



SUDAN MORNING NEWS



Nashrat Al-Sabah

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Aftermath of Omdurman incident

- At a press conference yesterday, Assistant to the President Mini Minawi affirmed his commitment to peace and stated that his movement does not wish to fight in Khartoum or in Nyala. Minawi accused certain parties of fabricating the incident in Omdurman with the aim of assassinating members of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) and undermining the Darfur Peace Agreement. He called on authorities to ensure the safety of 93 arrested SLM members. Minawi also called for the creation of an impartial committee to investigate the incident, and insisted that a third party be involved in handing over the bodies of the SLM "martyrs" to ensure they are properly documented. (*Al-Sahafa, Al-Rai Al-Aam, et al*)

Darfur

- Two members of the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM/A-Minawi) faction were killed and several commanders wounded as a result of an ambush by unknown gunmen in Al-Ashama region, 16 km east of Nyala (South Darfur State). One of those killed was reportedly a member of Minawi's security apparatus. The acting wali (governor) of South Darfur stated that local authorities are investigating the case and intend to pursue the suspects. (*Al-Rai Al-Aam*)

- The UN mission in Sudan reported that Arab tribesmen killed three people and wounded 15 others in an attack in Sirba village, 45 km north of El Geneina in West Darfur. (*Sudan Tribune*)

Deployment of UN forces to Darfur

- British Prime Minister Tony Blair called yesterday for a new UN resolution expanding sanctions against Sudan, and he said a no-fly zone over Darfur should be considered. Meanwhile, the

European Union stepped up condemnation of the "intolerable" violence in the region: "We need to get a new resolution in the United Nations which extends the sanctions regime," he told reporters after a European Union summit. "We need to consider, in my view, a no-fly zone," he said. "The actions of the Sudanese government are completely unacceptable." Blair said EU leaders spent a "significant" part of the EU 50th anniversary talks discussing the "intolerable" Darfur situation. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Sudan borrows \$ 2 billion from China

- The Ministry of Finance intends to borrow \$2 billion from China to cover Sudan's budget deficit. (*Al-Sahafa*)

Editorials and commentaries

- *Al-Sahafa* columnist Al-Haj Warag called for the resignation of Interior Minister Zubeir Bashir Taha following the shooting incident in Omdurman on Saturday. Warag argued that stability in Khartoum cannot be achieved by using force, but by rehabilitating and retraining armed groups based on a culture of peace and respect for human rights.

- An *Alwan* columnist criticized the SLM for threatening to wage war in Darfur, and argued that the people of Khartoum are ready for it if the SLM intends to go through with its claims.

Quote of the Day

"The National Congress Party is trying to undermine the peace process in Darfur." – Assistant to the President Mini Minawi

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