



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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WFP may suspend food aid to Darfur

-The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has threatened to suspend the delivery of food to some parts of Darfur "if the security situation in Darfur does not improve." The WFP reported that many of its vehicles have been ambushed since the beginning of the year and more than 69 trucks and 43 drivers are missing. (*Al-Midan, Khartoum Monitor*)

-An article in *Al-Intibaha* "strongly contests" the claims made by the UN of insecurity and said that the organization was "distorting the truth" about the situation in Darfur, especially since "the WFP has recently reported that it has increased its food aid by 87%." Hasabo Mohammed Abdelrahman, the Sudanese General Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid, said that the "UN's reports are erroneous and do not serve the Darfur cause at all." The commissioner affirmed the Sudanese government's role in "setting up a plan to ensure that the food convoys reach displaced persons" in Darfur and have deployed troops throughout the main route from Kordofan to Darfur to guarantee road security.

AU chief seeks suspension of arrest warrant

Jakaya Kikwete, chairperson of the African Union (AU), announced at a press conference in Sudan that the AU will seek the suspension of a possible arrest warrant against Sudanese president Omer Al-Bashir. Kikwete told reporters that "this step was an attempt to secure peace in Darfur and not to encourage impunity or to downplay the importance of justice." He affirmed that "peace and settling the humanitarian crisis in Darfur was the number one priority." Meanwhile, the Sudanese president welcomed the statements of the AU chief and said that "he was hopeful of the AU's role in solving the

Darfur crisis." (*Al-Midan, Sudan Vision, Khartoum Monitor*)

Darfur rebels name perpetrator behind attacks

Abdel Wahid Nur, a Darfur rebel leader from a faction of the Sudan Liberation Movement that recently accused the Sudanese Armed Forces of launching attacks on their locations, said that they had "identified the Janjaweed leader behind the recent attacks." According to Nur, the assailants were "led by Mohammed Khair Samijodo of the Mahr Tribe." (*Khartoum Monitor*)

Clashes between SPLA and civilians in Rumbek

Clashes between civilians and Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces broke out yesterday in the town of Rumbek in Lakes State. The fighting came "after the Government of Southern Sudan tried to disarm and demobilize former war veterans." Civilians in the region opposed the move and claimed that "the Government of Southern Sudan supported certain parties on a tribal basis and that if those parties handed over their guns they would be made vulnerable to armed robbers from other states." The fighting continued for hours and resulted in several casualties. (*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.