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Al-Bashir briefs Musa and Ping on Darfur

Sudanese President Omer Al-Bashir briefed both the Arab League's Secretary General Amr Musa and the Commissioner of the African Union Jean Ping on recent developments in Darfur. Speaking at a press conference following their official meeting on Sunday, Sudanese Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ali Karti said that "the President had discussed with the two officials progress of the Doha talks, other peace initiatives, the current conflict on the Sudanese-Chadian border in addition to other issues of mutual concern." (*Sudan News Agency*)

Egypt asks Sudan and Chad for self-restraint

Egypt has called on neighbors Sudan and Chad "to practice the highest level of self-restraint" with regard to increasing tension between the two countries. Egyptian authorities stated that "military confrontation should be avoided at all costs, as it will only further complicate matters in the Darfur region." (*Al-Khartoum*)

ICC summons UDF member for trials

-The United Defense Front (UDF) in Darfur affirmed that it had been notified by the International Criminal Court (ICC) of a summons requesting that one of its associates, Bahr Abu Garda, a member of the Zaghawa tribe of Sudan, to appear before the court on alleged charges of war crimes committed in Darfur. UDF's Deputy Chairman Sheriff Adam Nasr confirmed that Abu Garda would appear before the court today in The Hague, at 3:00 pm, as requested. (*MirayaFM*)

-An article on *Al-Watan* quotes the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson Ali

Yousif as saying that "the government is surprised that Abu Garda should voluntarily surrender himself to the ICC, particularly since the government has no intention of handing anybody over to the court," adding that "the Sudanese courts are capable of handling this issue."

Kiir responds to Afeworki's criticism

Speaking at a meeting of African leaders in Juba, President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GOSS) and Vice-President of the Government of National Unity Salva Kiir Mayardit responded to this week's criticism by Eritrean President Isaias Afeworki on the political role and performance of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) in the GOSS, stating that the SPLM was corrupt. Kiir counters that the GOSS is working on an anti-corruption plan as well as instilling security in the region. The Eritrean President had stated that "corruption in South Sudan is no secret." (*Al-Watan, Sudantribune.com*)

UNAMID condemns JEM attacks in Darfur

The United Nations/African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) condemned yesterday recent attacks by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) in the town of Korno in North Darfur State. According to UNAMID, the town has been overtaken by JEM rebel forces. JEM leader Khalil Ibrahim told Reuter's by satellite telephone that "JEM is now in control of a very large area and will proceed to control the whole of Darfur, including the [federal] capital." (*Al-Khartoum, Sudantribune.com*)

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.