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**In The News Today**

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By Public Information Office

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# Highlights

## Main NEWS

### **Sudan re-imposes curfew in Omdurman to catch rebels**

**(Reuters)** - Sudan has re-imposed an indefinite curfew on the western suburb of Omdurman two days after Darfur rebels attacked the capital, the Interior Ministry said on Monday.

"We have now re-imposed the curfew in Omdurman -- it's not known until when," a ministry official told Reuters. He said security forces were still searching for rebels in the area.

### **Sudan submit an official protest before the AU over Chadian acts**

**(Sudan Vision)** The Sudan Representative to the African Union, Ambassador Mohyy Eddin Salim, has presented an official memorandum of protest to the African Union Peace and Security Council over the sabotage attempt masterminded by the rebel Justice and Equality Movement with the backing of the government of Chad, against the national capital of Omdurman and other areas in Kordufan state.

The ambassador has pointed out in a statement to the Sudan News Agency that he has submitted the protest memorandum to the African Union Peace and Security Council Commissioner, Ramadan Al-Amamrah, explaining the dimensions of the mercenary attacks on important locations in Kordafan and in the national capital.

The memorandum has described the attempt as a terrorist action in involving foreign parties that have nothing to do with the demands of the people of Darfur and that it targets a heavy blow to the efforts exerted for the realization of peace in the region of Darfur by the government of national unity and the international community.

The memo has warned that the attack would have impacts on the peace and security not only in the Sudan but on the whole region because it came with the flagrant and open backing from the state of Chad.

The memo has asked that the African peace and Security Council to send a clear and strong condemnation to Chad for its huge and direct connection with this barbaric action that included military and human assistance to this outlawed movement that contravenes the unanimity of the Darfurians.

The memo stressed that Chad continued to pose a threat to the Sudan and its unity and stability through its continued assistance to the rebel movements, particularly the Justice and Equality Movement led by Khalil Ibrahim.

The memorandum pointed out that Chad has become a source of instability in the Sudan through backing and assistance to the rebel movements.

The memorandum said that JEM has now fallen in the hands of colonizers and that the attack on the national capital shows the involvement of foreign quarters seeking the instability and insecurity and that the rebel movement has thus revealed its real intention and its work for agendas of the foreign quarters that back it.

The memorandum has underlined the rights of the Sudan to retaliate and has the right to defend its people and national territories against any aggression, in preservation of the regional security. The ambassador has said the Sudanese embassy would be following up with the council until the issuance of a statement that would condemn Chad and the rebel Justice and Equality Movement.

### **Arab League condemns "terrorist" attack on Sudanese capital**

**(ST, Reuters)** Arab League Council at the ministerial level in a meeting held today condemned the "terrorist" attack yesterday in Khartoum by the rebel Justice and Equality Movement in order to destabilize the Sudan.

The state minister for foreign affairs Ali Karti, who represented the Sudan in the meeting, praised the supportive position of Arab ministers. He further said the Arab League has designated the rebel attack on Khartoum as "terrorist" and considered groups exercising such acts as "terrorist" movements.

The Sudanese official added that the Arab meeting on Sunday called on the international community to designate movements committing such operations as terrorist organizations

The Arab League council further called on the Secretary General Amr Musa to follow up the recent developments in Sudan. The council called on Sudan's neighbors to respect the sovereignty of the fellow Arab country.

Arab ministers also urged the AL Secretary General for immediate contacts with the Chairman of the African Union Commission to establish a joint Arab-African initiative supporting the observance of the principles of good neighbourliness and dissemination of stability in the region.

The Council stressed the need for full commitment to the principles of good neighbourliness calling on neighboring countries of Sudan to cease supporting any armed groups using its territory as springboard to threaten the unity, security, stability and territorial integrity of Sudan.

The meeting also demanded rebel groups opposed to the Darfur peace Agreement to renounce military escalation and to commit to dialogue as the only way to achieve peace in Darfur.

The meeting also asked the international community to exert efforts to prevent military opposition to the DPA or through inciting tribal inside IDPs and refugees camps.

The Arab ministers called on the UN Security Council to take necessary measures to impose appropriate sanctions on any armed movements aiming at threatening peace and security and stability in Sudan and hampering the peace process in Darfur.

### **Fugitive Darfur rebel chief makes first media statement**

**(ST)** The Darfur rebel leader of Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) Khalil Ibrahim made his first statements to the media since Saturday when his fighters made launched an offensive in the Sudanese capital.

Khalil Ibrahim spoke on Monday morning with the BBC Arabic Service and Reuters assuring that he was speaking from Omdurman.

However JEM spokesperson told Sudan Tribune yesterday that Ibrahim had already arrived to Darfur.

Khalil Ibrahim also warned that his group would stage further attacks on the Sudanese capital, Khartoum.

"This is just the start of a process and the end is the termination of this regime," Ibrahim, whose Justice and Equality Movement attacked Khartoum at the weekend, told Reuters.

Asked how he would be able to get across the river Nile to key government institutions, he said: "I am not empty handed. I took a lot of things from Khartoum - a lot of vehilces, ammunication and money."

"Many more forces are coming to Khartoum," he warned.

The government announced since yesterday a reward of \$125,000 for information leading to his capture.

### **Sudan arrests opposition leader Turabi**

**(ST, Reuters)** Sudanese authorities have arrested Islamist leader Hassan Abdallah al-Truabi and at least four top members of his party, the Popular Congress Party after rebel JEM attack on Khartoum.

Al Turabi has been arrested this Monday morning from his house in Khartoum after his return from Ennar state where he was taking part in a PCP conference.

Popular Congress Party sources told Sudan Tribune that Bashir Hamed Rahmah, Kamal Omer and Abubakr Abdel-Raziq were arrested with him.

Khalil Ibrahim, the leader of the rebel JEM, was in the past a member of the Sudanese Islamist movement and supportive of Hassan al-Turabi. Sudanese government says Turbi and Ibrahim are still coordinating political action.

However, both of them, Turab and Ibrahim deny this accusation.

This is not the first time that Turabi is arrested by the Sudanese government on his links with the rebel JEM. He was already imprisoned in the Kobar prison in March 2004 and released on June 28, 2005 after the signing of the CPA.

The coup accusations and his arrest in March 2004 came only months after his release from custody in October 2003.

## **GoNU**

### **Council of Ministers holds emergency session**

**(Agras Al-Huria)**-The Council of Ministers held Sunday an emergency session and reviewed two reports from Ministers of Defense and Interior on what it termed as the “end of the sabotage foiled attempt by JEM”.

Information and Communications State Minister Dr. Kamal Obied told journalists that disclosed that the operation was connected with internal elements “the fifth column”, indicating that the Council highly commended the professional performance conducted by the armed forces, police and security apparatus, which he added, led to the defeat of the oppressive troops

.He said that the council directed the assessment of the captured vehicles and weapons in order to be displayed to the public through the mass media.

### **Sudan National Security Council convenes emergency meeting**

**(SUNA, ST, and Sudan TV)**-Sudan’s National Security Council (NSC) held an emergency meeting today in the aftermath of a failed attempt by Darfur rebels to take over the capital.

Sudan official news agency (SUNA) said the meeting was chaired by President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir and included his First Vice President Salva Kiir.

The minister of presidential affairs Bakri Hassan Saleh was quoted as saying that the members of the council were briefed by minister of Defense and the intelligence chief on “security situation for recent events in capital”.

Saleh said the council “hailed efforts by security agencies and efforts of the citizens and their great sense of patriotism as well as the positions of political parties and organizations which condemned the plot”.

Darfurian rebels staged a bold attack and fought fierce battles with the Sudanese army on the outskirts of the capital. However the Sudanese government said it repulsed the attack and accused Chad of backing the assault.

The NSC called on ministry of interior and justice to "track down and extradite rebel leaders, inside and outside the country, who were complicit in the attacks".

Sudan First Vice President Kiir said in a statement that strong security measures have been put in place to prevent similar incidents from being repeated in the future.

Eye witnesses in Khartoum told Sudan Tribune said the Sudanese army was not deployed to the streets until at least three hours following the attacks and were preceded by uniformed security militias.

The NSC said in a statement that they “endorsed the security measures taken to secure the country and enforce its sovereignty”.

“It [NSC] called on strengthening efforts to upgrade the abilities of protecting national security” the statement read.

AL-Bashir said in a televised statement that he holds Chad responsible of the foiled attack by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) troops against the Sudanese capital. He also announced that diplomatic relations with Chad have been broken.

### **National Assembly to discuss tomorrow Chadian – backed JEM attack on capital, summon Interior Minister**

**(Sudan TV,Al-Sahafa )**The National Assembly has decided to postpone a planned session for tomorrow due to the recent assault by Chadian-backed JEM’s troops.

The Assembly is expected to hear a detailed report from the Minister of Interior on the infiltration of a group of JEM to the capital, Sudan TV reported on Sunday evening.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Chairman of NCP MPs Prof. Al-Amin Dafallah Bloc quoted by (Al-Sahafa) as criticizing the infiltration of JEM group into the capital.” I do believe that the group should have crushed before entering the capital” he said.

But, he added that the security forces proved to be courageous in settling the battle in half a day.

Dafallah stressed that the parliament was looking for official answers to its queries on the recent incidents, describing the incident as “regretful and unexpected”.

### **Minister of Justice: - JEM foiled attempt aims to undermine peace process in Sudan**

**(Dubai-based Alshourouk Satellite Channel)**The Minister of Justice Abdulbasit Sabdarat has reiterated that the repulsed attack by Darfur’s JEM aimed at hindering the efforts being exerted to bring about peace in Sudan.

Sabdarat, who was speaking over Alshourouk Channel on Sunday evening, said JEM should have to resort to democratic consultation, adding that this operation would constitute an obstacle before the on going peace process in Darfur.

“All evidences confirmed the direct involvement of Chad in providing JEM with weapons, military personnel and logistical facilities. They came by themselves to their graveyard in Omdurman, leaving behind military vehicles, weapons, Prisoners of War and corps of their troops” he underlined.

He vowed the government’s determination to foil any further sabotage action to carried out by JEM’S Leader Khalil Ibrahim, terming the assault attempt as “failed sabotage operation”.

### **GoSS**

### **SPLM to replace defeated governors in South Sudan - Wani**

**(ST)** The SPLM Deputy Chairman and Speaker of Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, James Wani Igga, today, stated that all the unpopular SPLM states Governors, Secretaries and Commissioners who lost their positions during state congresses would not automatically be replace.

However, Wani emphasized that decision to replace unpopular Governors who have lost in a democratic election processes would entirely rest upon President Salva Kiir Mayardit. While for the SPLM state Secretaries and Commissioners are the responsibilities of states Governors’ in collaboration with SPLM secretariat headquarters.

Governor Alosio Emor Ojetuk of Eastern Equatoria state and Governor Taban Deng Gai of Unity state have lost their positions in a fair and democratic SPLM state congress elections respectively. Communities from Eastern Equatoria and Unity states have several times petitioned President Kiir for removal of Governors Ojetuk and Gai but no action was taken by GoSS president.

This time round, the SPLM primaries have passed their verdicts on who are their most wanted and respected leaders that would satire them through the national election of 2009 and on to referendum of 2011 respectively.

Wani regrettably observed that 30% of SPLM counties commissioners have lost their positions in the election was a matter of great concern to SPLM party, and that it symbolizes that the party is not popular at grass root levels because those entrusted have failed to deliver the right message to the people and if not corrected soon, it will greatly backfire during the coming election that will be contested by all Sudan registered political parties.

For instance in Eastern Equatoria state the eight commissioners lost their position with Magwi County that has not conducted any grassroots election, Commissioner Emilio Igga decided to handpick people who could not even pass a grassroots election at Boma level such as elder Angelo Vuga and Jerem Surur among others and opted to block progressive and aspiring SPLM representation from the seven locations of Madi area for their families and friends.

Wani said Unity of Greater Equatoria is paramount for capturing leadership position during the forthcoming second SPLM national convention.

"Tribalism must be fought at all level in order to realize cohesiveness of southern Sudanese particularly among greater Equatoria." The delegates from Eastern and Western Equatoria observed that central Equatoria state have cheated them by getting six ministerial positions in Southern Sudan government Dr. Luka Monoja, minister of Cabinet Affairs, Dr. Samson Kwaje minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Mrs. Mary Kiden Kimbo, Minister of Gender, Social Service and Religious Affairs, Dr. Martin Elia Lumoro, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Philip Yona Jambi, minister of Cooperative and Agnes Lokudu, minister of tourism and environment. Meanwhile Western Equatoria have two and Eastern Equatoria only one.

The southern Sudan speaker further observed that tribalism and corruption are major vices within the young government of southern that requires full participation of cross section of southern Sudanese to effectively minimize. Otherwise, he warned that Southern Sudan is surrounded by the most corrupt countries of the world with Kenya being number three and Uganda number four.

"If you are not committed to the SPLM vision, mission and Objective, better forget about being elected to the leadership position, because the people will discover you and your intention," Wani warned.

He went on revealing that SPLM as a national political party has gained support from the people of northern Sudan and we are going to concentrate more in the central Sudan in order to capture the top position of the country.

"We better allied with the devil that will support the implementation of the CPA than allying with an Angel who will destroy the CPA and consequently bury the aspiration of the marginalized Sudanese", he stressed.



Last April James Wani toured several states in northern Sudan with SPLM deputy Secretary general Yasir Arman and Dr Tabitha Boutros, federal minister of health.

In his orientation programme, Wani stated that the SPLM national chairman position will be elected by the whole 1520 delegates including that of the Deputy Chairperson of which he is a contender with Dr. Riek Machar Teny.

Whereas the national secretariat including SPLM secretary General would be elected by 250 members of the National Liberation Council along with four deputies:- SPLM Secretary General, SPLM Deputy Secretary General for Southern Sudan sector, SPLM Deputy Secretary General for Northern Sudan sector, SPLM Deputy Secretary General for Economy affair and, SPLM Deputy Secretary General for National treasurer.

### **Cholera disease spreads in Juba County**

**(Radio Miraya)** Cholera disease has again surfaced in the Juba County. The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Project Officer for Emergency Water and Sanitation in Juba, Sahr Kemoh, confirmed that 21 cases of acute watery diarrhea has been recorded at the new Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) barracks in Juba.

Mr. Kemoh said a 12-year old boy died from Cholera at an SPLA clinic and described the sanitary situation in the barracks as conducive for Cholera. UNICEF and other agencies responded to the condition by providing water guard, chlorine and prefix latrines for the military clinic.

### **Darfur**

#### **Darfur JEM may receive help from Sudan army officers: US official; says**

**(ST)** The Darfur Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) may have received help from Sudanese army officers in their failed attempt to take over the capital, a US official was quoted as saying.

An unidentified US official in the region speaking to the New York Times (NYT) said that Sudanese authorities arrested mid-level army officers for helping the rebels.

"The facts on the ground suggest there is something internal," another U.S. official told Washington Post, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of security concerns. "We don't know the extent of what it is or how far it has gone."

The U.S. source cited reports that fighters wearing Sudanese army uniforms were among the rebels and that the rebels used heavy weapons to shoot down a Sudanese helicopter. In addition, several Sudanese military officials had been arrested Friday night.

Darfurian rebels staged a bold attack and fought fierce battles with the Sudanese army on the outskirts of the capital. However the Sudanese government said it repulsed the attack and accused Chad of backing the assault.

The surprise attack generated a great deal of speculation on the motives behind it considering the balance of power in favor of the Sudanese army in the capital.

“What was JEM trying to do?” asked David Mozersky, a Sudan analyst for International Crisis Group. “It’s hard to imagine they thought they could capture the capital with 50 to 100 cars.”

John Prendergast, a founder of the Enough Project, which campaigns against genocide, said he thinks the attack was a ploy to gain leverage. The rebels wanted “to slap” the governing National Congress Party, he said, “then cut a power sharing deal with the ruling party, without the other Darfur factions.”

“We’re seeing in part a continuation of the internal battle between Islamist factions,” he said, referring to the fact that both the Darfurian rebels of the Justice and Equality Movement and Sudanese government officials, though sworn enemies, share an Islamist agenda.

Al-Bashir said in a televised statement that he holds Chad responsible of the foiled attack by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) troops against the Sudanese capital. He also announced that diplomatic relations with Chad have been broken.