



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Bashir addresses the nation

The Sudanese president will address the nation later today on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the National Salvation (Ingath) Revolution, at Al-Hilal Stadium in Omdurman. The event includes various programs such as sports and other activities.

President Bashir is expected to speak about his government's achievements over the past 19 years on the political, economic and development levels. Local newspapers are predicting that the governor (Wali) of Khartoum will announce good news to alleviate the sufferings of the people of his state. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Akhbar Al-Yom, Akher Lahza*)

Election law to be endorsed tomorrow

The National Assembly (the Sudanese parliament) is expected to endorse the final draft of the Electoral Act for 2008 tomorrow. However, three parliamentary blocs, the National Democratic Alliance, Darfur Peace, and the Eastern Front, are raising 43 points of disagreement with the draft. Among the points are the separate lists and the qualifications for the presidential and parliamentary candidates. They will send a memo on the subject today to the Legislation and Justice Committee requesting a debate before the vote. The three blocs are planning to hold a press conference to explain their position to the public. Without these amendments, they contend "the election law would neither be fair nor just." The Parliament sessions in the past few days were the scene of extensive deliberations on the law. (*Al-Sudani, Akhbar Al-Yom, Al-Sahafa, Al-Khartoum, Al-Sharia Al-Siasi*)

Roseris Dam attack alleged plot

Major Sudanese papers quoted what was described as a "reliable source" saying that the SPLA deployed troops and advanced military equipment

into Blue Nile State. The source predicted the deployment is taking place ahead of an attack on the Roseris Dam backed by a neighboring country in coordination with Israel. The joint military committee for monitoring the implementation of the CPA security arrangements protocol will investigate the reasons behind the SPLA deployment in its meeting Monday. (*Al-Watan, Al-Intibaha, Al-Wefaq et al*)

Denouncing a hidden agenda

The National Congress Party (NCP) and Umma National Party announced that there is no hidden agenda in the reconciliation agreement signed by the two parties last month, denouncing the allegations by Mubarak Al-Fadel Al-Mahdi (of Al Umma Reform and Renewal, a breakaway faction from the Umma Party). Representatives of the two parties urged Mubarak Al-Fadel to support the national issues and work to achieve a national consensus. (*Al-Intibaha, Rai Al-Shaab*)

Abyei arbitration framework agreement

Dr. Luka Biong, Minister of Government Affairs in the Government of Southern Sudan, affirmed following the meetings of the joint political committee in Juba that the National Congress Party pledged to withdraw military forces from Abyei immediately. He said that the SPLA withdrawal is under way. Biong announced that the two sides agreed on the Abyei arbitration framework, asserting that the agreement will be signed on July 7. (*Al-Intibaha*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service of the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. This summary does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.