

SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Sudan protests Chadian violations

Sudan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador AbdelMahmoud AbdelHaleem, told the UN Security Council that the Chadian government had provided transport from N'Djamena to inside Sudan for Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) forces on March 18. He accused Chad of providing the JEM "unprecedented military support" that included heavy artillery so that the rebels could attack Sudanese towns. He told the Security Council that the recently signed Dakar agreement may collapse if these Chadian violations are not addressed properly. (Al-Rai Al-Aam)

Advisor accuses SPLM of raiding Misseriya

Presidential Advisor Nafie Ali Nafie said the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) is to blame for attacks on the Misseriya of South Kordofan. Nafie, who is also the vice president of the National Congress Party (NCP), denied SPLM accusations that the NCP was providing weapons to the Misseriya to use against the SPLA. (Al-Sahafa et al)

Parliamentary committee to study SOFA

The National Assembly has formed a sevenmember committee to study the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) that governs the deployment of UNAMID forces. The committee reportedly has concerns with regard to the period of time these forces will spend in the Darfur region. Meanwhile, Shireen Zorba, the Information Officer at UNAMID, said that the SOFA is "being implemented in a new way each day." She also said that the UNAMID still faces problems related to lack of aircraft and other logistic challenges. Zorba further said that authorities have to allow journalists to travel by UNAMID aircraft. (*Al-Ayaam*)

UNICEF calls for release of abducted officers

The UNICEF has condemned the March 20 attack on an engineering team working with the North Darfur Water Corporation. UNICEF head, Ted Chaiban, also called for the release of four engineers abducted during the incident. He pointed out that these attacks prove that all agencies, not only the UN and its NGO partners, could be victims of these armed groups. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Dinka, Misseriya to hold peace conference

Prominent members of the Dinka and Misseriya tribes of the South Kordofan area have agreed to hold a reconciliation conference on April 5 to resolve problems over pasture and fisheries. The conference will be held in Higleig. (*Al-Sahafa*)

U.S. Charge: "No secret U.S. agenda for Sudan"

In its opening statement on a recent interview with U.S. Charge' d'Affaires Alberto Fernandez, *AlQuat AlMusalaha* (the Sudanese Armed Forces daily newspaper) said that many have tried but have so far failed to normalize relations between Sudan and the U.S. The interviewer said that it is with this in mind that she interviewed the Charge'. "He answered in a typical American diplomatic way," she said. The newspaper is publishing the interview over two days. (*AlQuat AlMusalaha*)

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.