



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **French Ambassador summoned by MFA**

Yesterday, the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned the French Ambassador to Sudan to inquire about statements made by the spokesperson of the French Foreign Ministry, Eric Chevalier. Chevalier allegedly announced that France supported the interception of President Al-Bashir's plane if he were to travel to Qatar to attend the forthcoming Arab Summit scheduled to take place at the end of the month. The French Ambassador mentioned that the spokesperson was misquoted on the issue and that France would issue an official statement with regard to the misquote, stating that France does not intend to intercept Al-Bashir's flights. (*Al-Intibaha, Sudan News Agency*)

## **Sudanese-Syrian Committee to hold meetings**

A Joint Sudanese-Syrian Committee of experts is starting its sessions in Khartoum today. The meeting will be co-chaired by Sudanese Vice-President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha and the Syrian Prime Minister, Mohamed Nagi Etri. The meeting is expected to boost trade and investment between Sudan and Syria and "is a step toward wider cooperation between the two countries." (*Sudan News Agency*)

## **Bashir: Darfur can be solved by SPI**

Addressing an allegiance ceremony held yesterday by the people of Darfur, the president asserted that "the resolutions of the Sudan People's Initiative are the decisive factor for solving the Darfur conflict." He went on to further state that "the Sudanese people are capable of solving this issue on their own without the intervention of other countries." (*Al-Ahdath*)

## **JEM "abducting children" for military service**

According to press reports attributed to the Sudanese Media Centre, the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) is abducting children from camps in Darfur, smuggling them into Chad, and forcing them into military training. The reports also mention that JEM is suffering a "huge gap" in its ranks due to the recent defection of members from the Majzob and Misseiriya tribes. (*Al-Intibaha*)

## **Ngere warns of new LRA attacks in S. Sudan**

Deputy Governor of Western Equatoria State, Joseph Ngere, has warned of more attacks by the Lord's Resistance Army in Southern Sudan should the Ugandan People's Defense Forces (UPDF) pull out of the Democratic Republic of Congo. (*Radio MirayaFM*)

## **Options should be open for an int'l conference**

An unsigned editorial in *The Citizen* today question the Sudanese government's rejection of an international conference proposed by Egypt to solve the International Criminal Court (ICC) issue. The column suggests that the government should keep its options open in case the Qatari initiative fails. The writer concludes that the government should "move quickly" and "display a serious attitude" towards dealing with the issue. "A moderate stance would contribute to the solution of the Darfur problem," the writer opines.

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.