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## SUDAN INDEPENDENCE DAY.

## Proclamation of Independence.

The independence of the Sudan was recognised by the United Kingdom and Egypt on 1st January, following resolutions on the subject passed by the Sudan House of Representatives on 19th December.

The United Kingdom Foreign Office had announced on 12th December that the Governor-General of the Sudan, Sir Knox Helm, wished to resign for personal reasons. Sir Humphrey Trevelyan, United Kingdom Ambassador in Cairo, informed the Egyptian Prime Minister, Colonel Nasser, that the United Kingdom Government were prepared to accept Sir Knox Helm's resignation and did not intend to nominate another British candidate in his place.

At a ceremony in Khartoum on 1st January, letters conveying formal recognition of Sudanese independence were read to a joint sitting of the Sudanese Parliament, and the council of five members which is to function for the time being as Head of State (see above) was sworn in. The flags of the co-domini were lowered and replaced by the new Sudanese flag. In a brief speech, the Prime Minister, Sayed Ismail El-Azhari, thanked the nations, particularly the United Kingdom and Egypt, which had helped the Sudan to become independent. The United Kingdom was represented by Mr. Dodds-Parker, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and Egypt by Brigadier Abdel Fattah Hassan.

Messages of congratulation on the occasion of the Sudan's becoming a sovereign State were sent by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by the United Kingdom Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, and by the United Kingdom Foreign Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd.

The Queen's message, sent to the Council of State, Khartoum, said: "On this auspicious occasion of the achievement of Sudanese independence, it gives me great pleasure to send to you my cordial congratulations and my best wishes for the prosperity of your country and of the Sudanese people."

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Please see also:
     London Times of 2nd and 20th January.
     News Chronicle of    2nd January.
     Daily Telegraph of    "    "
   +   Daily      "     4th January (still photographs).