

(Supplement)

NO: 5. NEWS SERIES

EDITORIAL

It is now the NILE REPUBLIC

Last March two important events marked the progress of the struggle in the Southern Sudan against Arab racial and colonial rule from the North. These were the adoption of a new name for the Southern Sudan, and the holding of the first Convention called by the Southern Sudan Provisional Government inside the country. After a number of invitations to Southern Sudan nationalists to suggest a more fitting name in place of Southern Sudan, the Convention has finally chosen and adopted the NILE REPUBLIC as the name for the future independent state of Southern Sudan. With its four million Africans, the NILE REPUBLIC stretches from the borders of Uganda and Kenya in the South to latitude 12° north. It corresponds to the present Southern Sudan plus the copper-rich region of Kafia Kingi (annexed to Darfur in 1961) and the area occupied by the Ngok Dinka which is now administered as part of Kordofan province. The name Southern Sudan was rejected because, as applied to a geographical zone, it does not have adequate relevance to this region alone. In addition, it was a colonialist name which was first used by the Egyptians and later by the British to describe inadequately the Nilotic and Nilo-Hamitic tribes living on the upper region of the River Nile. The name AZANIA with which this region has been associated during the recent past, was also rejected because of its remote relevance to Southern Sudan. For, according to historical research, the remains of the Azania Empire which flourished along the East African coast, were finally destroyed by foreign invaders South of the present Republic of Tanzania. Hence, the South African liberation movements which had already opted for this ancient name appear to have more legitimate claim.

The second important event was the holding of the Convention itself (attended by representatives from all parts of the Southern Sudan) and the establishment of an apparatus to govern political and military conduct of the liberation movement during the next four years (if necessary). According to the new system there is to be an Executive and a National Council (composed of representatives and appointees) which acts as a legislature.

In addition to establishing a new machinery, the Convention has also made changes in the leadership and assigned more responsibilities to younger but qualified nationalists. Presidency of the Nile Republic has gone to Mr. Gordon M. Mayen who was Foreign Minister of the Southern Sudan Provisional Government. Mr. Mayen is one of the most popular men in the Southern Sudan liberation movement today. He is also a qualified and experienced man. After a successful career in the police, Mr. Mayen joined the Local Government and became the first Southerner to be appointed as Executive Secretary of Wad Medani Municipal Council, thus of the leading industrial town of the Northern Sudan. In 1965 he was appointed as Minister of Works during the Care-taker Government of Sir el Khatim el Khalifa. He also served as Vice President of the Southern Front before leaving the Sudan in 1967 to join the revolution outside. Mr. Mayen's Vice President is Marko Rume, former M.P. for Kajo-kaji and first Vice President of the Sudan African National Union (SANU) when it was formed in 1967.

/over.....

Among the younger men who have been given major responsibilities are Foreign Affairs Minister, Arkanjelo Wanji, B.Sc. Econ. (Hons), who gave up his M.Sc. studies at Khartoum University to join the liberation movement in 1967; Information Minister and Attorney General, Joseph K. Banak, who gave up his Law studies at Khartoum University in 1965 to join the liberation movement; Defence and Health Minister, David Koak, a graduate of Juba Commercial Secondary School who served for a long time as Southern Sudanese representative in Ethiopia.

The military structure of the Anya-Nya has not been changed and remains under the command of General Amedeo Tafeng Ladongi.

The Convention has also marked the withdrawal from top rank of two personalities, Joseph Oduho and Aggrey Jaden. Their uncompromising rivalry over leadership has been responsible for the poor progress that the liberation movement has made during the last four years inspite of better military equipment. They also prevented the liberation movement to enjoy confidence among African and other governments, but, although these two former leaders did not attend the Convention, it is to be hoped that through Mr. Mayen they will find a new basis for co-operation with all the Southerners. In fact Mr. Oduho has been pressing that a third political personality with the stature of the new President might achieve harmony among various factions that had come into being within the liberation movement for the Southern Sudan. Is this then a new phase in the revolution? Only time will tell. But with his great popularity, his vast experience and dynamism, Mr. Mayen may become a "brand figure" that the Southern Sudanese have lacked in their struggle against Northern colonial rule.

#### THE NILE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT Statement on the Balgo-Bindi Convention

1. The Southern Sudan Provisional Government last September decided to call a National Convention to be held in the month of December 1968 at Ibbā. The reasons and aims of the Southern Sudan Provisional Government calling the National Convention were :-
  - (a) To fulfil the 1967 Angudri Convention ruling that a convention to be held after one year (1968).
  - (b) To name the country.
  - (c) To submit to the Convention the draft Constitution.
  - (d) To give chance to all Southerners who have the liberation at heart to discuss their country's affairs.
2. In the contained 1968 Convention Laws, attendance was fixed and delegates were to come from all the Districts and Regions of the then three Southern Sudan Provinces; and also from all the Southern Communities in all the neighbouring African countries and Europe. Owing to long distance and lack of both means and quick communications, some managed to arrive in time. Time was extended to the month of March 1969, reminders were sent out again. Districts delegates, commissioners, chiefs and high ranking ANAF officers began dropping in one by one. The sponsors of the convention were desirous that all persons be given the chance to prepare themselves and attend the convention. At the same time they were determined to overcome all obstacles and perils especially as it was during a period when the Liberation war was intensified and the Arabs were making their man-hunt day and night. After the delegates had arrived from all over the country, the venue was decided upon to be at Balgo-Bindi and the date fixed as 19.3.1969, and was, therefore, held six months after it was first decided in September 1968.

/over....

3. The Balgo-Bindi Convention came out with decisive resolutions and declarations.

(a) The assembled representatives declared the three Southern Sudan Provinces of the Sudan and its people under a separate state called the Nile, and the people Nileans. Its boundaries were declared identical to the original Southern Sudan. The Nile Provisional Government, its armed wing, the Anya-Nya National Armed Forces and the civil population, shall prosecute with determination the war of Liberation for national Independence and Freedom. The Supreme governing will of the Nilean people shall be vested in the National Legislative, Executive and Judicial bodies.

(b) The Nile Provisional Government shall persistently strive to develop close and particular understanding with all black African States and governments and further appeal to their African and Kin Kith for both moral and active support to counter that given by some Arab States to the Arab Sudan. As the Nileans are engaged in a war of survival engendered and perpetuated by Arabs policy of genocide and racial subjugation, the Provisional Government shall develop and strengthen friendly and genuine relations with all the peoples and nations sympathetic towards our cause and that of human freedom in general.

The attitude of the Balgo-Bindi Convention towards sister neighbouring African Countries is that of good neighbourliness and mutual respect.

(c) It denounces all Nilean exile parties and governments, and shall treat as foreign stooges any Nileans that operate inside the country under the influence of foreigners or manipulators. The Convention appeals to all Nileans to co-operate with the Provisional Government render all the necessary sacrifices in the course of the Liberation War, and to up-hold the National principles and solidarity.

(d) The Convention re-affirmed that the seat of the Nile Provisional Government shall always be situated inside the Nile State, and that only the Provisional Government operating inside the country is the constitutional, legal and authoritative body of the Nile State in its internal and external affairs.

(e) The constitution, as passed by the National Convention provided: An executive body of 3 persons, two amongst whom are the President and Vice President elected on separate and secret ballot, and the rest appointed by the President in consultation with an Adhoc advisor committee; a legislative body referred to as National Liberation Council of 30 district representatives plus the executive members and 12 other nominees!

The constitution divided the country into nine (9) administrative units called Regions, and also provided a central system of administration with supreme powers in finance, Defence, Legislative, Executive and Judicial matters. For Defence, it provided for a unified National Army, referred to as Anya-Nya National Armed Forces (ANAF).

(f) The Convention then elected Messrs Gordon Muortat Mayen and Marko Rume President and Vice President respectively, of the Nile State

Signed Mr. K. Banak  
Information Minister & Attorney General

Balgo-Bindi, 30th March 1969.

NEWS ITEMS

Leading Nuer Chief dies in the hands of Arab Soldiers

Premier Mahgoub's policy to eliminate Southern Sudan intelligentsia and traditional leadership has again come to the fore. The most recent victim is Phillip Reath, paramount chief of Fangak. Educated at Loka Intermediate, Chief Reath became a member of the 1958 Senate. During the military regime he was a member of the Upper Nile Province Council. At the time of his death he was president of the Regional Court of Fangak. Chief Reath was shot dead early last March at Magok Police Station and before many eye-witnesses. His killers were Arab soldiers acting on the orders of 2nd Lieutenant, Salah Ali. Lt. Ali and his military unit had been flown in from Malakal to reinforce Arab police against mounting local opposition headed by a Nuer religious leader. They proceeded to arrest chief Reath on suspicion of collusion with the religious leader. But failing to find incriminating evidence the soldiers set him free and allowed him to return to his home. Later however, Lt. Ali changed his mind and ordered his men to rearrest chief Reath. At this time the police intervened and asked to be given custody of the chief. This was refused and this junior officer ordered his men to shoot chief Reath. A concocted story was then sent to the Commissioner of Malakal, Sayed Abdalla Jadalla, that the chief was shot while trying to escape. Despite accurate report from the police and other eye-witnesses no measures have been taken against Lt. Ali and his men. Last month, while attending the Commissioners' conference in Khartoum, Sayed Abdalla Jadalla was still avoiding queries from Southerners that he had not received information to disprove Lt. Ali's version.

In the same manner Mr. Manhiem Giir, son of chief Giir Thiik, and a businessman, was killed earlier in Gogrial town. The army has refused to disclose the reasons for his murder.

Northern parties' conspiracy in the death of SANU leader

Little by little information has been trickling through that the SANU leader, Mr. William Deng, who died a year ago was killed by Sudan Arab soldiers in collusion with political parties in the North. Mr. Deng was killed on May 5, 1968 together with six others, including a district engineer and a finalist student in Economics at Khartoum University. On May 9, Radio Omdurman announced that Mr. Deng had been killed by the Anya-Nya (this was immediately denied by the Anya-Nya commanding officer in the area). Later, however, a government appointed Commission of Inquiry reported that the cartridges found on the scene of the murder were of Sudanese make, but could not establish whether they were used by the government troops or by the Anya-Nya.

/over.....

From sources close to Arab circles in Khartoum it is now known that all Northern political parties were kept informed by government about Deng's continuous contact with Anya-Nya. Some of his letters to the Anya-Nya imploring them to cease fighting were circulated to Northern parties. Only two weeks before his death one of such letters was intercepted by the government and was used to authorise his death. Why did they not arrest him and bring him to court?

It is true Mr. Deng had chosen an impossible task as the Apostle of conciliation and peace despite high degree of hatred and bloodshed between the South and the North. But unlike Dr. Martin Luther King whose death in pursuit of conciliation and peace was regretted by both Black and White Americans, Deng met his death unceremonially in the hands of those he supported. This was not, however, the first of its kind in the Afro-Arab conflict in the Sudan. In 1955 members of the Southern military corps who renounced the rebellion and joined Northern troops to seek a peaceful settlement were summarily shot in Juba and other towns.

#### WAU TOWN UNDER ANYA-NYA ATTACK

Wau, the capital of Bahr el Ghazal province was the target of a determined Anya-Nya attack during April. They attacked Grinti military barracks 3 miles outside the town, and inflicted an unspecified number of casualties. Until the 14th April the Anya-Nya were attacking inside the town and had taken control over a section of Wau.

#### ARAB TROOPS EVACUATED PACHALA

Following a confrontation with the Anya-Nya that lasted from 3rd to 10th April, the Arab soldiers have been forced to evacuate Pachala along the Ethiopian borders. This small town which was the first to fall into the hands of the Anya-Nya in 1963 is now again firmly in their hands.

#### ARABS MURDER 100 VILLAGERS AT WADWIL

Following Anya-Nya destruction of the railway line connecting Wau to Northern Sudan, the government ordered the army to raid the neighbouring village of Wadwil where they killed 100 persons. Omdurman radio reported that they died in a tribal fight.

NOTE - The present issue is the last to appear under the name of VOICE OF SOUTHERN SUDAN. But regular publication of the News Bulletin by the NILE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT shall be guaranteed.

oooOOoooo

THE NILE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

Foreign Policy Statement

1. The foreign policy of the Nile Provisional Government shall ever be dictated by the fact of the situation, that the Nile Provisional Government and the Nilean peoples are engaged in a war of survival engendered and perpetuated by Arab policy of Genocide and racial subjugation. And that we are convinced and committed to the Principle of Self-determination for all races, peoples or nations subjected to oppression and injustice of any nature.

2. As a corollary of the above principle the Nile Provisional Government shall give moral support to all other Liberation Movements in Africa in particular and other deserving cases elsewhere in the world.

3. The Nile Provisional Government further recognises and appreciates the genuine desire of those African leaders and states for a greater unity among member states to ensure true African personality and the general well-being of their peoples. The formation of the O.A.U. and other economic and political groupings such as the East African Community are, therefore, in the right direction, but the sinister designs of racists regimes should not be tolerated or encouraged by the O.A.U. These, we denounce and hence our struggle for a separate identity is morally and legally unquestionable.

4. The Nile Provisional Government shall not commit her struggle to any power-block but will strive to develop friendly and genuine relationship with all peoples and states sympathetic towards our just cause and human freedom in general. The Provisional Government further supports World Organisation such as the United Nations which are striving to uphold the freedom and dignity of all human beings and nations.

Signed

A. Wanji  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
& Government Economic  
Advisor.

Bungu. 4th April, 1969

THE NILE TRANSITIONAL CONSTITUTION

Basic Principles

On the basis of the right of every people to Self-determination, a right which had been denied to the peoples of Southern Sudan by British and Arab imperialism, on the basis of their common struggle to work-out an arrangement of unity which can only be based on the general consent of the governed, and after such attempts have met only with repression and genocide, on the basis of their -will freely declared in the course of the war of liberation to uphold their sacred African heritage and identity, and in accord with this will, we the assembled representatives of this sovereignwill of the people at the Balgo-Bindi Convention, this twentieth day of March, the year nine-hundred and sixty nine, After Christ, solemnly declare our state THE NILE and that we NILEANS bind ourselves to this constitution which shall govern and guide the struggle for freedom and complete independence.

2

The Nile Provisional Government, its armed wing the Anya-Nya National Armed Forces and the civil population shall prosecute un-compromisingly the war of liberation for national freedom and complete independence of the boundries of the Nile State identical to the former Southern Sudan.

The will of the Nilean people shall be supreme to its legislature, executive, judical and all other institutions in the Nile State.

3

The Nile State as represented by its Provisional Government shall persistently strive to develop close and particular understanding with all black African States with the objective of explaining the Nile Liberation struggle for independence as part and parcel of the general African struggle for freedom and independence and the removal of all traces of foreign imposed decades of humiliation and the deliberate distortion of the African personality and image and in our case by Arabs of the Sudan. The Nile Provisional Government shall further request from their African kin and kith both moral and active support to counter that given by the Arab League to the Arab Sudan.

4

The foreign policy of the Nile Provisional Government shall ever be dedicated by the fact of the situation, that the Nileans are engaged in a war of survival engendered and perpetuated by Arab policy of genocide and racial subjugation. The Nile Provisional Government shall, therefore, develop and strengthen friendly and genuine relationship with all peoples or nations sympathetic towards our just cause and human freedom in general.

Signed

G.M. Mayen  
President.

THE NILE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

20th March 1969.