

UNITED NATIONS



**UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN  
UNMIS**

Media Headlines, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2006

(By Public Information Office)

*NOTE: Reproduction here does not mean that the UNMIS PIO can vouch for the accuracy or veracity of the contents, nor does this report reflect the views of the United Nations Mission in Sudan. Furthermore, international copyright exists on some materials and this summary should Not be disseminated beyond the intended list of recipients.*

**IN THE NEWS TODAY:**

- **UN/ Agencies**
  - UN to launch Work Plan 2007
- **The Transition Debate:**
  - Sudan will be held accountable on Darfur- Rice
  - Blair and Mubarak discuss modified draft for UNSCR 1706
- **CPA**
  - Sudanese army says SPLA soldiers are paid without delay\*
- **GoNU**
  - NCP orders SPLM not to speak on Darfur
  - Presidential advisors criticize US, UK and Israel over Darfur
- **Southern Sudan**
  - 4 killed in Rumbek in armed attack
  - Ugandan leader assures Dutch cooperation minister over troop presence in Sudan
- **Darfur**
  - AU blames Khartoum for worsening Darfur situation\*
  - Chad army enters Sudan to pursue rebels\*

## **HIGHLIGHTS :**

### **UN/ Agencies**

#### **UN to launch Work Plan 2007**

*(Khartoum Monitor)* On Tuesday 19 December, the UN will launch their “Partners’ Work Plan” at the Friendship Hall, says Nahla Zarouk, National Information Analyst for OCHA.

She said that the launch will be attended by UN officials, NGOs, donors and government officials and will be a good opportunity to get a first glimpse of the activities of the humanitarian community for 2007.

She also said that a PowerPoint presentation will be made on the Work Plan and then discussions will follow and then DSRSG da Silva will be available to answer questions.

### **The Transition Debate:**

#### **Sudan will be held accountable on Darfur- Rice**

*All local press* reported that US Condoleezza Rice said on Friday that Sudan would be held accountable if it did not accept international troops into Darfur. She reportedly threatened sanctions against Khartoum.

In an interview with Reuters, Rice voiced growing U.S. frustration at Sudan’s refusal to allow international troops to go to Darfur.

"The Sudanese need to be convinced that if they are not willing to accept that help from the international system, then they’re going to be held accountable for anything that happens," said Rice.

The United States and others are considering a range of options against Sudan, from travel bans on Sudanese officials and an assets freeze to imposing a no-fly zone in Darfur.

"There are already standing sanctions resolutions in the Security Council. There are — there is the possibility of designations. I mean, there are lots of tools and I think we’ll be exploring those options," said Rice.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has said he would support a no-fly zone as part of a sanctions package if Sudan continued to refuse to allow in a hybrid force consisting of U.N. and African Union troops.

The hybrid force was proposed as a compromise after Sudan rejected outright a U.N. force. There are about 7,000 struggling African Union troops already in Darfur.

## **Blair and Mubarak discuss modified draft for UNSCR 1706**

(*AlSahafa*) Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak held talks recently with the British Prime Minister Tony Blair and discussed the Darfur issue, among other things.

A spokesman for the Egyptian presidency said that the discussions also covered a US-UK proposed flight ban over Darfur. He said that the Egyptian president also briefed his Sudanese counterpart of the meeting.

## **CPA**

### **Sudanese army says SPLA soldiers are paid without delay\***

(*SudanTribune.com* – 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. **Khrt.**) Irritated by reports saying that SPLA demonstrations in Juba was provoked by pay arrears, the Sudanese army today said that salary of SPLA soldiers in joint units are cashed without delay regularly

The Sudan Armed Forces spokesperson, in a statement issued Saturday, said that full salaries have been paid to the soldiers of the SPLA for last November, adding that these salaries were received by the special technical committee.

He said that they have all documents pertaining to the cashing of these salaries.

He said that the salaries for December were not yet cashed to any employee in the state because the month was not ended, adding that arrangements to cash the salaries for December before the coming Christmas.

Meanwhile, other reports say that two people were killed and two others wounded during the rampage in Juba last Friday, according to an army spokesman. One of them, a woman, was killed by a stray bullet as soldiers shot in the air near the legislative assembly and another man was killed in a car accident during the panic.

*\* For more on the story, please click on the link below. Please read also separate attachment for a different angle of reporting of the incident and for further reports on security in southern Sudan.*

[Sudanese army says SPLA soldiers are paid without delay](#)

[Two killed in south Sudan rampage Friday](#)

## **GoNU**

## **NCP orders SPLM not to speak on Darfur**

*(The Citizen)* A closed door session of the parliamentary security committee chaired by Mjr. Gen. Jalal Taour ended in rancour with defence minister AbdelRahim Mohamed Hussein angrily walking out of parliament following an argument between SPLM and National Congress Party lawmakers over the former's right to express views concerning the situation in Darfur.

The session was supposed to hear a briefing by the defence minister over the recent tragic incidents in Geneina and el-Fasher in which the Janjaweed are implicated.

It all started when the deputy chairman of the parliamentary security and defence committee, Lt. Gen. Postino Atem, upon request to be given a chance to speak on the issue, was told by Mohamed Saleh Barka (NCP) that he had no right to talk on behalf of the people of Darfur and that the matter only concerned the Darfur MPs.

The defence minister walked out in anger followed by some other MPs and MP Mohamed Saleh Barka, when asked by the chairman of the committee to leave the hall, refused to do so.

*AlSahafa* reports that the defence minister however did earlier announce a plan was in the pipeline to stop the insecurity in Darfur and said that agreement has been reached with the Darfur MPs that el-Fasher be emptied of the presence of armed militias and the border guards.

## **Presidential advisors criticize US, UK and Israel over Darfur**

*(AlRai AlAam)* The Government of Sudan has accused the UN, US and Britain of violating the Darfur Peace Agreement and renewed suspicions that the international community may be plotting against the DPA.

Presidential Advisor Majzoub el Khalifa said that the decision to hold yesterday's meeting of the ceasefire joint committee in Addis Ababa was taken from outside Africa and without the knowledge of some African leaders.

In another development, Nafei Ali Nafei, another Presidential Advisor, said that 12 Jewish organisations are operating in Darfur and are being directed from New York.

He condemned what he dubbed as the negative role played by Israel to rekindle the conflict in Darfur.

*AlIntibaha* meanwhile reports that Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman has said that the US and UK threats on Darfur do not serve the interests of peace. He pointed out that these threats, despite the exaggeration, will not be taken seriously unless issued by the competent institutions.

In a statement to SUNA, the presidential advisor said the US and Britain use the Darfur issue to serve their own internal agendas.

## **Southern Sudan**

### **4 killed in Rumbek in armed attack**

*(Alwihda)* An armed group has attacked 4 civilians in Rumbek(150 miles from Juba)which resulted into 2 killed and two injured.

A spokesman for the GoSS has promised to track the attackers and bring them to book.

### **Ugandan leader assures Dutch cooperation minister over troop presence in Sudan**

*(New Vision via BBC Monitoring)* President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda has defended the deployment of the UPDF [Uganda People's Defence Forces] in South Sudan, saying they are there to stop the LRA [Lord's Resistance Army] fighters from crossing the Nile and linking up with their commanders in DR Congo.

Museveni explained this during a meeting with the Netherlands Minister for Development Cooperation Agnes van Ardenne, in the corridors of the International Conference on the Great Lakes region in Nairobi.

The minister had earlier expressed concern that the presence of UPDF in Sudan would adversely affect the ongoing peace talks.

"What should UPDF do in South Sudan? Why aren't they going back to their barracks? That is where they belong," she stated on Miraya FM, a UN radio station in Juba.

Van Ardenne also said that the conflict in northern Uganda had hampered development in the area. Museveni explained that the UPDF was there to stop LRA rebels from joining LRA leader Joseph Kony in the DR Congo. "The soldiers are protecting River Nile to stop rebel influx into Congo," he said.

He further assured her that a lot of development projects were going on in the north and that Teso and Lango sub-regions were peaceful. He said the biggest challenge was resettlement and rehabilitation.

Van Ardenne revealed that the Dutch government would contribute funds for the resettlement process and join the monitoring team, headed by the prime minister.

She also disclosed that her government would build a school for war-affected children.

## **Darfur**

## **AU blames Khartoum for worsening Darfur situation\***

(via *SudanTribune.com* – 16<sup>th</sup> Dec. **Addis Ababa**) The African Union said on Saturday the situation in Sudan's troubled Darfur region was worsening due to the return of re-armed Janjaweed militia and Khartoum's resolve to use military force.

The statement added that another cause for the decline was Khartoum's insistence on a military option to quell the conflict.

In a news conference on Saturday, Sudanese presidential advisor Majzoub al-Khalifa dismissed the AU communiqué, saying Sudan was only engaged in defensive operations.

The AU also condemned attacks by the National Redemption Front (NRF) in Darfur. The rebel faction is comprised of groups that rejected a peace deal with the government signed in May.

*\* Please click on the link below for more on this Reuters story*

[AU blames Khartoum for worsening Darfur situation](#)

## **Chad army enters Sudan to pursue rebels\***

(via *SudanTribune.com*) Chadian troops entered Sudan's war-torn Darfur region and fought Chadian rebels Friday as the U.N. and humanitarian aid groups prepared to pull some workers out of a key border town, fearing an imminent battle there.

The Chadian incursion threatened a new escalation of violence in the vast Darfur region of western Sudan, which lies on the border with Chad.

Sudanese army and police were barricading the town of El Geneina, near the border, to prevent any attack by Chadian troops, and there were concerns a column of the feared government-allied Janjaweed moving toward the town as reinforcements, a U.N. official said.

The situation in Darfur is deteriorating quickly "mainly because of the re-emergence of the janjaweed militias who seemed to have been re-supplied and rearmed, and have been carrying out nefarious activities with impunity," the African Union peacekeeping mission said in a statement Friday.

*\* Please click on the link below for more on this Reuters story*

[Chad army enters Sudan to pursue rebels](#)