



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Aftermath of attack on AU peacekeepers

-- Saeed Jenet, the AU's Peace and Security Commissioner, said October 2 that the AU will review whether its mandate should be changed to allow its peacekeeping troops to use force. He also said that a joint AU-UN committee will begin investigating the September 30 Haskanita base attack that left at least 10 AU peacekeepers dead. (*Al-Sudani*)

-- The UN Security Council denounced the attack on the AU peacekeeping forces in Haskanita, but the Council did not name those responsible for the raid. The Council called for an immediate halt to hostilities in Darfur. (*Al-Sahafa*)

-- The United States is ready to impose sanctions on those who target civilians and UN-AU peacekeeping forces, according to a statement released by the U.S. Department of State. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs criticized the United States and the EU for not imposing sanctions on Darfur rebels responsible for the attack on AU forces. (*Al-Ayaam, Al-Rai Al-Aam, et al*)

-- Three AU peacekeepers are still unaccounted for three days after the attack on their base in Haskanita. (*Akhir Lahza*)

Elders meet with South Sudan leadership

In a meeting October 2 in Juba, First Vice President and Government of Southern Sudan President Salva Kiir met with The Elders group headed by Bishop Desmond Tutu and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. He urged them to press both sides that signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to resolve the issues of Abyei and the withdrawal of northern military forces from the south. (*Akhbar Al-Youm*)

Sanctions hurt Sudan's economy

The Minister of Finance Al Zubair Ahmed Hassan stated October 2 that U.S. economic sanctions have prevented Sudan from normalizing relations with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, and from benefiting from the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries program. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Clash in Nyala leaves four dead

Four people were killed during a confrontation between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Minawi in Nyala on October 2. The clash took place after the military apprehended a member of the SLM in civilian attire who was carrying a weapon. Three of those who died were with the SLM. The fourth person was a civilian. Three SAF soldiers were injured. (*Akhbar Al-Youm*)

Special Envoy Natsios in South Sudan

U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Andrew Natsios met October 2 in Rumbek with UN officials to discuss the implementation of the CPA, as well as the security and stability in the south, and the return of refugees and internally displaced persons. (*Al Ayaam*)

Protection for non-Muslims

The Minister of Justice Mohammed Al-Mardi has issued a decree establishing a specialized legal unit for the protection and rights of non-Muslims in Khartoum. The ministry and the non-Muslims commission will collaborate to implement this decree. (*Al-Ayaam*)

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