



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Nafie rejects French negotiations regarding ICC

A Sudanese delegation, led by the Sudanese Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie, ended talks with French and British officials in Paris yesterday, “firmly rejecting entering any form of compromise with regards to the International Criminal Court (ICC) decision against Sudanese President Al-Bashir.” Nafie reiterated his government’s position of “refusing to deal with the ICC” and asked France to “adopt a more positive and transparent stance towards Khartoum.” Speaking to reporters, Sudan’s Ambassador to France affirmed that “the French government was keen on establishing good relations with Khartoum” and hinted that “France had many interests in Sudan.” (*Al-Sahafa*)

France pledges to “put pressure” on SLM/Nur

The Sudanese Ambassador to France, Mustafa Sulaiman, has told reporters from *Al-Ahdath* that “France has pledged its support in putting pressure on the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)-Abdel Wahid Nur faction to join the peace talks.” Meanwhile, according to *MirayaFM*, the SLM “dismissed the notion,” stating that “the French Government is democratic; therefore, it won't subject the movement to any kind of pressure.”

SPLM officials “rap” Yen Mathew over remarks

Speaking at a forum yesterday, several officials from the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM) - Ghazi Suleiman, Lam Akol, and Manawa Aligo – “heatedly responded” to remarks made by the party’s official spokesperson Yen Matthew, who issued a press statement against the officials last month. Mathew declared that “Akol and Suleiman no longer represent the views of the movement and that their membership will be reconsidered.” The

three senior SPLM officials accused Mathew of “trying to split the party for personal gain.” (*Rai-Al-Shaab, Al Wifaq, et al*)

Court sentences 11 JEM detainees, acquits 6

A court in Omdurman has issued death sentences for 11 more of the Justice and Equality Movement detainees allegedly involved in the Omdurman attack last year while acquitting six others. (*Rai-Al-Shaab*)

GoS: French hostages to be released soon

According to press reports, Sudanese Government authorities have “sent reassurances” that the two French and Canadian hostages who were kidnapped in Darfur three weeks ago will be released soon. Ali Mohammed Mahmoud, Wali (Governor) of South Darfur, said that “negotiations are going well with the abductors.” (*Al-Watan, Rai-Al-Shaab*)

Draft Press Law submitted to the Parliament

According to an article in *Khartoum Monitor*, a “controversial” draft Press Law is to be discussed before the National Assembly soon. The draft is “likely to stir intense debate between the two ruling parties, the National Congress Party and the SPLM, especially since the amendments are meant to comply with the constitution and the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.” The draft Law supposedly gives wide powers to the Head of State in controlling the press and imposes hefty penalties on outlets accused of violating press laws.

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.