



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Standoff in Abyei

-- Edward Lino has rebuffed speculation that he is the head of an interim administration in Abyei. Lino, who heads the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) offices in Abyei, said that his role there is to provide political supervision and assist in bringing services to the people. He called upon the National Congress Party (NCP) to participate in running the affairs of Abyei. Meanwhile, the head of the Misseriya Liberation Front, Mohamed Al-Ansari, said that the Front has appointed Gen. Mahdi Babo Nimir as its General Commander. He said that this is within the framework of their preparations to launch a "civil jihad." (*Akhir Lahza*)

-- The West Kordofan Development Council has announced that a delegation of the Misseriya tribe will be formed to oversee the forthcoming reopening of the Mairam-Aweil road that has been closed since last December. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Amum in talks with Fernandez over CPA

Talks yesterday between Cabinet Affairs Minister, Pagan Amum, and U.S. Charge d'Affaires, Alberto Fernandez, focused on arrangements for the forthcoming meeting in Rome between Sudan and the U.S. The minister said that they also discussed issues pertaining to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and the Protocols on Abyei. (*Al-Ayaam*)

UN says 1,500 areas to be de-mined in Sudan

UNMIS said it will set aside \$6.4 million from funds granted them by the United States for de-mining operations in Sudan. He pointed out that 1,500 areas in Sudan are still designated mine-risk

areas that require de-mining, especially given the growing number of returnees. (*Al-Watan*)

Taha: Foreign powers plan to destabilize Sudan

Vice President Ali Osman Taha told political parties in eastern Sudan on April 4 that foreign powers are planning to use the forthcoming general elections to feed political conflict. He called upon political parties to agree to a strategic national deal for nation-building. (*The Citizen*)

Egyptian authorities seeking explosive-laden car

Egyptian security authorities have beefed up their presence in areas bordering Sudan's Red Sea region as they search for a motor vehicle laden with explosive devices and being commandeered by an Egyptian and a Sudanese. Authorities say the two intend to use the explosives on tourist sites in the region. (*Akhir Lahza*)

No Chinese arms-for-oil for Sudan, says China

China's ambassador to Sudan told a press conference yesterday that his country does not supply arms to Sudan in exchange for oil. He pointed out that China adheres to international treaties governing the sale of arms. He also pointed out that no motor vehicle or gun with Chinese markings or insignia has been found in the war in Darfur. (*Alwan*)

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.