



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Rice expresses concern about CPA

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice yesterday expressed concern about the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). Speaking before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Rice criticized the Sudanese government's policies in Darfur and said she had received a report from Special Envoy Andrew Natsios on the basis of which the U.S. administration will determine its policies to guarantee the implementation of the CPA. (*Al-Sahafa et al*)

Bashir-Kiir meeting

First Vice President Salva Kiir arrived in Khartoum yesterday for talks with President Omar Al-Bashir over the recent dispute between their two parties -- the Sudan People's Liberation Movement's (SPLM) and the National Congress Party (NCP). The meeting continued late into the night and there are no reports yet as to the outcome. (*Al-Ayaam et al*)

Head of key CPA oversight panel wants out

SPLM Deputy Secretary General Yasser Arman told *Al-Sudani* that Tom Vraalsen, the head of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission mandated to oversee the implementation of the CPA has tendered his resignation. Arman said the NCP had warned Vraalsen that he would face the same fate as Jan Pronk, the UN's special representative to Sudan who was expelled in late 2006.

Run-up to Darfur peace talks in Libya

-- Six Darfur rebel factions have thus far reported to Sirte, Libya, for the Darfur peace talks set to commence there on October 27. None of the major rebel groups have arrived, according to the AU-UN mediation team. The mediation team expected

some field commanders would arrive late yesterday evening. (*Al-Ayaam*)

Oil workers abducted in West Kordofan

A Canadian and an Iraqi working for a Chinese-led consortium, the Greater Nile Petroleum Operating Company, in West Kordofan have been abducted by the rebel Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). JEM commander Abdel Aziz Al-Nur said this is a message to China to end its support for the Sudan government in its operations in Darfur. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Defense Minister visits White Nile State

Sudan's Defense Minister General Abdulrahim Mohamed Hussein yesterday conducted an inspection tour in White Nile State in response to allegations that the Sudan People's Liberation Army had infiltrated the region. Armed forces spokesman Major General Osman Al-Aghbash said following the tour that the presence of some elements of the SPLA in White Nile State was not an organized military infiltration. He confirmed that 16 SPLA trucks drove into the area but then drove back south. He did say that the Sudanese Armed Forces remain on high alert and are ready for any eventuality. (*Al-Watan*)

Sudan awaits permission to visit Guantanamo

Sudan's foreign ministry said yesterday that it has yet to receive a response from the U.S. government regarding its request to visit Sudanese detainees at Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility. The ministry will follow up through its embassy in Washington. (*Sudan Media Center*)

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