



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Elections bill awaits executive nod

Badria Suleiman, the head of the parliamentary committee on legislature, has revealed that 16 political parties are satisfied with the Elections bill drafted by the National Constitution Review Commission. She added that the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) still have some reservations on some articles of the bill but the committee will go ahead and present the bill for approval by the Council of Ministers on January 26 whether or not they resolve their differences over the issue. Among main features of the draft are the demands that political parties competing in the elections provide some documentation pledging their respect for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. (*Al-Sahafa*)

WFP may reduce assistance to Darfur

So far this year, bandits have stolen 23 WFP-contracted trucks and abducted their drivers. Nineteen drivers are still missing, the WFP representative in Sudan, Kenro Oshidari, said on January 23. "Our main trucking companies now refuse to send in more vehicles because of this upsurge in banditry and therefore we have no one to deliver about half our monthly food relief requirements. If the situation continues, we'll be forced to cut rations in parts of Darfur by mid-February," Oshidari added. (*Al-Sahafa*)

UNAMID has no offensive mandate

UNAMID Force Commander, General Martin Luther Agwai, says UNAMID will use its weapons only in self-defense. Force Commander Agwai and the UNAMID Police Commissioner gave an unprecedented briefing to senior officers of the regular forces on their respective mandates and structures. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Paper probed over print on USAID murders

Authorities investigating the January 1 killing of two USAID officials have questioned the Editor in Chief of the *Akhir Lahza* daily, Mustafa Abu-al-Gharaiem, and reporter Ikhlas Al-Nou over a recent article published in the paper on January 21. The article in question quoted a U.S. citizen visiting Sudan as having cited personal motives behind the killings. (*Akhir Lahza*)

Arms cache uncovered in Khartoum

Following a tip-off, police stormed into two houses in Omdurman on January 23 and uncovered a large cache of weapons buried underground. Two suspects are being held in connection with the incident. Authorities have ruled out a terrorist intent. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

LRA deputy confirmed dead

The Vice President of Southern Sudan says he has received confirmation from the head of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), Joseph Kony, of the death of his deputy, Vincent Otti. Talks between the Ugandan government and the LRA are set to resume in Juba on January 28. (*Al-Sudani*)

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.