



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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JEM proposes conditional withdrawal

The Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) said it would withdraw its troops from Muhajiriya provided that both the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)/Minnawi's forces pull-out. JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim said that this conditional withdrawal was "in response to the call by United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon for a cease-fire." Ali Al-Sadiq, Sudanese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, immediately rejected the offer, stating that "there is no room for conditions with JEM and the SAF will take back Muhajiriya by force." (*Al-Ahdath, Rai-Al-Shaab*)

SAF affirms its readiness to assist UNAMID

SAF said it was "ready to assist the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) to contribute to the success of its mission in Sudan." Although the Sudanese government recently requested that UNAMID evacuate the region, UNAMID said "it would not pull out due to its obligation towards the civilians who sought protection in the UNAMID camps in fear of attacks from the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)." However, after a meeting between both SAF and UNAMID, "an agreement was reached to secure the zone around the UNAMID camps." (*Sudan News Agency, Rai-Al-Shaab*)

Al-Sadig criticizes Moon's comments

Ali Al-Sadig, the Spokesperson for the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, criticized UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for "making comments with regard to national elections in Sudan." Al-Sadig said that Ki-moon's comments regarding the scheduling of elections were about "an internal issue" and that "the UN should be supporting elections but not

making decisions as to when they should be held." (*Al-Sudani, Rai-Al-Shaab, Al-Ahdath, The Citizen*)

ICC judges "unlikely to defer ruling"

Yesterday the African Union (AU) called for a deferral of the possible International Criminal Court (ICC) arrest warrant issuance against Al-Bashir "to give a greater chance to the peace process." However, in light of a decision made by ICC judges of the pre-trial chamber this week, it appears unlikely that Al-Bashir will "be able to escape the issuance of an arrest warrant" on at least one of the ten counts contained in the Chief Prosecutor's application. (*SudanTribune.com*)

3 million signatures to oppose ICC allegations

The Sudanese International Defense Group's Secretary-General, Mohammed Al-Ansari, said his group would "submit more than three million signatures of Sudanese citizens opposing the ICC's allegations against Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir" today. (*Sudanese Media Centre*)

Sudan denies mediation initiative with Chad

The Sudanese Foreign Ministry has denied that there was "any ongoing mediation initiative to promote dialogue between Sudan and Chad." MFA spokesperson Al-Sadig has also confirmed that both the Sudanese and Chadian embassies Khartoum and N'Djamena are carrying out their normal, daily functions. (*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.