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# Media Monitoring Report

United Nations Mission in Sudan/ Public Information Office

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- Sudanese army attack three rebel positions in Jebel Marra (***ST***)
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## Elections Special:

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# Highlights

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## **NCP, SPLM agree to increase South's parliamentary representation**

**Al-Ayyam** reports that GoNU VP Ali Osman Taha and GoSS VP Riek Machar have reached an agreement to increase parliamentary seats for the southern Sudan and southern Kordofan as part of efforts to resolve dispute over the census results. Machar said an agreement was reached and would be submitted to the Presidency to decide the percentages.

## **GoSS demands discussion on post-referendum banking arrangements**

**Miraya FM website** 10/2/10 – GoSS officials called for the need to restructure the Central Bank of Sudan in order to reflect the dual banking system. The demand came on the occasion of the Bank's 50th anniversary. GoSS Minister of Finance David Athorbei also appealed to the Central Bank and Bank of Southern Sudan to start preparing for the outcome of the South Sudan referendum in 2011.

Meanwhile, GoSS Minister of Cabinet Affairs Luka Monoja expressed concern over lack of financial loans for Southern Sudan.

## **Militias raid Darfur camp; kill two refugees in South Darfur**

**Reuters** 10/2/10 - Militias raided a Darfur refugee camp, shooting dead two people and injuring at least 10 in an escalation of tension in Sudan's restive west, witnesses and UN officials said Wednesday.

The raid followed the murder of a militia member's relative who appeared to be searching the camps in Kass, South Darfur for the suspect, UN officials in Darfur said.

"The Janjaweed (militia) came in on horses and camels and were looting and shooting," Adam Ali, a resident in the Baytari camp in Kass town, told Reuters by telephone. "They burned many huts and looted the people's belongings."

A UNAMID patrol on Tuesday saw armed horsemen riding into the camp, while others surrounded the settlement, one senior UN official said on condition of anonymity.

"They were members of an Arab militia, apparently related to the man who was killed. They were shooting sporadically when they entered the camp," the official told Reuters.

Ali said four people were killed, but OCHA put the death toll at two, with 10 injured.

"Ten IDPs were taken to Kass hospital and another two were shot dead," said OCHA spokesman Samuel Hendricks.

"It is concerning because it shows the level of tension. Things can easily escalate and get out of control," he added.

## **Sudanese army attack three rebel positions in Jebel Marra**

**Sudan Tribune website** 10/2/10 — Sudanese troops and armed militia attacked today the position of the rebel Sudan Liberation Army led by Abdel Wahid Al Nur in Jebel Marra, a rebel

official said on Wednesday.

The attack comes one month after the SLA-AW rebels took the control of Gulu, the capital of the mountainous area, from the army on January 13. It also highlights the growing violence in the Jebel where the fighting between the government army and the rebels resumed since last summer.

"Since this morning Sudanese army and Janjaweed militiamen attacked three of our positions in Kadmir, Lidy and Fugly in the southern east of Jebel Marra," said Ibrahim El-Hilu, a SLM spokesperson.

He said the fighting continued all the day till the evening, stressing that warplanes and helicopters also participated in the fighting. "The troops arrived from Nyala and Malam," he added.

Aid workers in the area confirmed the attack to Sudan Tribune.

However Ibrahim was unable to provide details about the casualties of today's clashes saying it displaced thousands from their homes.

### **Yemen arrests 154 Nigerian, Sudanese infiltrators**

**People's Daily Online** 11/2/10 - Yemeni coast-guards have arrested 154 African infiltrators from Nigeria and Sudan in the western province of al-Hodaidah, the Interior Ministry said on Wednesday.

A total of 143 Nigerians, including 46 women and 25 children, along with 11 Sudanese were arrested in al-Hodaidah province, located near the Red Sea, said the ministry in a statement.

"The African infiltrators were captured when they arrived in two boats in the city of al-Leahya in al-Hodaidah," said the Yemeni coast-guard in the Red Sea was quoted by the Interior Ministry as saying.

The ministry did not provide the date of arrest, but said it has seized the two smuggling boats and sent the Africans to the security authorities for interrogation on charges of illegally entering Yemen.

Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry said on Wednesday on its website that Yemeni border guards have seized 1,200 African infiltrators in the past two days after they illegally sneaked into western Yemeni coastal city of al-Leahya in al-Hodaidah.

The report said the infiltrators were from different African nations, providing no further information.

Last month, the Sanaa government launched security campaign on its wide-spreading coasts to prevent terrorists from infiltrating into the country.

It also launched an arrest campaign to detain foreigners who are not registered as a refugee or who have no residence permits as well as those who violate the rules of residence.

The campaign followed a threat by Somali extremists to supply their peers in the Yemen-based wing of al-Qaeda with logistic support including arms and fighters.

According to official statistics, Yemen, the poorest country in the Arab world, hosts 800,000 African migrants despite its faltered economy and security problems.

## **Opinion: Bashir and the ICC**

By Alfred Taban, Editor-in-Chief of *Khartoum Monitor*, 11 February 2010

The International Criminal Court is toothless; yet it does not want to admit that. It was in March this year when the ICC issued an arrest warrant for our President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir on the account that he committed war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur. Since that time, no serious attempt was made to arrest him.

This month, a much more serious charge of genocide was added onto his arrest sheet. You never took him to The Hague on the lesser charges of crimes against humanity, will you manage with genocide?

The ICC should not play with the feelings of the people of Darfur. These are people who suffered greatly and they still continue to do so. It is true the people of Darfur do not want to jeopardize the ongoing peace talks in Doha but they also want those responsible for the slaughter of their people to face the law. The people of Darfur want peace but they also want justice. They are not about to trade one for the other. If the ICC can not bring Bashir to the book, it should say so. There is no point in raising the hopes of the people of Darfur and then dashing it all the time. The people of Darfur have suffered enough, give them a break. If the UN can not support its own creation, the ICC, then it should get rid of it.

The people of Darfur should continue to collect evidence against those who are committing crimes against humanity in Darfur but they should withhold them until the ICC has developed teeth.

The people of southern Sudan are eagerly waiting for the case of the Darfurians to be handled before they present their own. The authorities in Khartoum committed untold atrocities in southern Sudan but southerners kept quiet because of the CPA. That has not saved the people of the South because human rights violations continue to this day. Southerners are now being paid to kill other southerners in vicious circles of tribal clashes.

Indeed the Darfur issue flared up due to impunity; the failure of the international community to make those who ill-treated southerners face the music. The perpetrators of genocide in the south are aware that they may one day pay. Thus their interest is to cover up their tracks. They are trying to eliminate the main tribes of Darfur who participated in the massacres in southern Sudan. The tribes of Fur, Zaghawa and Masalit were blackmailed and forced to go south to fight. Since 2003, they have been targeted so that the real architects of genocide escape as there would be nobody to testify against them. Thus the genocide in Darfur was committed to cover-up a bigger and uglier genocide in southern Sudan.

So, if the crimes in Darfur are not attended to, another genocide is likely to take place somewhere, may be amongst the Arab tribesmen in Darfur itself to cover up what happened to the African tribesmen of Darfur.

The ICC must not therefore play with the hurt feelings of the people of southern Sudan and Darfur. They are not only waiting for justice, they want to prevent another genocide from taking place in Sudan. By not doing anything in Darfur, the ICC is now not a source of justice but a source of injustice in Sudan.

## **Elections Special:**

### **NEC releases final lists of candidates**

The NEC yesterday released the final lists of executive and legislative candidates, putting the

total number of contestants at 14,535 across the country, *local dailies* report. The Commission said 12 candidates would compete for the president post and 2 for GoSS presidency.

**Miraya FM** reported that the NEC also began receiving nomination withdrawal requests and the deadline for the process is next Friday.

Reportedly, National Assembly Deputy Speaker Atem Garang (SPLM) speaking to journalists yesterday did not rule out the possibility of elections delay if Darfur talks in Doha reached a final agreement.

### **Ten countries including EU and AU to monitor Sudan's elections**

Carter Centre revealed that ten countries including South Africa, Japan as well as EU, UN and AU would monitor Sudan's upcoming elections, *Al-Sahafa* reports.

GoSS Presidential Affairs Minister Luka Biong told reporters after a meeting between Carter and Kiir that the latter had committed to make elections free and fair. Biong said Kiir at meeting with Carter raised the pending CPA issues including the census results and demarcation of the border.

Meanwhile, Sudan's Justice Minister announced the establishment of electoral courts in all the northern states to look into electoral irregularities. Three courts were established in Khartoum and one each in the northern states. The decision also outlined the powers of the courts.

**Sudan Tribune website** 10/2/10 reported that Ex-US President Jimmy Carter today met with President Al Bashir. Carter is on a four-day visit to Sudan to inspect two sets of Carter Center programs: elections monitoring and health care efforts to eradicate Guinea Worm disease.

In statements to reporters following the meeting, Carter said that his talk with President Al-Bashir dealt with the elections scheduled for next April, pointing out that his Carter Center is monitoring the elections and that his meeting with Bashir comes in the context of the Sudanese leader's capacity as a candidate in this election, SUNA reported.

Carter added that they had received confirmation from the President and the concerned ministers about the security of the electoral process and the work of observers, according to SUNA. The former U.S. president said the meeting also tackled the situation in Darfur.

According to Carter, the international monitors sent by his institute will be "a major partner" to the NEC, although they have no authority over the NEC.

"I have been briefed by Sudan's NEC on progress of the electoral process. I will do my best to support this democratic experience," the agency Xinhua reported. He added, "We have a lot of experience, but our authority and our directions are coming from the NEC itself."

### **SPLM fails to persuade independent candidates to desist from running**

**Sudan Tribune website** 10/2/10 — A high level delegation from Southern Sudan neighboring Warrap State headed by the incumbent governor, Tor Deng Mawien has reluctantly admitted failing to convince independent candidates led by General Dau in the State of Northern Bahr el Ghazal.

On Tuesday 09, a delegation comprising of top officials from the government of South Sudan arrived Aweil town, the state capital of Northern Bahr el Ghazal with GoSS presidential message calling on General Dau, a gubernatorial aspirant in the area to consider dropping off

the race in favor of incumbent governor Malong Awan.

Honorable Deng Thiep Akok said a delegation purportedly sent by President of the government of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit came yesterday on Tuesday, carrying nothing than what he described as "monotonous message requesting us (independent candidates) to drop off intention to contest in the upcoming elections for various positions including gubernatorial seat".

"We have met and unequivocally told them our stance that we have already submitted our applications to run as independent candidates in the upcoming April polls and that it is not possible to reconsider our positions," he said.

"They do not seem to understand and continue to hold meetings and meetings with us since yesterday"; he said adding there are only two options: Allowing them to stand independently or convince the other group to drop off the race in their favor.