



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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September 24, 2008

## France renews demands on Khartoum

France has given Khartoum an ultimatum in order to support the deferral of the International Criminal Court (ICC) case against Sudanese President Al-Bashir. According to Agence France Presse (AFP), an informed source in the French government stressed that “Al-Bashir must take concrete steps towards cooperating with the ICC and the international community before the UN Security Council could consider Article 16, which would defer the case.” One of the French demands was to extradite the two Sudanese suspects wanted by the ICC previously for war crimes in Darfur. The source continued to say that “Sudan must cooperate with the international community to facilitate the deployment of UNAMID hybrid forces in Darfur in addition to ending the conflict with all the armed movements in Sudan. The source concluded, “Sudan is expected to stop meddling in Chad’s internal affairs if it really wants the support of the 15 member states of the UN Security Council.” (*Rai-Al-Shaab, Al-Khartoum*)

## Kidnapped tourists cross Sudanese borders

Nineteen European tourists were kidnapped in Egypt and driven into Sudan at gunpoint. The incident occurred this week while the tourists were camping in the southern part of Egypt. Reports revealed that the tourists were being held captive near Jabal Awainat, 25 km from the Egyptian-Sudanese border. The abductors have asked for a ransom of USD 15 million in order to release the tourists. Sudanese and Egyptian authorities are working together in order to negotiate the safe release of the tourists. Sudanese Foreign Ministry Chief of Protocol Ali Yousef told reporters, “all the kidnappers were Egyptian.” (*Al-Ayam, Al-Sahafa, Al-Rai-Al-Aam, Al-Intibaha*)

## 50 murder cases revealed in Kalma Camp

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has confirmed that serious security breaches have occurred in Kalma Camp, in Darfur, and that 50 murder cases occurring within the camp have been filed by the Ministry. Sudanese Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid told reporters in a statement yesterday that the Sudanese police forces were working with UNAMID to remove dangerous arms and weapons from the camp in order to reinforce security there. (*Al-Khartoum, Rai-Al-Shaab*)

## SPLM doubtful of winning the 2009 elections

An article in *Sudan Vision* cited Hassan Meki, an Islamist leader and political analyst, as saying that he “doubted SPLM will ever win in the next elections.” Meki stated that “SPLM was only influential in South Sudan and that it was in the interest of some SPLM members to weaken the political power in the North.”

## Aid organization freezes work in Darfur

A Christian aid organization working in the state of South Darfur has frozen its operation and has officially announced this step to the Humanitarian Aid Commission. The Commission’s Secretary-General, Al-Hadi Ahmed Najm, told reporters that the aid organization had abandoned its operations due to strict government regulations that encumbered its standard operations in Darfur. (*Al-Khartoum*)

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.