



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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UN declines to intervene on deferment request

UN spokesperson Michele Montas said that the UN cannot intervene in the rulings of the International Criminal Court which target President Omer Al-Bashir. Montas was referring to a request made by the AU to the UN Security Council to postpone the court's actions against Al-Bashir. She stressed that "the International Criminal Court is an independent body and the United Nations Secretariat cannot interfere in anything related to the International Criminal Court." (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sahafa*)

Darfur foreign aid workers might be in danger

Bona Malwal, Advisor to President Al-Bashir, told reporters in Nairobi that aid workers and peacekeepers might not be safe in Darfur if an arrest warrant is issued against Al-Bashir on genocide charges. "If our President is arrested, how are we expected to guarantee the well-being of international workers in Darfur," he said. He also added that the government would reject visa requests from aid workers and might even withdraw their visas. (*Al-Sahafa, Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sudani*)

Final AU communiqué of its 142nd session

Following the meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council held in Ethiopia, the AU issued a communiqué with 16 resolutions, including urging Sudan to ensure that issues of impunity, accountability and reconciliation are appropriately addressed. It also urged the Sudanese government to take immediate and concrete steps to investigate human rights violations in Darfur and bring to justice the perpetrators, and to keep the AU fully and continuously informed of progress made in this respect. (*Akhbar Al-Yom*)

SPLM Secretary killed by unidentified group

Yesterday evening, Nur Al-Din Gibriel, the Secretary of Finance of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement(SPLM), was killed by an unidentified group of armed attackers while he was on his way home. The group also attacked and robbed a group of civilians. Sulaiman Ishaq, SPLM's Secretary General, told reporters from *Al-Sudani* that this was the second incident of the sort and that he believed an unidentified group was trying to involve the SPLM in the ongoing Darfur conflict. He added that these kinds of incidents damage the Abuja Agreement. The Secretary General also mentioned that the victim had previously received a threat letter from an anonymous source and that a group of SPLM individuals were ambushed about two months ago on their way to Kordofan.

High-level British delegation in Khartoum

Al Sudani reported that a high-level delegation of British Muslim leaders composed of members of the House of Lords and House of Commons, as well as opinion leaders, have arrived in Khartoum yesterday. According to Evan Rydley, a British Muslim writer, told SUNA that the visit is aimed at pursuing the initiative announced by Lord Ahmed Nazir last April on peace and reconciliation efforts in Darfur.

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.