

SUDAN MORNING NEWS



http://sudan.usembassy.gov/

March 16, 2009

Sudan to "secure" Al-Bashir's trip to Qatar

According to officials, Sudan will take "extra, precautionary measures" to secure President Al-Bashir's upcoming trip to attend the Arab Summit in Qatar. Despite the recent arrest warrant issued against Al-Bashir, the Government of Sudan has confirmed his attendance at the summit. International Criminal Court's Chief Prosecutor has previously warned that Al-Bashir might be apprehended if he leaves Sudan. ICC spokesperson Laurence Blairon urged Qatar to cooperate with the court in apprehending Al-Bashir. Sudanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs Al-Samani Al-Wasila dismissed the chance that Qatar will take part in the attempt of apprehending Al-Bashir, "even though the majority of European Union countries are pushing toward having ICC members and nonmembers assist the court in executing the arrest warrant." (SudanTribune.com, Al-Ahdath, Al-Ayam)

Development programs for East Sudan

Addressing a rally in Kassala yesterday, Presidential Assistant and Chairperson of the Beja Congress Musa Mohamed Ahmed affirmed the establishment of an emergency development program for Eastern Sudan with an allocated fund of USD 600 million. Ahmed stated that the step comes as a part of efforts to "boost peace" in Eastern Sudan. (Sudan News Agency, Al-Intibaha)

Students clash with government militia over ICC

Yesterday, a group of student supporters of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)/Abdel Wahid Nur Faction were wounded by Sudanese Popular Defense Force (PDF) troops at Deling University in Southern Kordofan. The clash occurred during a meeting organized by the group to discuss their

support for the arrest warrant against President Al-Bashir. The meeting was interrupted by PDF troops who fired shots at the podium where the students were speaking. (SudanTribune.com)

Gov't forces pledge their support for Al-Bashir

Government forces from the army, security, and police have renewed "a life and death pledge of allegiance" today in support of the President Al-Bashir. Mohammed Al-Agbash, the spokesperson for the Sudanese Armed Forces, said that "this pledge of allegiance for the President confirms the level of solidarity between the grassroots and the leadership and their rejection of the ICC decision." Al-Agbash adds that "this is a clear message to the international community that the Sudanese people and their forces are all unified in their stance against the exploitation of international institutions by imperialist countries." (Sudanese Media Centre, Al-Ayam)

Ethiopian-Sudan conference concludes today.

An Ethiopian-Sudanese Border Conference held in Al-Damazin has concluded today. The conference has called for executing security agreements signed by the two parties. Meanwhile, both parties agreed to form a joint committee for developing future development programs in both the health and agricultural sectors. (*Al-Watan, MirayaFM*)

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.