31 KILLED IN SUDAN IN NATIVES' CLASH AS NAGUIB ARRIVES
Dispatch of The Times, London.
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117 Hurt in Battle at Khartum Palace Between Tribesmen and Pro-Egyptian Group

Dispatch of The Times, London.

KHARTUM, the Sudan, March 1—The arrival in the Sudan today of Maj. Gen. Mohammed Naguib, Egyptian President, revived factional passions of this nascent state in a clash in which at least twenty-two persons were killed. [The Associated Press placed the toll at thirty-one.]

Among the dead were eight of the police force, including the British police commandant of Khartum, H. S. McGuigan, and the superintendent, Mustapha el Mahdi. One hundred seventeen were wounded, of whom thirty-two were seriously injured.

The factional struggle was of a primitive nature. The dead and wounded were seen to bear the marks of clubs and spears, not gunshot wounds.

[Meanwhile, a spokesman for the ruling junta in Egypt said in Cairo Monday that General Naguib owed his reinstatement as President to agitation begun by eight Communist army officers.]

The tragedy here was enacted outside the Governor General's palace, which stands on the site of the residency where Gen. Charles G. Gordon, then Governor General, died from the thrusts of tribesmen's spears during the historic Khartum siege in 1885. Inside the residency, General Naguib, Sir Robert Howe, Governor General, and Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State of the British Foreign Office, were at lunch during today's events.

Parliament Opening Put Off

In view of the passions aroused by the rioting, the Governor General postponed a meeting of the Sudanese Parliament, scheduled for this afternoon, until March 10.

It seemed today as though the army of Mohammed Ahmed, the Mahdi, or Moslem leader who defeated General Gordon, were on the march again. The rioters massed outside the Khartum airport, turbaned and robed in shining white, with their hundreds of banners waving above the throng. They were supporters of the patron of the Sudanese independence movement, Sir Abdel Rahman el Mahdi, mainly Baggara tribesmen from the provinces who gathered to greet General Naguib with chanted slogans demanding independence for the Sudan.

"No Egypt, No Britain!" they cried as they surged up to Sudanese Defense Force troops who barred their way to the airport.

This was no unkempt rabble; their banners were of trim red, green and black stripes, superimposed with a white spear cutting a white crescent.

General Naguib left his aircraft at Khartum airport at 10 A. M. He was accompanied by Maj. Salah Salem, Egyptian Minister of National Guidance and Minister of State for Sudanese Affairs. Sir Robert, Ismail el Azhary, Prime Minister of the

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31 KILLED IN SUDAN AS NAGUIB LANDS

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Sudan, and political dignitaries of the Sudan were waiting to greet him with troops of the palace guard.

As the door of the aircraft opened, the guard presented arms and the Governor General moved forward.

Supporters of General Naguib then swept aside the police cordon and engulfed the reception party, chanting and cheering in praise of the Egyptian President.

Eventually, the defense force restored enough order to enable General Naguib to inspect the guard of honor.

When the ceremonies ended, President Naguib and the welcoming dignitaries entered cars and drove from the airport. Making a wide detour to avoid the massed tribesmen calling for "Independence, Not Naguib," the cars reached the palace.

Meanwhile, the supporters of the pro-independence Umma party streamed to the home of Siddik el Mahdi, whose father, Sir Abdel, elder statesman of the party, appeared for a moment on the roof to salute his followers.

The Umma supporters then went to the palace, where a pro-Egyptian crowd was assembling. The two factions clashed. Tear gas was used in an attempt to disperse them.

Spears, knives and clubs were used in the fighting. The police drove the rioters out of the palace grounds, but thousands continued to march in near-by streets. The supporters of the Umma party carried banners inscribed:

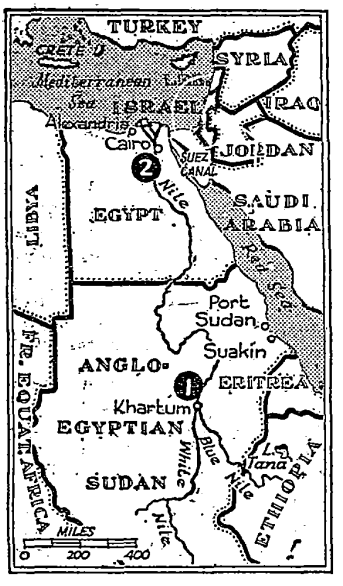
"We Want To Get Rid of British and Egyptian Imperialism;" "The Sudan Is Ours;" "Neither Egypt Nor Britain," and "We Want Independence, Naguib."

The police eventually succeeded in dispersing the mobs.

Units of the Sudanese Defense Force patrolled the streets to restore order and a state of emergency was declared. Sir Abdel has been ordered by the Government to send his supporters out of Khartum by tonight, failing which he will have to bear the responsibility for today's violence.

Thirty-one persons had been arrested by this afternoon, including Sayed Amin el Tom, Assistant Secretary General of the Umma.

The Sudanese Council of Ministers said in a statement tonight that there were reasons to believe the incidents were premeditated, and that the Council would investigate the causes and circumstances.



The New York Times March 2, 1954

MORE VIOLENCE: In Khartum (1), thirty-one persons were killed in rioting touched off by the arrival in the Sudan of Egypt's President Naguib. Cairo (2) was quiet after week-end rioting.

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