



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



## Nashrat Al-Sabah

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### Presidency to meet today

The Presidency of the Republic is expected to convene later today to discuss outstanding issues between the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM). Presidential Advisor Mustafa Osman was hopeful that the meeting will help resolve the current political dispute. (*Al-Hayat*)

### Kiir calls for crisis meeting of the SPLM

First Vice President Salva Kiir will address a mass rally in Juba today following his return from Washington. Yassir Arman, the Deputy Secretary General of the SPLM, said Kiir also has called for a crisis meeting of the SPLM today. (*Al-Sahafa et al*)

### Reaction to Bashir mobilization call

-- The Sudan Liberation Movement has described President Bashir's recent call to reopen training camps for the Popular Defense Forces as a call to war. "Camps for such terrorist elements in Darfur would be legitimate targets for the SLA," warned the movement in a statement issued yesterday. (*Al-Intibaha*)

-- Hassan Al-Turabi of the Popular Congress Party has described President Bashir's call for mobilization as irresponsible. Ibrahim Nugud, the leader of the Sudanese Communist Party, said the remarks were the clearest signal yet that the NCP wanted to disavow the CPA. (*The Citizen*)

### Eliasson: Arms in IDP camps

UN special envoy for Darfur, Jan Eliasson, said he has not seen any evidence of Al-Qaeda in camps for the internally displaced in Darfur but notes that new arms shipments have reached these camps. He expressed concern that camp activists are grouping

themselves, exercising pressures on authorities and increasing their political demands. This indicates there is a new leadership in the camps, he added. Clashes may spread in Darfur should the peace process fail, the UN envoy warned. (*Al-Sahafa*)

### Darfur groups unite

Five rebel groups that participated at the talks in Sirte, Libya, have agreed to unite. The Sudan Liberation Movement (Khamis Abu-Bakar), SLM-Field Command (under Adam Bakheit), the Revolutionary Front (headed by Ibrahim Al-Zibeidi), the Justice and Equality Movement (led by Bahar Abu-Garda), and the Reform and Development faction have merged to form the United Front for Resistance, with Hassan Khamis as the group's spokesman. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

### Authorities arrest *Al-Sudani* editor in chief

The editor-in-chief of *Al-Sudani*, Mahjoub Erwa, and his deputy, Nour-el-deen Medeni, have been arrested and taken to Omdurman prison to serve a two-month sentence. The two were charged in connection with an article written by Nour-el-deen last June in which he was critical of law enforcement's role in the demonstrations at Kajbar Dam. The National Intelligence and Security Services have sued for libel. (*Al-Hayat*)

### Defense secretary says U.S. cannot assist AU

U.S. Defense Secretary Paul Gates has denied receiving an AU request for helicopters for the Darfur peacekeeping mission. He pointed out that U.S. resources are overstretched in Iraq and Afghanistan. (*Al-Khartoum*)

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.