

**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN
UNMIS**

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(By Public Information Office)

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IN THE NEWS TODAY:

UN/ Agencies

UN's Pronk back in Sudan on farewell visit

(AP; *AlSudani*) Pronk, the U.N. secretary-general's special representative in Sudan, returned to the country on Thursday to hand over the mission to his deputy, Taye-Brook Zerihoun, collect his belongings and bid farewell to U.N. personnel.

It was the first time in years that a high ranking U.N. official was expelled from his mission. Although Pronk enjoyed immunity as a U.N. representative, the world body chose to avoid a diplomatic incident by saying it had recalled him for consultation.

The U.N. said the outgoing envoy's little-publicized tour was due to end Monday.

"Mr. Pronk will not be available for any interviews during his visit to Sudan," Radhia Achouri, the spokeswoman for the U.N. mission in Sudan, said in an e-mail.

Authorities had allowed the envoy back in the country on conditions that he kept a low profile and didn't talk to the media, said a U.N. official in Sudan who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

Meanwhile, and speaking before parliament yesterday, foreign ministry spokesperson Ambassador Ali el-Sadiq says Pronk is here on an unofficial visit to hand over to his deputy and bid farewell to UNMIS staff.

Spokesperson el-Sadiq said that Mr. Pronk will leave later today and has not been allowed to speak to anyone outside the mission during his stay.

Please click on the below links for the full text of the stories below:

- [Attack on ICRC forces aid groups out of Darfur town](#)
- [Norway protests against expulsion of relief NGO from Darfur](#)

United Nations & the Transition Debate

Workshop on the role of the UN in supporting peace and security in Sudan

(*AlSahafa*) Speaking at a parliamentary workshop on the role of the UN in supporting peace and security in Sudan, the Minister of Interior wondered yesterday what the UN was doing towards halting the spread of arms coming in from eastern European countries to Darfur. He pointed out that these arms are flown in by aircraft landing at N'Djamena and Abeche in Chad and smuggled in through Sudan's north-eastern borders with Chad*.

The minister also accused the UN of providing financial and moral support to the rebels and called on the organisation to desist from that and not to allow the flow of arms into Darfur.

On reports of rape cases in Darfur, the minister said he hoped the UN would have drawn a comparison between the rape cases in the US and those reportedly happening in Darfur and pointed out that those in the US exceed those cases in Darfur by 21 times.

Foreign minister Lam Akol who also spoke at the workshop said that the Sudan enjoys a good position at the UN but has some problems with the Security Council.

Speaker Ibrahim el-Tahir blamed the foreign media and the Security Council for creating the Darfur problem by claiming that it was a threat to international peace and security.

He said that the UN has lost much credibility in the course of the last 10 years due to “colonialist interventions” like in Iraq. He said the UN should deal with Sudan without infringing on its sovereignty.

Sudan-UN trade accusations on failure to play a role in Darfur

Sudan and the UN are trading accusations that each has failed to play a role over the situation in Darfur.

The *Khartoum Monitor* daily [also carried in the local Arabic press] reports on 9th December that President Bashir has accused the international community of strongly supporting the problems in Darfur through using aid as a weapon and support to the NRF.

The President who was addressing the closing session of the ACP summit meeting on Friday says the Sudan has not attacked any rebel position but has only acted in self-defence when rebels attacked their garrison and wondered why the international community would blame the Sudan for destroying the Darfur Peace Agreement. The President also blamed the NRF for the increasing insecurity in Darfur and wondered why the international community would ignore the provision in the Darfur Peace Agreement that any armed group that stands against the Darfur Peace Agreement be sanctioned.

The *Sudan Vision* daily reports on 9th December that Ambassador Ali el-Sadig, official spokesperson for Sudan's foreign ministry, pointed out that the Sudan has requested UN support be it material, logistic, technical, etc. ever since the Darfur Peace Agreement was signed but the UN responded with procrastinations.

He said that that recent statements by Secretary-General Annan on Khartoum’s inability to act on Darfur would backfire on Annan himself, reports *Sudan Vision* daily reports on 9th December.

He says the UN and the international community are therefore to blame on Darfur and not the Sudan government.

The MoFA spokesperson was reacting to a statement by Secretary-General Annan on Thursday accusing the Sudanese government of failing to protect citizens in Darfur from killings, rape and other violence and warning that it may be held accountable for those acts in the future.

He said that the international community had offered to help but the government has refused to accept that help.

** An UNMIS Rule of Law officer attending the workshop said what the minister said, near verbatim, was the following: "Large cargo planes from east europe refuels at western european cairports carrying arms to N'djamena & Abeche to go to Sudan daily, Why doesn't the UN stop this safe passage of illegal arms."*

CPA

- *The Assessment and Evaluation Commission holds a pres conference this afternoon.*

Tom Vraaslen who heads the commission will be briefing the media on the steps taken so far I the implementation of the CPA.

GoNU

Law enforcement agencies to implement new measures to enhance security

(AlRai AlAam) The interior minister says that law enforcement agencies will soon implement new measures to enhance security in the capital.

According to the *SMC*, the minister said that all militia groups will be ordered out of the capital and will be redeployed in accordance to the CPA.

He said that the police and security will work alongside the political leadership in expediting the implementation of the security arrangements stipulated in the CPA.

Communist Party demands that the National Congress Party stop supporting and arming militias

(The Citizen) The Sudan Communist Party, in a press release, has called for a meeting o of the national political forces to discuss measures to pressure government to abandon it's policies towards arming militias which the party blamed for the recent incidents in Khartoum, Malakal and eL-Fashir.

The release strongly urged that those involved in those incidents be immediately brought to justice and fair compensation given to the victims.

The Communist Party criticized the National Congress Party for being reluctant to fully implement the Naivasha Peace Agreement, noting that the agreement has clear security arrangements, which if respected would leave no room for what happened in Malakal last week.

Southern Sudan

SPLA Seizes farmland from northern Sudanese farmers in Upper Nile

(*Allitibaha*) The Sudan People's Liberation Movement has seized farmlands from northern Sudanese farmers in Upper Nile.

Eyewitnesses report that a group of SPLA soldiers has expelled the farmers from their lands in north of Upper Nile under the pretext that the farmers have no legal right to these farmlands.

Darfur

Renewed fighting in el-Fasher

(*AlAyaam*) The shooting to death of a tailor yesterday in el-Fasher market by a group of armed men from the Border Intelligence Unit spurred citizens to take to the streets demanding that the government intervene to protect the people from the Janjaweed.

The armed men also opened fire towards the governor who rushed to the market, the biggest in the Darfurs, and fired randomly around injuring two other people and two policemen a few feet from the governor.

Eyewitnesses report that eight people were rushed to hospital and there are unconfirmed reports of the death of one other person.

The random heavy gunfire forced the governor to put himself in front of a procession of civilians and walk to the SAF's Western Command demanding that the army intervene to put a stop to the activities of the Border Intelligence Units in the market.

Eyewitnesses that fled the market late last evening as a result of the heavy gunfire also reported widespread looting in the market and complete paralysis in town as the Border Intelligence Units took control of the market.

Further reports say that following a meeting of the regional cabinet, the Government of N. Darfur has resolved to resign *en masse* pointing out that they can not protect the lives of civilians in light of the presence of such elements from the Border Intelligence Unit that raid the towns and do not adhere to any decisions or instructions taken by the government as they operate with nobody in the region able to check their activities.

The African Union has meanwhile renewed its calls for the armed groups to leave el-Fasher town to avoid a repeat.

SLM-Minnawi has meanwhile blamed the governor for allowing the developments to take place and has called for his immediate resignation, report *AlSudani*.

Please click on the below links for the full text of the stories below:

- [Heavy fighting between army, rebels in east Chad](#)
- [Chadian rebels claim have captured another eastern Chad town](#)