

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN****UNMIS**Media Monitoring Report, 20 August 2007

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

AU-UN special representative tours Darfur refugee camps

(*SudanTribune.com* – 19 Aug. EL-FASHER) Rodolphe Adada, the AU-UN Joint Special Representative for Darfur took a tour of the IDP camps in the troubled western region.

“Help is on the way” Adada told displaced Darfurians at the Otash IDP camp near Nyala, South Darfur.

Adada called on the people of Darfur to work with the AU-UN Special Envoys, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim and Mr. Jan Eliasson by convincing non-signatory rebel groups to join the peace process.

The IDP’s conveyed to Adada their desire to see a rapid deployment of the UN-AU hybrid force.

Adada also addressed the African Union troops in the region and promised them that all salary arrears owed them will soon be paid.

GoNU (CPA; Darfur Peace Agreement; ESPA)

Sudan says informed UK embassy of terrorism risk

(*SudanTribune.com; AlSahafa*) Sudan showed understanding to the closure of the Consular Section at the British embassy in Khartoum with the foreign ministry saying it had provided the embassy with information on the risk of terror action against the United Kingdom diplomatic mission there.

Spokesperson of the ministry of foreign affairs, Ali al-Sadiq, disclosed that a security alert from the Sudanese authorities triggered the temporary closure of visa, consular sections of the British embassy in Khartoum.

In a press release, the British Embassy announced yesterday the temporary suspension of public services at the Embassy from 19 August. "The Visa and Consular sections of the Embassy will be closed until further notice." The statement said.

This closure comes after Sudanese police found three weapons caches in the capital during the past week. Police arrested eight Sudanese in connection with the stores, which mostly contained grenades and ammunition.

Sudan to name presidential assistant as responsible of Darfur dossier

(*SudanTribune.com* – 19 Aug. KHARTOUM) The Presidency in Sudan has assigned the dossier on the Darfur crisis to Nafi Ali Nafi, a Presidential Advisor and the deputy leader of the ruling National Congress Party (NCP), a newspaper reported today.

The sources attributed Nafi's selection to the complexity of the Darfur dossier where the work of the majority of official military, security and political bodies intersected. They further said it was necessary to appoint an influential leader who was capable of taking decisions during and after the forthcoming negotiations with Darfur's rebel movements.

The question of the succession of Majzoub al-Khalifah was one of the important matters in term of balance of power between the two major streams within the NCP, observers say.

The eventual nomination of Nafi means that the hardliners in Khartoum keep the upper hand over the dossier of Darfur. Nafi and Majzoub are considered among the Al-Bashir's wing in the ruling party. "It was obvious from the beginning that the vice-president Ali Osman Taha would not be assigned for this mission."

Detained terrorists plan fight against hybrid force

(The Citizen) The people detained in Khartoum with explosive planned to fight the international forces that are due in Sudan, the Sudan Council of Ministers has heard.

Sudan has two international peacekeeping forces, the United Nations Mission in Sudan, and the African Union force, which is supposed to be replaced by a hybrid UN/AU.

The announcement came just a day after Britain shut its embassy here, and advised all its nationals not to travel to Sudan, following the discovery of the explosives.

Council of Ministers spokesman Omer Mohamed Salih told reporters that the Council of Ministers, in the presence of President Bashir, in its sessions has been briefed by the Interior Minister Zubeir Bashir Taha about the explosives and ammunitions found in Khartoum States this week.

According to the report, Sudan security forces were able to capture weapons, explosives and ammunitions in different parts of Khartoum State.

The report further said that some individuals involved were detained for interrogations.

Minister Zubeir said that those groups are operating under the slogan of fighting what they call the international intervention on internal affairs of Sudan.

President advisor claims rebels owe Eritrea \$90 m

(The Citizen) A federal government presidential advisor has said that the Eastern Front rebels would not return because of money, but the rebels say they won't return until they reach agreement with Khartoum.

Presidential Advisor Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismael declared that the Eastern Front leadership would not return back from Asmara in the near future due to some financial problems with the Eritrean government.

A source told citizens that Dr. Amna Dirar, deputy of the Eastern Front leader was unable to repay \$90 million to the Eritrean government.

The source explained that this amount was paid by the Eritrean government to Dr. Dirar for internal purposes related to the Front. He confirmed that the Eritrean government would not allow the front leadership to leave Eritrea without repaying that money.

SPLM accuses NCP of instigating unrest in Southern Sudan

(Rai AlShaab) The SPLM has accused its ruling partner, the NCP of recruiting militias from Southern Sudan to foment disturbances pointing out to the emergence of new armed group in the South.

Rai AlShaab quoted news agency reports as saying that weapons seized in roundup campaigns throughout the National Capital's residential areas following the huge explosion that occurred last week bore on their sides the name of Aiman Alzawahri, the second man in AlQaida.

"Names of Alqaida between the two Niles, map of the US Embassy in Khartoum and numbers affiliated to the UN were found on the sides of the seized weapons," the paper said.

According to the paper, the reports expect that investigations on the incident, in the wake of which more than 20 persons were detained, will reveal serious information. However, no comments on the reports are made available by the government.

On his part, Vice-President and President of the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) Silva Kiir warned of the enemies of SPLM, who exploit its forums to make statements which do not represent the view point of the SPLM.

GoSS

Kiir urges SPLM to takes lead in organizing Sudanese politically

(SudanTribune.com – 19 Aug. JUBA) The president of the government of southern Sudan who is also the chairman of Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) party has appealed for unity among all SPLM members.

Delivering a keynote address at the opening of the second Interim National Council of SPLM in Juba, last Thursday, Kiir said SPLM has so many challenges ahead and urged members to face it diligently with national elections around the corner.

"If we the members of the SPLM are not united, then we cannot talk about the unity of our country", says Kiir.

Kiir noted that during the past two years of GOSS in power they witnessed many problems ranging at all levels of government because SPLM as a new political party is lacking many things such as internal organization.

The SPLM chairman said that other political parties in the Sudan are much more advanced and have organized themselves better than SPLM but that his party has successfully emerged from the bushes to become a national political party.

“SPLM has no budget to organize itself as a party and; this explains why there was no major breakthrough in term of organization of SPLM as a political party” he added. ([Read more ...](#)).

Darfur

Unidentified armed group attacks Kalma and Alsalam IDPs camps

(*Alwifaq; ALSudani*) Three policemen, escorted Kalma and Alsalam IDPs camps, were killed and nine injured when an unidentified armed group ambushed the camps.

Speaking to reporters Sunday, Acting Wali of South Darfur State Dr. Salah Mustafa said that the group attacked on Saturday Alsalam camp where one police man killed and other four wounded including the commander of the camp. Mustafa, who declined to accuse any side, said that authorities concerned are currently assessing available information as regards who masterminded the attack.

On the other hand, Dr. Mustafa downplayed tension between the Habbania and Alsalam tribes saying that a problem among the two tribes' clans were contained via the local authorities in Buram town and a document of understanding was signed to this effect.

Commenting on the new tension between Almalia tribe and Militias of Minawi movement. Instructions were issued to the authorities in Adila and Aldain localities.

In the meantime, he assured the commitment of Alturgum and Alrizaigat tribes to the document they signed last week disclosing that preparations are currently underway to convene on 25th of this month a reconciliatory conference between Alfalata and Alhabania tribes.

Minnawi movement denies alliance with JEM

(*Alwifaq; ALSudani*) Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Minawi's has categorically denied the existence of any alliance or coordination with the Abuja non-signatory party of Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) regarding the recent military attacks in Darfur.

In press statements, SLM spokesman Mustafa Agameel strongly dismissed news reports circulated about the presence of any coordination with the JEM saying that the two movements held no ideological viewpoints, a matter he added, would obstruct their participation in one program.

Algameel expressed his movement commitment to the cease-fire agreement saying that his movement was attacked in its controlled areas of Motror and Ingabo.

He added that the meetings of Liberation Revolutionary Council would wind up its sessions today indicating that the meeting was expected to adopt vital decisions pertinent to the current incidents and evaluation to the DPA.

Darfur rebel leader wants alliance with SPLM

(The Citizen) A Darfur rebel leader yesterday extended an olive branch to Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), by calling for an alliance to build a secular, democratic new Sudan. SPLM is the major challenger to the National Congress Party government.

Sudan Liberation Movement chairman Abdul Wahid Nur's remarks come only a week after the Southern Sudan President Salva Kiir held talks in the Southern Sudan capital Juba, aimed at unifying the Darfur rebel factions.

Speaking from Paris Al Nur said the relationship with his movement and the SPLM exceeds that with any country, political party or non-government organization.

He added that SPLM and new Sudan forces are working on the concept of a new, liberal, democratic, secular united Sudan, with good governance and accountability system that respects human rights and the civil rights.

Rebel JEM group rejects Sudan's statements on Darfur protection

(Reuters – 19 Aug. LONDON) Ahmed Hussein Adam, the spokesperson of the rebel Justice and Equality Movement slammed statements by officials from the ministry of defense denying the protection of Darfur civilians by the hybrid forces. Ahmed said "We reject totally the wrong interpretation of the UN Resolution 1769 given by the Sudanese army officials."

In a press conference held on Saturday, the minister of national defense, Abdelrahim Ahmed Hussein, described the UN Security Council Resolution 1769 as supportive of the country's sovereignty, security, and stability, in contrast to the previous resolutions which sought to abolish sovereignty.

While, General Majzoub Rahamah, the officer in charge of international relations at the defense ministry said that the military personnel in the hybrid operation do not have the right to protect civilians. He further said that this force has the right to act under chapter 7 only in the case of self-defense.

Ahmed said if the UN resolution leaves things under the discretion of the Sudanese government what people of Darfur can expect from the AU-UN operation. He also reiterated his rejection of these statements because "it comes within a plan to hinder the implementation of the UN resolution and prevent the deployment of Darfur forces."

Ahmed urged the international community to reject these statements saying we request "a clear position from the UN Security Council over these wrong interpretations."

He also added that Sudan's government had "lost Darfur's sovereignty since the day they committed genocide there."

Miscellaneous

Israel deports 50 Sudanese refugees to Egypt

(AFP – 19 Aug. JERUSALEM) Israel on Sunday returned to Egypt 50 Sudanese refugees who had entered the country illegally the previous day, a senior official said.

“These Sudanese were handed over to the Egyptian authorities in accordance with an accelerated deportation procedure,” a senior official in the office of Prime Minister Ehud Olmert told AFP on condition of anonymity.

Families of Sudan detainees in US prison protest

(*Reuters* – 19 Aug. KHARTOUM) Families of nine Sudanese detained in the U.S. Guantanamo prison camp protested at the U.S. embassy in Khartoum on Sunday demanding their release, following news that one may be freed soon.

Last week the brother of detained Al Jazeera cameraman Sami al-Hajj said Washington had outlined a conditional release for Hajj provided he does not leave Sudan.

Hajj’s brother Asim al-Hajj told Reuters the conditions were unfair but welcomed his possible release. He said the group was marching outside the embassy in solidarity with all nine.

"We are here in solidarity to demand the release of our brothers, sons, and fathers from Guantanamo and for their return to their families," he said.

"This suffering needs to end ... it has continued for longer than 67 months, without any hearing for the detainees before a court, and without charge," he added. ([Read more ...](#)).