



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

UNMIS

Media Monitoring Report, 22 October 07

(By Public Information Office)

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Highlights

UN/ Agencies

UN urges two partners to pursue dialogue, military committee to meet tomorrow

AlRai AlAam-- UNMIS Spokesperson, Radhia Achouri, revealed that the military committee will meet on Tuesday to discuss the truth of reports on SPLA penetration in areas north of 1956 borders between north and south Sudan. She said the committee has the right to decide after making investigations. [Achouri explained the UN does not encourage internationalizing the differences between the Naivasha (CPA) partners: *please note misquote as the Spokesperson does not said this particular part of the report, see report below by AlSudani*].

AlSudani-- the Ceasefire Joint Military Committee (CJMC) began investigations on reports on penetration by SPLA north of 1956 borders. The committee will discuss this issue in its meeting tomorrow in Juba. Achouri said the UN Security Council will be briefed on this Wednesday on the latest developments between the two CPA partners as part of a general briefing on the CPA. In addition, the UNSC will also be briefed on Darfur.

Achouri said the UN is not mediating currently between the CPA partners as such a role has to be requested and supported by the two partners. The UN, however, is observing the situation closely following separate meetings between ASRSG Zerihoun and the two partners. She said "we encouraged them to solve their problems through dialogue bilaterally and directly". She said there are contacts at high levels between the partners which is a positive development.

Nafie, Zerioun discuss preparations for Sirte talks

(*Alwan*) Presidential Adviser and GoS officer in Charge of the Darfur Dossier, Nafie Ali Nafie, met yesterday with ASRSG Taye Zerioun and discussed with him preparations for the Sirte peace talks on Darfur. Zerioun hopes that the talks succeed given the regional and international interest in achieving peace in Darfur. Zerioun said all Darfur rebel movements, except Abdu Wahid's faction, have agreed to participate in the peace talks.

UN says army suffered casualties in West Darfur violence

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. NYALA) UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) confirmed clashes in a West Darfur IDPs camp saying Sudanese army suffered three casualties following attempts to enter the camp. "In West Darfur, following the killing of a member of the Border Intelligence by IDPs on 20 October in Hamidiya IDP camp in Zalingei, SAF [Sudan Armed Forces] surrounded the camp the same day and started shooting toward the camp." UNMIS said. The UNMIS indicated that Sudanese army soldiers tried to enter the camp twice.

"Initial reports indicate that SAF suffered three casualties." The UN said, adding that seven IDPs were arrested in connection with the incident. Darfur rebels accuse Khartoum of instigating the violence in the camps to push the displaced to go back to their villages without justice or compensation.

UN seeks helicopters for Darfur force

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. UNITED NATIONS) The United Nations is intensively lobbying countries to provide helicopters for a U.N.-African Union peacekeeping force in Darfur, one of many obstacles to starting the mission effectively on January 1.

Officials and diplomats say no country has made a credible offer to provide the 24 transport and attack helicopters needed for the 26,000-strong force, whose mission is already clouded by lack of full commitment by the Sudanese government.

The force is due to replace a hard-pressed AU operation, known as AMIS, which lacks experience, equipment and cash and has been unable to stop the 4 1/2-year long conflict. "No national army would deploy anywhere without any air power," one U.N. diplomat said. "The AMIS force there now has no helicopters, which is ... why it can't defend itself."

A Security Council resolution in July called on member states to finalize contributions to UNAMID, the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur, by the end of August.

With no helicopters secured six weeks after that, Britain wants the U.N. Security Council to issue a statement this week urging member states "to urgently make available the aviation and ground transport units still required." "The situation we really, really have to avoid is one where the force commander will have not much more at his disposal than he has now," a U.N. official said.

US\$ 1 million embezzled from NCA office in Khartoum

(*Alwan*) the Norwegian Foreign Ministry has asked the Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) to reimburse to the Ministry a some of US\$ 1 million being the amount of money that has been embezzled by the Financial Director of the NCA in Sudan (2002-2003). According to the Sudan Media Centre (SMC), the office of the NCA in Sudan does not agree with findings of the Ministry's auditing but agreed to refund the said amount.

GoNU (CPA, DPA, ESPA)

On the press conference of the SVP Ali Osman Mohamed Taha

BBC Monitoring-- The second vice-president of Sudan, Ali Othman Muhammad Taha, held a news conference at the Friendship Hall in Khartoum on Sunday 21 October to discuss the current political situation in the country. Taha discussed the south-north crisis and the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the ruling National Congress and the former rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement. The following is an excerpt from the news conference broadcast by state-owned Sudanese TV on 21 October.

Taha rejects "political blackmail" by ex-southern rebel movement

Khartoum, 21 October: Vice-President of the Republic and Deputy Chairman of the National Congress [Party] Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha, has stressed rejection of political blackmailing, calling on the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) to reconsider its stances and resort to the mechanisms and institutions stipulated by the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and be committed to the implementation of the agreement, in which much has been accomplished.

"The [ruling] National Congress Party [NCP], I say, is committed to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and is also committed to remain in partnership with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM]. However, the NCP will not work under provocative political threats and will not work under immense political pressure.

"This [SPLM] negative position does not serve the interest of anyone. Our appeal to the SPLM is to return to the institutions and mechanism of the CPA so as to give these mechanisms a big impetus for the realization of what is contained in the CPA. We shall act according to the constitution and shall not violate it. We shall not violate the CPA and we shall be ready to listen to our brothers in the SPLM through the institutions and mechanisms established by the CPA for a positive cooperation and joint benefit. Thank you very much."

Commitment to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement

Speaking in a news conference held at the Friendship Hall here Sunday [21 October], Taha reaffirmed the keenness on pressing ahead with the implementation of the CPA

and commitment to the agreement and the constitution. He criticized the conduct of the SPLM of escalating the issue via the international community, saying that the Sudanese will is capable of resolving it.

Criticizing international community

Taha criticized the attitude of the international community and its failure to fulfil its pledges after the realization of peace, describing its contribution as disappointing. Taha reiterated pressing ahead with the implementation of the CPA and commitment to the constitutional and legislative responsibilities stipulated by the peace agreement whatever the hardships and obstacles after Sudan has entered a new era of peace after the signing of the CPA in January 2005.

"We must say here that if any of the parties, international or regional, is committed to the CPA more than the Sudanese people, then they should produce evidence of this commitment. The CPA and the Oslo agreement which we submitted to the donors conference in Oslo on the role of the international community to assist in the implementation of the CPA by funding development projects to facilitate the return of the displaced people, refugees and offer, then the essential services, which without them the CPA would be meaningless. What was the stand of the international community?"

"We all know that the contribution of the international community was disappointing. And from here, we say whoever is committed to the CPA should produce evidence, and honor their pledges they promised before giving us advice or are keen to interfere in the affairs of the Sudanese people by planning their internal affairs."

No return to regional and international forums

We do not need anybody to ring alarm bells for us on our responsibility to implement the peace agreement, or somebody who comes to us from across the borders. The mechanisms for implementing the peace agreement are those spelled out in the peace agreement. Any attempt to deviate with the peace agreement from the course drawn by the agreement would be the biggest blow directed to the peace agreement.

"There is no going back to the international or regional forums, and we still believe that the country is capable of uplifting this achievement at the will of the two partners and other powers in the country, whether the government or the opposition. We are satisfied that the CPA grants to whoever is a stockholder or an observer from the regional or international powers, mechanisms and institution through the Evaluation and Assessment Commission to say what they want."

Accusing ex-southern rebel movement of troop build-up

Vice-President Ali Othman Muhammad Taha urged the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] to exercise self-restraint and not wave the war card again. About military escalation, Taha said, this is also one of the issues to which we draw the attention of public opinion. The SPLM reiterates and repeats that there is no return to war. This has been affirmed by Mr. Salva Kiir himself, and I trust what he says. But the facts on the ground show that the SPLM is moving its forces, amassing its forces,

and staging military build-ups at more than one location, at the borders between Upper Nile and White Nile, and between Blue Nile and White Nile, and in the areas of Bahr al-Ghazal. We urge the SPLM to exercise self-restraint and stop waving the card of the return to war again, and to abide by what is stipulated in the peace agreement. In any event, these movements and build-ups have now been referred to the Political Committee for Monitoring the Cease-fire which is investigating them and making representations about them. This is a committee which comprises UN observers, in addition to the two parties to the Agreement.

Hinting at US involvement in SPLM decision to recall ministers

(*Sudan Tribune.com* — 21 Oct. KHARTOUM) Sudan Second Vice President pointed fingers at the US as being behind the decision of southern ex-rebels to suspend participation in the Government of National Unity. Sudan's news agency quoted Ali Osman Mohamed Taha during a press conference in Khartoum yesterday as saying that there are "elements from foreign lobby" that were present in Juba, the capital of Southern Sudan, during the meetings of Sudan People Liberation Movement (SPLM). Last week an official from Sudan's ruling party, National Congress Party (NCP), accused the former Special Envoy on Sudan for the State Department Roger Winter, who is believed to be in Juba of masterminding the escalation between the SPLM and NCP.

Timing of SPLM decision raises questions

Akhbar Alyaum--Vice President Taha said the timing of the SPLM decision of pulling out from the GoNU raises questions as it coincides with the eve of the peace talks on Darfur scheduled for end of this month.

Hindering work of most important mechanisms for implementing the CPA

Akhbar Alyaum--Speaking to journalists, Taha said if you refer to the CPA you would find that the most important mechanisms for implementing the CPA are the Government of National Unity (GoNU) at the national level and the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) at South Sudan level. They include the Presidency, the Council of Ministers and the GoSS. The decision of the SPLM Politbureau, Taha believes, hinders the work of these important CPA mechanisms. Thus, we consider it a violation for the CPA, he said. Contrary to what SPLM argues, the pull out from the GoNU will not help speeding up the process of implementing the CPA.

Criticizing SPLM Government of Southern Sudan

Rai AlShaab-- Taha criticized the SPLM GoSS for its failure in delivering services and development projects in South Sudan. He also criticized the GoSS human rights record and argued that the SPLM cannot achieve democratic transformation even in South Sudan.

AFP-- "I can't see any reason for the SPLM's decision," Taha said, criticizing the former rebels for bemoaning the progress of Sudanese democracy because many of their activists are currently being held in Khartoum jails. According to Taha, the SPLM could not at the same time criticize the sluggish pace of reform and slow it

down by quitting government when electoral reform legislation is in the process of being adopted.

Presidency meeting of 14-16 September 2007

Akhbar Al-Yom-- Taha told the journalists yesterday that the Presidency has held important meetings from 14 to 16 September in which it has discussed all pending issues (borders demarcation, elections, population census and Abyei). At these meetings, he explained, the Presidency agreed on a time table for resolving all these issues by January 2008.

Appealing to SPLM to rejoin GoNU

"We call on the SPLM to go back on its decision if it wants to save the CPA," said Taha, who along with late rebel leader John Garang is considered the main architect of the increasingly fragile peace deal.

SPLM reactions

Akhbar Alyaum-- FVP, President of GoSS and SPLM Salva Kiir is expected to hold a press conference today at the evening in Juba to comment the statement which VP Taha has made at a press conference yesterday in Khartoum.

AlRai AlAam-- SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum described the statement made by VP Taha at a press conference yesterday as "adding fuel to the fire". He said it is strange that accusing SPLM of blackmailing came this time from Taha who we respect and consider as one of the wise leaders.

SPLM considering suspending participation of MPs in National and State Assemblies

(*AlSahafa, AlRai AlAam*) As crisis between CPA partners continues the SPLM has yesterday boycotted the weekly meeting of the Council of Ministers. It has also asked Ethiopia to intervene to solve the problem. According to press reports the SPLM will consider freezing its participation in the National Assembly, state assemblies and state governments if the NCP does not change its position. The SPLM said its participation in these institutions depends on outcome of studying the statement made by VP Taha yesterday

SPLM to continue freeze up to fulfillment of demands

(*Khartoum Monitor*) Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) Chairman Salva Kiir said, SPLM ministers will not go back to their ministries unless the National Congress Party implements the remaining items of demands raised by the SPLM last week.

The remaining items include the implementation of Abyei protocol, withdrawal of Sudan Armed Forces from South Sudan, the demarcation of boundaries between the South and the North which is closely related to the census and realization of democratic transformation. Meanwhile, Cabinet Spokesperson Omer Mohamed Salih

quoted the Minister of Federal Government Chambers Abdel Basit Sabdrat as saying that, the political committee of the Government of National Unity asked the SPLM to reverse its decision to freeze its partnership with the NCP in the Government; saying that negotiations is the only way to solve the differences between the two parties.

Al Bashir urges SPLM to sit for negotiations away from pressure approach

(*AlRai AlAam, Sudan Tribune, Alwan*) During the cabinet session, the president of the republic has confirmed that the Republican decree No. 34 for 2005 has authorized state ministers to handle the functions of the ministries in case ministers are absent. "All the constitutional institutions are pursuing their works and will not be affected by the absence of the SPLM ministers, said President Bashir.

The official spokesperson for the cabinet noted that Ustaz Abdel Basit Sabdrat presented report showing that the political committee forming the government of National Unity parties discussed SPLM's recent position to suspend its participation in the cabinet. The political committee called for abolishing the suspension decision as negotiation is the sole way in resolving the existing disputes.

SPLM meets opposition leaders, Al Mahdi , Al Turabi and Nugud

(*AlAyam*) The SPLM Crisis Management Committee will hold a series of meetings with Sudanese opposition leaders, al Sadig al Mahdi (Umma Party), Dr. Hassan al Turabi (Popular Congress), Mohamed Ibrahim Nugud (Communist Party) and others. In these meetings the SPLM will brief opposition political leaders on latest developments of the NCP-SPLM crisis following the press conference which was held yesterday by VP Taha.

SPLM not recognize bills approved by cabinet

(*Khartoum Monitor*) Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Atem Garang said any law bill approved by the Cabinet in the absence of the Ministers of SPLM will not be recognized by the SPLM. Meanwhile the National Assembly Speaker Ahmed Ibrahim AlTahir said the president will address the inaugural session of the National Legislature. New members on the ticket of the Eastern Front will be sworn in on Wednesday. He added that the Police law bill, Armed forces bill, the National Council for languages will be table the Assembly.

Sudan admits flawed intelligence on sabotage attempt: reports

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 20 Oct. KHARTOUM) Sudan's Security bureau began an internal investigation on the information it received regarding an alleged sabotage attempt thwarted last July, according to a newspaper report.

The daily Al-Sharq Al-Awsat published in London quoted unidentified security officials as saying that Sudan's military intelligence division and the Security bureau exchanged blame on the validity of evidence linking opposition leaders to the plot.

Sudanese security services arrested Mubarak al-Fadil, leader of the Umma Reform and Renewal opposition party last July over allegations of planning sabotage actions

in the country. The former presidential assistant was arrested along with a number of retired army generals.

Al-Sharq Al-Awsat said that Sudan's military intelligence division officers who were present during the interrogation sessions with the detainees filed a report dismissing the existence of the alleged coup attempt. The report filed also suggested that Sudan Security bureau may have been misled by informants who are under investigation. Security officials also told Al-Sharq Al-Awsat that a Captain in the Sudanese army believed to be the main source of the information implicating Al-Fadil and others is also under investigation.

Attacks against Sudanese put racism in Australian vote campaign

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. SYDNEY) Sudanese refugee Ajang Deng was riding his bike home when a group of white men attacked him with a beer bottle in the latest in a spate of racist attacks that could play a role in Australia's looming election.

The attacks followed a controversial statement by Immigration Minister Kevin Andrews, who last month blamed African refugees for gang violence, saying they had difficulty integrating into Australian society. Critics say the comment was at best ill-informed, at worst racist, and noted that it came during early campaigning for the country's general election scheduled for November 24. It followed a widely publicized video of an attack in a shop in which a Sudanese man died.

Witnesses say the video, widely cited as an example of Sudanese "gang" violence, in fact showed violence by white Australians towards Sudanese.

Human rights activist Marion Le said Andrews' comments may embolden racist white Australians, who might go further than they would otherwise dare. "He allows them to feel justified in calling people names or spitting on people in the street," said Le. While it was not likely to be a major election issue, Le said it could alienate a small number in the refugee community who have obtained Australian citizenship and can now vote, who would have voted for Howard's Liberal party.

Some 1,000 ex-eastern Sudan fighters integrated into national army

BBC Monitoring-- (SMC) Khartoum, 19 October: The northern Sudan disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration commission intends to enforce the destruction of the weapons belonging to the east's fighters weapons in mid-November in a ceremony to be witnessed by senior state officials, community leaders, representatives of international organizations, diplomatic missions and local media.

The commission had recently implemented the demobilization programme funded by the United Nations in the amount of 1.5 million dollars, after which it coordinated with the armed forces and the Eastern Front's leadership in the joint storage operations of weapons after they were handed over from Karsago camp in the Red Sea and Kassala camp in the state of Kassala [eastern Sudan].

Well-informed sources reported that the commission had completed the registration for those wishing to voluntarily abandon the military life and transition to civilian life,

and gave each of them 250 dollars to meet their basic needs as a first step to give them the means for an honest livelihood. The sources also reported that about 1,000 fighters joined the armed forces and 790 joined the police.

According to the [Sudanese Media Centre] SMC's follow-ups, the commission had drawn up a comprehensive plan to return the child soldiers of the East's fighters who number 260 fighters under the age of 18 years to school and meet their necessary requirements.

Sudan: Cabinet urges ex-southern rebel group to resort to "dialogue"

BBC Monitoring--- (*Sudanese radio*) The cabinet during its meeting today chaired by the president of the republic, Field Marshal Omar al-Bashir has asked the Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] to revoke its decision to suspend participation in the Government of National Unity and resort to dialogue as the sole way to resolve the current crisis.

The cabinet reiterated its total commitment to implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and pointed out that the activities of the state will not be affected by the absence of the [SPLM] ministers in view of the laws, which empowers state ministers to conduct the affairs of the ministries. Meanwhile, members of the cabinet have expressed support for the humanitarian efforts in Darfur through putting in place a comprehensive development plan for the region.

Sudan ruling party youth warn southern ex-rebels

BBC Monitoring- - (*Akhir Lahzah*) The youth secretariat of the [ruling] National Congress Party [NCP] has warned the [former rebel] Sudan People's Liberation Movement [SPLM] against continuing what it called its transgressions against national issues. The secretariat further declared a general mobilization among its grassroots and said all possibilities were open, including war.

At a press conference held yesterday, Haj-Majid Suwar, accused the SPLM of following an external agenda to serve the American and Communist lines. He said, unnamed leaders in the SPLM represented the Communist line and had made up the latest crisis over the suspension of SPLM ministers' participation in the government of national unity after they had failed to transform into a political organization and win public support. He further indicated that foreign sides were present at the SPLM political bureau meetings which were held recently in Juba.

Garang: SPLM will not take part in passing any law ratified by cabinet

(*Rai AlShaab*) Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Atim Garang has emphasized SPLM's deputies non- participation in the parliament discussions on any law approved by what he described as "amputated cabinet". He said that the presence of SPLM MPs in the Assembly during the current crisis was a decision taken the party to allow the deputies assist in solving the pending issues from within the parliament. Garang denied the existence of differences within the SPLM's ranks, saying that there three ideological trends within the SPLM.

Presidential advisor: Pull out of SPLM' ministers hinder government institutions

(*Rai AlShaab*) President Advisor Dr. Mustafa Osman accused the SPLM of blackmailing the NCP to gain more concessions. He said that President Bashir attempted to contain this political crisis by taking the ministerial reshuffle as demanded by the SPLM, but, he added the movement looked for more concessions.

Arab Secretary General calls for the necessity of ending crisis between SPLM-NCP

(*Rai AlShaab*) Arab Secretary General Amro Musa has appealed on the SPLM and the NCP to put an end to the current crisis, saying that the partnership between the two parties was based contribution of regional and international organizations. He disclosed that he would prioritize the current crisis in his agenda during his visit to Sudan late this month to take part in the Arab conference devoted to bolster humanitarian issues in Darfur.

GoSS

South Sudan denies 11 Ugandan rebels surrendered

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. JUBA, Sudan) South Sudan denied reports from some of their own officers and the Ugandan army on Sunday that 11 of Uganda's Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebels have surrendered to South Sudanese authorities.

The Ugandan army and a south Sudanese officer who demanded anonymity had said on Saturday the rebels had surrendered in western Sudan after fleeing a shootout between the LRA's top two commanders in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). "No LRA officer has handed himself in to the SPLA, and we do not know of any fighting in Garamba Park (in eastern DRC)," South Sudanese army spokesman Kuol Diem Kuol told Reuters. The rebels could not be reached for comment.

South Sudan seeks Ethiopian mediation in row with Khartoum

BBC Monitoring—(*ENA website*) Addis Ababa, 20 October: A southern Sudan government delegation requested Ethiopia to contribute its share in the efforts to find peaceful solutions to the existing political misunderstanding in Sudan.

The delegation leader, the minister of information and broadcasting (radio and television), Dr Samson L Kwaje, following discussions with Prime Minister Meles Zenawi here on Saturday [20 October], told journalists that there is a political gap between the governments of Sudan and southern Sudan. The delegation leader said the peace agreement reached between the two governments in 2005 has not yet been implemented.

The minister said as Ethiopia is influential to the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the African Union (AU), it should exert efforts to find peaceful solution to the existing political problem in Sudan. Kwaje said the southern Sudan government desires Ethiopia to mediate both sides with a view to

implementing the agreement reached in 2005. The minister said he had briefed Prime Minister Meles concerning the current situation between the southern Sudan government and the central government.

Former Sudanese rebels deny advancing towards north

BBC Monitoring—(Al-Sahafa) The Sudanese Media Center [SMC] has reported anonymous military sources saying that the Sudan People's Liberation Army [SPLA] has penetrated northwards with an estimated force of 630 soldiers and has occupied the northern Al-Kuwayk area, 150km south of Kosti city in White Nile State.

An informed military source said that the occupying force has deployed in three locations with 400 soldiers in Al-Maduk area, 150 soldiers in Um-Karaya area and 80 soldiers in Muhammad Sharif area. The source explained that available information indicated that the SPLA was intending to send an additional force, estimated at 300 soldiers, in the same direction to occupy Um-Jalalah area.

The source said the forces had been moved using a number of four wheel drive vehicles and commandeered citizens' trucks. The source added that the SPLA had further sent more than 3,000 soldiers supported by tanks into Halka and Wanton areas along the eastern bank of the White Nile. The source said there were further arrangements to occupy Al-Tibun area on the border between Sinnar, White Nile and Upper Nile States.

However, the head of the technical committee of the joint defence council, Gen Elias Waya, denied SPLA units had penetrated into southern White Nile State. He told Al-Sahafa yesterday these were movements by normal security forces in Renk and Wad-Akona localities in northern Upper Nile State.

Darfur

Sudanese officials rush to Darfur IDPs camp amid fatal attacks

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. KHARTOUM) Top Sudanese officials rushed to the largest internally displaced camp in Darfur following the worst attacks that left scores dead.

Sudan's Defence minister Abdel-Rahim Mohamed Hussein along with Interior Minister Zubeir Bashir Taha and Intelligence Chief Salah Gosh flew to Darfur in a surprise visit to the region. Ahmed Haroun, state minister for humanitarian affairs and war crimes suspect wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) also accompanied the delegation.

The head of Nyala Police told the daily Al-Sahafa that the officials were supervising a security operation inside the Kalma camp.

The leader of Darfur's Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) Abdel Wahid Mohamed Al-Nur accused the government last week of attacking civilians inside the camp. However the spokesman of the Sudanese army denied accusations by the SLM leader saying that the army "has nothing to do with what goes on inside the camp"

Escalation of incidents in Darfur camps claims 6 lives and burning of 48 tents

(*Sudan Tribune*) “The IDP camp at Zalingei witnessed bloody incidents that claimed 4 soldiers” revealed activists Adam Bush in an exclusive statement to Sudan Tribune, pointing out that a soldier who was drunk slipped into the camp triggering panic amongst the displaced women and children who responded by stoning the drunk soldier to death. Following that a huge military force stormed into the camp.

However, the displaced showed resistance by killing 4 of the soldiers. On their part, activists at the camp have appealed the AU and UN to rectify the situation and step up the deployment of international troops to protect the displaced.

In a related development an activist at Kalma camp named Mohamed Abul Ghasim pointed out that the attack by the tribes of El Zagawa and El Massaleet against the displaced was still going on and that 48 tents were burned to ashes and so were the legal aid organization, Spanish Red Cross and a classroom at the camp, adding that as many as 250 persons went missing. Abul Ghasim accused the government of the attack, pointing out that the activists at the camp have submitted a memorandum to both the UN and the AU calling for protection of the innocent civilians.

Darfur war crime suspect wanted by ICC reportedly seen in Sudan’s capital

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. KHARTOUM) A Darfur war crimes suspect wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) was seen in an area north of Khartoum according to a prominent human right activist. “Several eyewitnesses confirmed to me that they have seen Ali Kushayb in Al-Haj Yusif area” the activist told Sudan Tribune on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the information.

The judges of the ICC issued their first arrest warrants for suspects accused of war crimes in Sudan’s Darfur region in early May. The warrants were issued for Ahmed Haroun, state minister for humanitarian affairs, and militia commander Ali Kushayb. Sudan has so far rejected handing over the two suspects. The warrant for Kushayb lists 50 counts including murder and intentionally attacking civilians. Sudan’s foreign minister Lam Akol has also announced earlier this month in New York that Kushayb was released of from jail due to “lack of evidence” against him.

Juba meeting sets up committee for contacting Abdu Wahid

(*AlSudani*) the Darfur rebel factions which concluded a meeting in Juba said they have agreed to unite under one leadership. A five-man committee has been asked to contact Abdul Wahid Mohamed Nour and Khamis Abaker to convince them to join the united movement. In a press statement issued yesterday in Juba, the rebels said they have agreed to unite under SLM. Participants in Juba meeting agreed that Ahmed Abdelshafi, Ibrahim Ahmed Ibrahim, Mohamed Ali Kilay, Sidiq Abdelkarim and Salih Adam Ishaq represent the field commanders in north Darfur.

UK ‘Muslim Live 8’ to raise cash for Darfur

(*Sudan Tribune.com* – 21 Oct. LONDON) Prime Minister Gordon Brown voiced support Sunday as British Muslims gathered for a peace concert in London focused notably on the

bloody conflict in Darfur. Tens of thousands were expected at the concert, dubbed a "Muslim Live 8" by some, which also aims to promote efforts to unite the community amid widespread suspicion of Islam in Britain.

"An injustice anywhere is an attack on justice everywhere and so we will continue working together with all of you to bring this suffering to an end," Brown said in a video message to the concert released by his office in advance. "I want to thank all of you ... from the artists and musicians who are performing here today, to religious leaders from all communities who have been leading prayers and campaigns for the people of Darfur.

Topping the bill at Wembley Arena event is Sami Yusuf, a 27-year-old star popular among young Muslims worldwide, even if he is less well known in his homeland. All profits from the event will go to Islamic Relief to help fund its work in Darfur.

France pushing for exiled Darfur leader to attend talks

France may take measures against a key Darfur rebel leader living in Paris if he continues to refuse to attend peace talks later this week, a French human rights envoy said in Sudan on Monday.

"We will do everything to convince Abdel Wahid Nur to attend peace negotiations in Libya," Secretary of State for Human Rights Rama Yade told journalists in Khartoum. "If he refuses we will draw conclusions," she said, without elaborating.

Nur heads a faction of the Sudan Liberation Movement that has declined to attend Darfur peace talks due to start in the Libyan city of Sirte on Friday until a bolstered United Nations-African Union force is deployed in the troubled region.

Yade, who arrived in Sudan on Sunday, was to head to Darfur later on Monday where she said "the humanitarian situation continues to worsen... The situation is still critical, there is still immense suffering."

45 persons died and wounded in South Darfur

(*Rai Alshaab*) Twenty six persons were killed and others nineteen injured in an armed attack in Buram province, South Darfur while performing Guma'a prayers. Eye witnesses told (*Rai AlShab* daily) that an armed group driving land cruisers and carrying heavy guns attacked a group of people affiliated to Alsalamat tribe leaving 26 dead and 19 wounded while performing Guma prayers at Manzola mosque, 10 k.m West of Brum. Meanwhile, an unidentified armed group carjacked the vehicle of the Executive Director of Buram locality in Abgi Ragil, 30 km South of Nyala while en route to Buram.