



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



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## **Bush, UNSYG Ban discuss Darfur**

- UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon told President Bush yesterday that he would "step up" UN efforts to quell violence in Darfur. Ban cited "considerable progress" towards quelling violence in Darfur and vowed, "We are going to step up the political process" after "positive" talks in Tripoli on holding new talks between Khartoum and fragmented rebel groups. Ban further said that Darfur negotiations were set for Arusha, Tanzania, in early August, and vowed to accelerate moves toward the deployment of a joint UN-AU force. "We are also going to facilitate humanitarian assistance," the UN chief added. "I am going to step up efforts to deploy hybrid operations as soon as possible in Darfur, to resolve this issue as soon as possible." (*Al-Wihda*)

## **Al-Jazeera sticks to its story**

- Ahmed Sheikh, editor-in-chief of Al-Jazeera television, described as "pathetic" a statement issued by the Information Office of the National Congress Party (NCP) denying the accuracy of Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie's statement to the news organization earlier this week. "We are one of many news agencies and newspapers who quoted Nafie, so why are they picking on us? This is ridiculous," Sheikh said of the NCP's statement. Last Sunday, Al-Jazeera quoted Nafie as saying that Washington was behind the sabotage plot foiled in Khartoum over the weekend. Sheikh rejected the NCP's call for an apology saying the news story was "well sourced and verified".

Meanwhile, Sudan's Foreign Ministry spokesman Ali Al- Sadiq said no such allegation was made. "It is not correct. Mr. Nafie did not mention any country by name, so it is not true that Mr. Nafie has mentioned the United States. The investigations now are going ahead with those people and I do not think any name will be disclosed. To the best of my

knowledge as spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, I have no idea that the government of Sudan has mentioned any particular country in this issue." (*Al-Sudani*)

## **Justice Ministry probing sabotage attempt**

- Minister of Justice Ali Al-Mardi announced the formation of a committee that will investigate the alleged sabotage attempt. Meanwhile, 10 political parties have demanded the immediate release of those detained in connection with the alleged sabotage attempt. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

## **Nafie attacks his foes**

- Presidential Assistant Nafie Ali Nafie reiterated yesterday that "Sudan will not bow to tyrants. The Inqaz salvation movement [which brought the current government into power in 1989] will not be affected by tyrants and conspiracies who have tried to assassinate key members in the government and create chaos in the Sudan." (*Al-Sahafa*)

## **Former GOSS Finance Minister released on bail**

- Former Minister of Finance in the Government of South Sudan (GOSS), Arthur Quin, was released from jail in Juba yesterday on \$10 million bail. Quin was accused of involvement in an embezzlement case earlier this year. (*Al-Sahafa*)

## **Kiir begins visit in China**

- Sudan's First Vice President Salva Kiir arrived in China yesterday to discuss developments in Darfur, economic partnership, and common regional and international issues. (*Sudan Vision, et al*)

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.