

## AFRICAN FREEDOM COALITION

June 8, 2020

Dear Senator:

On May 18, 2020, the US Supreme Court unanimously ruled to uphold punitive damages of up to \$10.2 billion against Sudan for its complicity with Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda for the attacks outside US Embassies in East Africa in 1998. US officials seem prepared to accept a payout deal of \$300 million to some families of the victims. Of the 224 lives lost, including 12 Americans, one third of the families will not be compensated, and the distribution is unequal—i.e. families of non-Americans would receive 1/25th of the payout to American families.

The willingness of the US officials to accept less than 3% of the amount awarded is probably driven by the CIA's enthusiasm for the potential cooperation of Sudan—i.e. its Transitional Military Council (TMC)— in counterterrorism.

The payout would remove a barrier to Sudan being de-listed from the State Sponsors of Terrorism (SST), a major step with terrible irreversible consequences. Besides ceding any future US leverage, de-listing would allow Sudan to qualify for debt relief of \$68 billion, as well as opening untold international financial benefits. These rewards, however, would accrue to the TMC, led by the old Regime Generals, Al-Burhan and Hemeti, and to the old Regime players who still run Sudan, thereby entrenching them, irreversibly.

Just yesterday, June 7, Sudan Tribune (Arabic) announced that the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) officially added the Popular Defense Forces (PDF) to its organization. The inclusion of these brutal fanatical Islamists, the arm of the National Islamic Front formerly controlled by Al-Bashir, signals that the Jihadists are mobilizing to take advantage of the impending de-listing of the SST, ready to make Sudan again a 'safe haven' for terrorists, to create havoc there and in the rest of the world. The 30-year bond between the old Regime and terrorists is likely the operative factor.

What has *not* been considered is the effect of this 'deal' on the people of Sudan, who have seen neither compensation nor accountability for their decades of devastation. In Sudan today, millions of indigenous African blacks, languishing in IDP and refugee camps, still suffer under the same racist genocidal rule that has been operative since 1956, when it was declared 'independent'. Decades of Arabist hegemony that followed led to serial genocides, with a cumulative toll of over 4 million.

— 1956 - 1972 Khartoum vs. S. Sudanese people	deaths 1.0 million
— 1983 - 2005 Khartoum vs. S. Sudanese people	deaths 2.5 million
— 1988 - 2002 Khartoum vs. Nuba people	deaths 100,000
— 2003 - present Khartoum vs. Darfuri people	deaths 500,000
-- 2011 - present Khartoum vs. Nuba, Blue Nile	deaths 50,000

Congress needs to be fully aware of and speak out against this impending deal that would betray the citizens of Sudan and could threaten the free world,



### **African Freedom Coalition:**

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