



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Standoff in Abyei

-- AbdelRahman Al-Khalifa, a member of the National Congress Party (NCP), said that the problems of Abyei do not lend themselves to intervention from foreign parties. He described the recent visit to Abyei by U.S. Charge' d'Affaires Alberto Fernandez as a gross intervention in the Sudan's domestic affairs. He said that the Abyei problem can only be resolved through dialogue between the NCP and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the reactivation of the mechanisms of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

-- The Sudan Armed Forces refuted accusations of a buildup of their troops in Abyei. A military spokesman said the troops that recently arrived in the area used to be based in Abyei and were returning to their positions after carrying their duties outside the region. (*The Citizen*)

-- The Misseriya tribe will be sending a memorandum to the Presidency of the Republic and the UN calling upon them to stop SPLM violations in the area. "We will declare jihad (holy war) on the SPLM in Abyei if our people do not get protection," Mihani Mohamed Ali, who heads the Misseriya Union's Mujlad Chapter, told members in Khartoum yesterday. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

VP Taha accuses SPLM of violating peace deal

Vice President Ali Osman Taha has accused the SPLM of not respecting the CPA by violating the rights of the Muslim population in southern Sudan. Speaking at the NCP convention in Al-Gadharef State yesterday, Vice President Taha renewed NCP commitments to the implementation of the CPA and to addressing the Abyei border demarcation and Darfur issues. (*Al-Sahafa*)

UN, AU envoys arrive in Khartoum

The UN and AU Special Envoys for Darfur are due in Khartoum today. Envoys Jan Eliasson and Salim Ahmed Salim will meet with top government officials in a bid to bolster the political process for Darfur. (*Al-Ayaam*)

DDR council endorses programs

The Executive Secretary of the National Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Council said that the Council has endorsed the DDR programs for northern and southern Sudan. The Council is planning a conference with the UN in Khartoum this month to discuss the DDR program ahead of a donors meeting on the CPA early next month in Paris. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Chad: border monitors to be deployed

A Chadian diplomat announced that border monitors will be deployed along the Chad-Sudan border as of April 13. The diplomat has called on Egypt to intervene to ensure adherence to the Dakar non-aggression pact signed with Sudan. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Some areas to be excluded from census

The head of the monitoring committee for the National Population and Housing Census, AbdelBagi Jeilani, confirmed preparations are complete for the census. He said that Halayeb (northern Sudan) and some areas of southern and western Sudan will be excluded from the census due to security concerns. (*Al-Ayaam*)

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.