



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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In Darfur, Al-Bashir challenges ICC prosecutor

Yesterday, in an effort to defy accusations of genocide made by ICC Prosecutor Louis-Moreno Ocampo, President Al-Bashir addressed thousands of cheering Darfurians, promising them peace and development. Al-Bashir called on all Sudan's political parties, tribal leadership, and Darfur rebel groups to join in a new peace initiative. Al-Bashir told them that foreign agendas were behind the request for an ICC warrant to divide the Sudanese people and send them back to war. He pledged to continue implementing both the Abuja and Naivasha Peace Agreements to facilitate the reconciliation and unification of the Sudanese people. The President also announced an amnesty for the youth involved in the May Omdurman attack. Meanwhile, US Charge d'Affaires Alberto Fernandez, who accompanied the President to Darfur along with other diplomats, told reporters from Al-Sahafa that the international community was waiting for the government to take meaningful steps to end the tragedy in Darfur, describing the humanitarian conditions in Darfur as unacceptable. (*Akher Lahza, Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sahafa, et-al*)

Aid organization conspires against Al-Bashir

Akher Lahza daily said that it had discovered an email from Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), the French aid organization, proving it was part of the conspiracy against Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir. According to *Akher Lahza*, the email was sent from the organization's press office in Nairobi to its offices in Africa, and contained statements that supported ICC Prosecutor Ocampo's attempt to indict President Al-Bashir. The letter mentioned that Al-Bashir's indictment would serve justice and support the peace process in Darfur. The daily supported its allegations by mentioning that the French Foreign Minister, Bernard Kouchner, had

formerly headed MSF and had previously asked President Al-Bashir to cooperate with the International Criminal Court.

SAF deny carrying out raid in Abyei

The Sudanese Armed Forces rejected the accusations made by Thomas Slirio, Commander of the Joint Integrated Units, against the SAF, claiming that the northern troops had launched raids on the homes of citizens in Abyei. A SAF spokesperson said that the accusations were groundless and that there was no proof that Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces had pulled out of Abyei. On the other hand, Slirio told reporters from Radio Miraya FM that the presence of northern troops in the region is a nuisance to the people of the region. The commander added that the JIU will not start their deployment until the SPLA completely withdraws. (*Al-Sudani*)

GoS agrees to try war crime suspects

The Sudanese government will establish special courts supervised by international organizations, such as the Arab League, AU, and the UN to try those accused of war crimes in Darfur. The government said this would comply with the recommendations of the Arab League to resolve the current dispute. (*Sudan Vision*)

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.