



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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France accused of complicity in child trafficking

President Bashir says the fact President Sarkozy himself jetted in to release suspects in a child trafficking case is proof of French complicity in the issue. Speaking at the closing session of the National Congress Party's *Shura* (consultative) Council yesterday, President Bashir said that French troops are on the Chadian side of the border with Sudan to "protect the slave trade." (*Al-Sahafa*)

NCP to convene general conference

About 6,000 people are expected to turn up at the annual general conference of the National Congress Party (NCP) that starts today. The conference will discuss the NCP's plans for the future, elections, the political rift with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Darfur and national unity. A meeting of the party's consultative council culminated yesterday in a communiqué reiterating the party's commitment to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. The council also called on the SPLM to turn to the institutions of the CPA for redress over the outstanding issues. (*Al-Ayaam*)

South Sudan army mobilized

SPLM Secretary General Pagan Amum said yesterday that the SPLA is in a state of mobilization following President Bashir's orders to open training camps for the Popular Defense Forces. He stressed that war is not a "favorable" option for the SPLA, but that it would defend itself if others started a conflict. (*The Citizen*)

Lawmakers slam decision to adjourn parliament

MPs have slammed the decision by the Speaker of the National Assembly to adjourn today's parliamentary session. The adjournment was requested by the NCP to allow party members

participate in the party's general annual conference. The Speaker had pointed out that the NCP holds a majority of the parliamentary seats. MPs argue that they were not consulted. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Slow implementation of eastern peace deal

Presidential Advisor Anna Dirar admitted the Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement is being implemented at a slow pace because more consultations are needed to select Eastern Front nominees to the national commissions. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Rebels claim clash with government

The spokesman for the newly-formed United Resistance Front said yesterday that it seized an army base in North Darfur following clashes with the army and Janjaweed militia. The Sudan Armed Forces denied a clash occurred. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

JEM and SLM sign unity deal

Following a meeting in Juba brokered by the SPLM, the Justice and Equality Movement (faction headed by Idriss Ibrahim Azrak) and the SLM have signed a deal to unite factions. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

Sudan waiting for UN to punish JEM

Addressing the local press following a meeting with his Iranian counterpart, Undersecretary for Foreign Affairs, Muttrif Siddiq, said that Sudan is waiting for the UN to institute measures against the Justice and Equality Movement for its attack on the AMIS base in Haskanita, South Darfur. Siddiq also said that Sudan has not requested that Iran transfer its nuclear experiments to Sudan. (*Al-Intibaha*)

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service by the Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. Material reported here does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.