



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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Darfur

- The U.S. Embassy on Sunday issued a press release calling for the early resumption of political talks involving signatories and non-signatories of the Darfur Peace Agreement aimed at establishing a cessation of hostilities and a lasting peace in Darfur. The communiqué, carried in 11 dailies, noted U.S. support for the efforts of the African Union and the United Nations to facilitate a meeting of non-signatory military commanders, in order to lay a foundation for a broader political dialogue. (*Al-Sudani, Sudan Tribune, Khartoum Monitor, et al*)

- Following his meeting in Chad with senior members of the rebel Sudanese group National Redemption Front (NRF), U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Andrew S. Natsios said that the different Darfur rebel factions should adopt a unified position to bring an end to the four-year Darfur conflict. Natsios added that the Darfur conflict was responsible for a "quiet war" between Chad and Sudan. Natsios further revealed that he has asked both Sudanese President Al-Bashir and Chadian President Deby to stop supporting rebels in each other's countries. Meanwhile, NRF members called for a comprehensive political settlement of the crisis and for the Government to stop its military actions against Darfurians. (*Al-Sahafa, The Citizen, et al*)

- President Al-Bashir spoke by telephone with the UN Secretary General yesterday about Darfur and efforts made by the Government of the National Unity to realize stability in the region. Al-Bashir is expected to meet with the UN chief on the sidelines of the next AU summit in Addis Ababa. (*Al-Sahafa, Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

Sudan Mediation for Somalia Crisis

- President Al-Bashir rejected a Somali request for Sudan to participate in peacekeeping forces in

Somalia. Al-Bashir agreed to train Somali military, security, and police. In addition, Al-Bashir agreed to continue mediation efforts between Somali warring factions. (*Al-Sahafa, Sudan Tribune, et al*)

Miscellaneous

- Authorities have detained several UN personnel in Khartoum and have charged them with smuggling large amounts of liquor into the country. (*Al-Sahafa*)

- The Khartoum Criminal Court sentenced to death two Sudanese men convicted of raping and killing a 4-year-old Sudanese girl. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam, Al-Sahafa, et al*)



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Quote of the Day:

"You cannot negotiate with someone you are trying to overthrow."- U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Andrew S. Natsios, asking NRF leadership to renounce use of force to change the regime in Sudan

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