



**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN  
UNMIS  
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(By Public Information Office)**

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**IN THE NEWS TODAY:**

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## Highlights:

### UN/ CPA

#### **Malakal updates**

*(Foreign and local agencies)* A UN official said Saturday that days of fighting between the SPLA and government forces killed more than 150 people and wounded at least 400 in Malakal, reports the AP.

***Peter Maxwell, UNMIS' field manager in Malakal,*** says there are over 150 dead. He said that UN peacekeepers were patrolling the town and the situation is "fairly calm" since the Friday ceasefire but international observers in Malakal said both the army and former rebels were massing forces and there are worries the truce may not hold especially if the army tries to reclaim the airport. OCHA also reports that tension remains high among armed groups in Malakal and sporadic gunfire and looting of shops and homes continue.

***Aid workers said that most of the dead appeared to be combatants*** from both sides and are being collected separately by the two forces but at least two dozen appeared to be civilians.

The UN mission has also appealed\* for volunteer nurses and supplies to cope with the 400 to 500 wounded fighters and civilians. The mission said bodies were strewn in the Nile River, one of the main sources of drinking water for the town of about 150,000.

***Those who started the killing in Malakal will be brought to justice, says Vice-President Salva Kiir as he was addressing the people of Malakal†.***

He said that the GoSS will cooperate with the GoNU to dig out the true causes of the violence in order to prevent a repeat, reports *AlSahafa* and other local dailies\*.

The VP further revealed that a commission of inquiry has been formed to investigate the issue.

***On its part, the Sudanese army‡ has accused the SPLA*** of starting the clashes, saying in a statement Saturday that the SPLA had besieged its garrison in Malakal.

In its statement, the SAF said that the attack happened after a dispute between the SPLA and Gabriel Tang, a pro-government militia commander and now an army general.

***The SPLA has said militias belonging to the SAF attacked*** its members and the local commissioner for Malakal and then took refuge at a military barracks near the airport where full combat then began.

*Reuters* reports that Yassir Arman, a senior SPLM official, said that such proxy militias operating in southern Sudan posed a threat to the security arrangements stipulated in the CPA.

***Sudan's Interior Minister fears violence will spill over to Khartoum, reports The Citizen.***

The minister of interior speaking to reporters after his meeting with the parliamentary committee on defence and security expressed fears that the violence in Malakal, Juba, Abyei, el-Fasher and Nyala would soon be dragged to Khartoum.

He highlighted the need to implement the security arrangements as stipulated in the CPA and called for restraint.

***Pagan Amoum, another senior member of the SPLA and of the GoSS, cites the death toll at close to 300, reports Akhbar Alyaum. He says assessment of the casualties is still ongoing.***

Amoum blamed the SAF for supporting organised militia groups that operate out of the framework of the SAF. He pointed out that the SPLA bears full responsibility for any violations that may occur from any militia group integrated within its ranks

He appealed for urgent solutions to the issue of these militias which he described as a threat to peace, stability and the CPA.

***The US has on the other hand expressed concern over the fighting but says it is pleased that UN peacekeepers have put down the violence.***

The AP reports that State Department deputy spokesman Tom Casey said that the performance of the UN force illustrated again the importance of expanding with troops from the UN the undermanned, lightly armed African Union force in Darfur. Describing the conflict as an isolated incident related to a number of localised issues, Casey indicated that the fighting was unlikely to have broader implications but showed “why we believed it is imperative to see an expanded force in Darfur.”

\* Please see separate attachment for the full text of the UN statement

† Please see attached separately the full text of the GoSS statement on the issue.

‡ Please see attached separately the full text of the SAF statement on the issue.

## **Japan to provide 30m dollars emergency humanitarian aid for Sudan**

(Kyodo News Service via BBC Monitoring – 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. Tokyo) The Japanese government will provide 30m dollars in emergency humanitarian assistance to help Sudan's reconstruction efforts, especially in the strife-torn Darfur region, Foreign Minister Taro Aso said Friday [1 December]. Japan's latest grant aid includes disbursements to the UN World Food Programme for food aid to returning refugees and internally displaced people, particularly in Darfur, western Sudan, as well as in the country's southern part, the Foreign Ministry said.

Aid will also be disbursed to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to support the repatriation efforts of refugees, the ministry said. The United Nations has been especially concerned about the Darfur conflict, with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan launching an appeal Thursday for nearly 4bn dollars to provide emergency humanitarian aid to 27 million people across 29 countries.

## **United Nations and the Transition Debate**

### **Darfur AU peacekeeping force extended for 6 months**

(Reuters )Nov 30, 2006 (ABUJA) — The African Union will extend for six months the mandate of its peacekeeping force in Sudan's Darfur region, its peace and security commissioner said on Thursday.

"The (AU) peace and security council decided to renew the mandate for six months, with the possibility of a review in the interim," AU peace and security commissioner Said Djinit said after a meeting in Nigeria's capital Abuja.

A delegate to the talks said the commander of the AU force would be appointed by the AU in consultation with the United Nations and the Sudanese government, which has refused to accept the deployment of U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur.

Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir said he would accept U.N. "political, financial, logistics and technical" support for an African peace force in Darfur.

Asked what kind of support he would like, he replied: "Political, financial, logistics and technical ... Not the command but advising the command".

"The numbers should be estimated by the commanders on the ground. We are not setting numbers," Bashir said.

Sudan has welcomed the decision to extend the African Union mandate in Darfur.

### **Govt delays threaten Darfur peace deal- SLM Minawi**

(*Reuters* – 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Khrt.**) Repeated delays by the Khartoum government in implementing the Darfur peace agreement have brought the accord close to collapse, the former rebel Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) said on Thursday.

The SLM gave the government two weeks to start implementing the May agreement and said there was no point in waiting for other rebel groups to change their minds and join the process.

"Further delays can make the deal collapse because they would lead to the accumulation of negative feelings for the other party," Abdel-Jabbar Dousa, the outgoing chief of the SLM committee following up the deal, told a news conference.

SLM Secretary-General Mustafa Teerab told the government it had two weeks to begin implementing the deal.

"Our patience has limits. We give the government two weeks to make positive steps toward implementing the agreement," he told Reuters.

Asked what the SLM would do if no progress was made during the two-week period, he said: "We will have a clear political stance." He declined to elaborate.

### **Europe careful on Darfur**

(*UPI* – 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Berlin**) A recent spat over German participation in a possible stability mission in Sudan's Darfur region underlined how unwilling Europe's governments are when it comes to sending soldiers into yet another crisis region.

German Defense Minister Franz Josef Jung said Tuesday German soldiers should take part in a possible United Nations-led peacekeeping mission in Darfur, where some 200,000 people have been killed since early 2003 as a result of fighting between rebels, government troops and the Janjaweed, a government sponsored militia.

"If there is an overall operation, then we will not refuse a request to take part," he said.

Jung has since come under heavy fire — even officials inside his center-right Christian Democratic Union (also the party of Chancellor Angela Merkel) have criticized what they felt is a snap judgment made by the minister.

"Offering our participation for a mission of which we don't know any specifics is not coherent with the rules we have given ourselves," Andreas Schockenhoff, a senior conservative, told the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper.

On the one hand, her anger is understandable; the United Nations have agreed to a mission that builds on the African Union's mandate in the country, but just how its rules of engagement should look and how many soldiers would be dispatched can only be determined once the Sudanese government requests the U.N. force, which it still hasn't.

On the other hand, the anger reflects a growing unwillingness in Europe to send soldiers into potentially danger-ridden crisis zones.

### **French jets fire on Central African Republic rebels**

(*Reuters* – 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. **Paris**) French fighter jets opened fire on rebel positions in the Central African Republic on Thursday as government forces faced resistance in their bid to recapture the northeast of the country, the French military said.

Government troops have pushed north from the eastern diamond mining town of Bria since capturing the northeastern town of Birao earlier this week with French military support, French armed forces spokesman Christophe Prazuck said.

Faced with resistance near the towns of Ouadda, roughly half-way between Bria and rebel-held Birao, and the northern town of Ndele, government forces asked France to send Mirage F1s patrolling the country's airspace to fire on the rebels.

"In these two areas, the Central African Republic forces encountered quite heavy resistance with, notably, heavy machineguns ... which injured a certain number of Central African Republic soldiers and which prevented them from advancing," Prazuck said.

"Having sustained casualties and being unable to advance, they requested the intervention of the Mirage which was ensuring their aerial cover," he said, adding that the number of Mirages involved was unclear but it was likely there was more than one.