



# SUDAN MORNING NEWS



Nashrat Al-Sabah

November 5, 2007

## **SPLM to return to GoNU**

First Vice President Salva Kiir said the Sudan People's Liberation movement (SPLM) delegation he is leading on an official visit to Washington will not be requesting the U.S. Administration to tighten sanctions against the Government of Sudan. "It is unbecoming to ask President Bush to impose sanctions on the Sudan while I am part of the Government of National Unity (GoNU)," he said at a press conference in Khartoum yesterday. He also revealed that the National Congress Party (NCP) and the SPLM have reached agreement over all outstanding issues with the exception of the issue of Abyei and the north-south border demarcation. He says SPLM ministers will only return to government if the Abyei issue is resolved. (*Khartoum Monitor et al*)

## **Armed group seizes control of oil field**

Yesterday, an armed group of the Salamat tribe of South Kordofan laid siege to the Moga oil field that employs Sudanese and foreign workers. The armed group numbering about 100 surrounded the oil field demanding compensation for their lands where the 39 oil wells producing about 400 barrels per day now stand. The siege continued for a couple of hours until a group from the local government and regular forces convinced them to leave. (*Al-Sahafa*)

## **Eviction from IDP camps exacerbating crisis**

Political opposition forces in South Darfur have accused the government of forcefully emptying internally displaced persons camps. The representatives of the Umma, Communist and Popular Congress parties in Nyala have described this as an inhumane act that will only exacerbate the crisis. They also described the Sirte talks as a "failure." (*Al-Ayaam*)

## **Darfur groups agree to cease-fire**

Six Darfur rebel groups meeting in Juba have accepted a proposal by the joint AU-UN mediators for a cessation of hostilities, but this can only be effective if Khartoum abides by its commitment to a cease-fire, stated Essam Al-Haj, a prominent member of a Sudanese Liberation Movement (SLM) faction. The SLM figure also criticized the international community for "shying away from its financial and humanitarian responsibilities towards the crisis in Darfur." (*Al-Sudani*)

## **Hassanein and Mubarak begin hunger strike**

The Vice President of the Democratic Unionist Party, Ali Mahmoud Hassanein, and the leader of the Umma Part (Reform Agenda), Mubarak Al-Fadil, who have been in detention for about 4 months and who are charged of attempted sabotage, say they will begin a hunger strike Wednesday until their constitutional rights are respected. Justice Minister Mohamed Ali Al-Mardi declined to comment on this development but said the investigation into the sabotage attempt is near conclusion. (*Al-Ayaam*)

## **U.S. pressures Salva Kiir to declare war**

*Al-Intibaha*, citing Western diplomatic sources in East Africa, reports that Washington will request Vice President Salva Kiir to continue the SPLM boycott of Sudan's executive until the NCP-SPLM partnership in the GoNU crumbles. Kiir has allegedly received pledges of support from Washington in the event Khartoum ceases to disburse the Government of Southern Sudan's share of the national oil revenue.

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