



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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VP Kiir accuses SAF of failure to redeploy

Yesterday, Vice President Salva Kiir talked about progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), but renewed accusations that the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) have yet to withdraw from the Three Areas of Abyei, Huftrat-el-Nihass, and Hagleig. The Minister for Presidential Affairs of the Government of Southern Sudan, Luka Biong, accused “some elements” within the National Congress Party (NCP) of using a “divide and rule” policy. He pointed out that failure in Abyei will reflect negatively on the elections and efforts to market the option of unity to the people of southern Sudan. He also accused the NCP of using “Arab nomads” to fight the Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA). (*Al-Sahafa*)

SMC: SAF redeployed by 97%, says UN

UNMIS Force Commander General Jasbir Singh Lidder told the press that “over 97% of the SAF have redeployed to areas south of the 1.1.56 line, as per provisions of the CPA.” General Lidder, who also heads the Joint Military Committee (JMC), also said that the SPLA has redeployed just over 11% of its troops south of that line. (*Sudanese Media Centre*)

UNMIS requests free movement in Abyei

UNMIS Public Information Officer, Khalid Mansour, has called upon the SAF and the SPLA to allow UN personnel to move freely in the Abyei area. “UNMIS military observers still face difficulties in movement in the Abyei area despite the many requests sent by the Mission to the government and to the SPLM to allow them unhindered access,” said Khalid. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Elections bill is put before the Presidency

Abdalla Idriss, the co-chairman of the National Constitution Review Commission, told the press yesterday that “the commission has failed to bring the NCP and the SPLM to full agreement” on the elections bill. He said that the commission has therefore “forwarded the bill to the Presidency of the Republic for approval.” (*Al-Ahdath*)

Obeid says Israel is “seeking revenge” on Sudan

State Minister for Information and Communications, Kamal Obeid, says he doubts that “the SPLM is willing to go to the polls for the general elections next year.” Regarding Darfur, he said that “what is happening in that region is proof of a continued conspiracy against Sudan.” He also said that Israel is “involved in the conspiracy” because it “seeks revenge” on Sudan. On the forthcoming census, the state minister pointed out that the census will cover all parts of the Sudan, including Darfur and Halayeb. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Abducted children “on their way back home”

The Minister of Social Welfare has announced that the children “abducted by the French NGO Zoe’s Ark” in October last year will be returned to their families in West Darfur tomorrow. (*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.