

SUDAN MORNING NEWS

Nashrat Al-Sabah

March 16, 2008

World lauds Sudan-Chad agreement

The UN and Russia have lauded the Dakar non-aggression deal signed between Sudan and Chad in an effort to end cross-border rebel attacks. In the deal signed on March 13, the two sides reiterated their commitment to non-aggression pacts they signed earlier. The agreement also stipulates that the parties create a liaison group that will meet each month to discuss issues related to security along their common borders. Meanwhile, Ron Redmond, spokesman for the UNHCR, said March 14 in Geneva that his agency continues to transfer deeper into Chad thousands of Sudanese refugees who fled recent air and ground attacks against towns in West Darfur. (*Al-Ayaam et al*)

Bashir: Greed behind Darfur conflict

Speaking recently to UAE-based *AlKhaleej* newspaper, Sudan's President Omer El-Bashir asserted that Western greed over Darfur's uranium and oil is behind the conflict in Darfur. "The West seeks control over every barrel of oil in order to consolidate its influence around the world," he said. He added that there are no problems "in the sense of the word" between him and Chad's President Idriss Deby. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Committee urges completion of elections bill

The Constitution Review Commission blamed the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) for delaying endorsement of the elections bill. Ismail Haj Musa, a member of the commission, said they may be inclined to table the draft so parliament can vote on it. He added that the commission prefers that the two sides resolve their differences over the bill before it is sent to parliament. (*Al-Khartoum*)

Crisis Group cites obstacles to CPA

The International Crisis Group cited three factors that are obstructing the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA): the NCP's hold on the state and economy, the marginalization of peacemakers, and the NCP's efforts to transform the SPLM into a "junior partner." Other factors cited by the ICG include internal SPLM differences over its priorities and the fact that international guarantors are preoccupied with Darfur. (*Al-Sahafa*)

SPLA clashes with Misseriya herders

Twenty-one people were killed in clashes yesterday between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and Misseriya herders at a waterhole in AdToweet, west of the Bahr-el-Arab. Sources say the Misseriya have gathered their fighters in Miriam in preparation for a retaliatory attack on the SPLA. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

Police dragnet rounds up 271

A police clampdown on robbers and bandits has netted over 270 people in Khartoum and uncovered large quantities of alcohol, reports Mohamed Najeeb, the Deputy Director of Khartoum State Police. A parallel campaign by the traffic police has led to the confiscation of more than 150 unregistered motorcycles and rickshaws. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

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.