHER, PA
MICHAEL RANNEBERGER, AF/SPG SPECIAL ADVISOR
VADM JAMES METZGER, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN, JCS
ROBERT BEECROFT, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY
D. PURNELL DELLY, DCM, U.S. EMBASSY, KHARTOUM (NOTETAKER)

SUDAN
H.E. OMER HASSAN AL-BASHIR, PRESIDENT OF SUDAN
DR. MUSTAFA OSMAN ISMAIL, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
YAHYA HUSSAIN, STATE MINISTER FOR THE PRESIDENCY
MGEN BAKRI HASSAN SALIH, MINISTER OF DEFENSE
MGEN ABDEL-RAHIM M. HUSSEIN, MINISTER OF INTERIOR
IBRAHIM MAHMOUD HAMID, MINISTER OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS
AMBASSADOR KHIDIR HARUM, EMBASSY OF SUDAN, WASHINGTON D.C.
AMBASSADOR MOHAMED A.A. EL-KARIB, DIRECTOR OF AMERICAS
DEPARTMENT, SUDAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

4. (S) SUMMARY.

THE SECRETARY SAID PRESIDENT BUSH WAS PLEASED WITH EVENTS IN NAIVASHA BUT DEEPLY TROUBLED BY THE POSSIBILITY OF HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE IN DARFUR. NORMALIZATION CANNOT PROCEED WITHOUT IMMEDIATE STEPS TO STOP JINJAWEED VIOLENCE AGAINST CIVILIANS AND ELIMINATE RED TAPE SLOWING DELIVERY OF RELIEF. IN DARFUR AS IN NAIVASHA, THE U.S. WANTS TO HELP.

END SUMMARY.

5. (S) PRESIDENT BASHIR SAID RECENT SIGNATURE OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT IN NAIVASHA WOULD BE CELEBRATED AT REVOLUTION DAY ON JUNE 30.
7. THE SECRETARY SAID PRESIDENT BUSH WAS PLEASED WITH ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. CONGRESSMEN HAD COME TO HIS OFFICE ONLY A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND SAID THE U.S. HAD TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE NORTH-SOUTH CONFLICT. IT WAS A DIFFICULT CHALLENGE, BUT THE U.S. HAD ENGAGED. THE SECRETARY HIMSELF HAD MADE SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL INVESTMENT IN THE PROCESS, REMINDING PRESIDENT BASHIR THAT HE HAD COME TO NAIVASHA AND SAID, "THIS PROCESS CANNOT FAIL, OR WE ALL FAIL THE PEOPLE OF SUDAN." PRESIDENT BUSH LOOKS FORWARD TO CONCLUSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT AND WELCOMING THE PARTIES TO A CEREMONY IN WASHINGTON. HE WANTS IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS.

8. BUT THAT CANNOT HAPPEN UNTIL DARFUR IS SECURE AND RELIEF IS FLOWING. THE SITUATION IN DARFUR IS NOT "CONTAINED." THAT IS THE JUDGMENT NOT ONLY OF THE U.S., BUT UNSYG KOFI ANNAN AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE PRESIDENT IS DEEPLY TROUBLED BY PROSPECTS FOR A HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE IN DARFUR. TO AVERT CATASTROPHE, SECURITY MUST BE RESTORED SO JINJAWEED NO LONGER COMMIT VIOLENCE AGAINST INNOCENT CIVILIANS. WE ARE ALSO TELLING THE REBELS THAT SUCH VIOLENCE IS UNACCEPTABLE. BARRIERS MUST BE ELIMINATED TO DELIVERY OF RELIEF AND VISAS FOR RELIEF WORKERS. IT IS IN SUDAN'S INTEREST TO SHOW IT IS MORE CONCERNED THAN WE ARE ABOUT SECURITY AND RELIEF DELIVERY. THE U.S. MUST ALSO SEE FULL COOPERATION WITH AU MONITORING. THERE MUST ALSO BE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

9. PRESIDENT BUSH HAS DISCUSSED DARFUR WITH THE EU, G-8, AND NATO ALLIES. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAD BEEN IN ALMOST DAILY CONTACT WITH UNSYG KOFI ANNAN, WHO IS ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED. THERE MUST BE IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN DARFUR OR IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION LIKE A UNSC RESOLUTION. PRESIDENT BUSH DOES NOT WANT TO DO THIS. BUT PEACE MUST NOT ONLY INCLUDE THE SOUTH. AMBASSADOR DANFORTH'S SIX POINTS THAT HE SAID WOULD LEAD TO NORMALIZATION WITH THE U.S. INCLUDED ALL OF SUDAN, BUT EVEN IF A NARROW LEGAL INTERPRETATION LIMITED THEM TO THE SOUTH THE U.S. CONGRESS WOULD NOT ALLOW THE PRESIDENT TO MOVE FORWARD ON NORMALIZATION WITHOUT RESOLUTION OF DARFUR. THE U.S. WANTS TO HELP. IT DOES NOT WANT TO BE PUNITIVE. TO THE $116 MILLION ALREADY COMMITTED FOR DARFUR THE CONGRESS HAS JUST ADDED $95 MILLION IN A DEFENSE SUPPLEMENTAL. BUT SUDAN MUST ACT IMMEDIATELY TO ADDRESS DARFUR, OR THE
11. USAID ADMINISTRATOR NATSIOS ECHOED THE SECRETARY THAT THE U.S. WANTS A FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH AND DOES NOT WANT TO DELIVER BAD NEWS. BUT ONLY TWO WEEKS AGO SIX VILLAGES WERE BURNED. LAST WEEK 14 YEAR OLD GIRLS WERE WHIPPED AND RAPED. GOS SOLDIERS SHOT AT A RELIEF CONVOY LAST WEEK. THESE INCIDENTS HAD BEEN CONFIRMED BY MULTIPLE SOURCES. ACUTE MALNUTRITION WAS AT A RATE OF 10 PERCENT AND GLOBAL MALNUTRITION WAS AT FAMINE RATE. PEOPLE WERE DYING IN CAMPS. CHILDREN WERE DYING OF MALARIA, MEASLES, AND DIARRHEA.

12. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAID HE ALSO SAID THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION WAS TELLING SUDAN THAT THERE WERE NO EPIDEMICS IN DARFUR BY UN STANDARDS. THE HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS MINISTER SAID THE VACCINATION RATE IN DARFUR WAS BETTER THAN THE REST OF THE COUNTRY, BUT THAT MALARIA MIGHT BECOME A PROBLEM DURING THE RAINY SEASON AS IT WOULD ACROSS THE REST OF SUDAN. MALNUTRITION RATES WERE HIGHER IN REGIONS OUTSIDE DARFUR.
THE SECRETARY AGREED THAT HIS TEAM WOULD MEET WITH GOS OFFICIALS TO LAY OUT IN MORE DETAIL THE SPECIFIC ACTIONS THE US WANTS THE GOS TO TAKE. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

POWELL

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