



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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January 8, 2008

Forces to complete redeployment by January 9

The Presidency convened on January 7 to discuss measures required for the deployment of Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) in some areas, said the spokesman for the Joint Defense Council (JDC), Major General Al-Rahman Mohamed Zain. He said that the government is ready to support implementation of the Protocol on Security Arrangements as stipulated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has also reiterated commitment to redeploy south of the 1.1.'56 line before January 9, 2008, so JIUs would take over positions they formerly held. (*Khartoum Monitor*)

SAF threatens to respond to Chadian threats

The spokesman for the Sudan Armed Forces, Major General Osman Muhamed Al-Aghbash, said that the Chadian attacks in some areas of western Sudan could not have been carried out without direct foreign support from the West. He pointed out that the attack was beyond Chadian military capabilities. He further added that the SAF is capable of "responding in kind" to these attacks. (*Al-Intibaha*)

AEC to convene today

The Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC) charged with overseeing the implementation of the CPA convenes its plenary session in Khartoum today. UNMIS spokesperson Radhia Achouri said that the AEC remained operational even after the December 2007 resignation of its chairman, Tom Vraaslen. (*Al-Khartoum*)

AU: peace required for success of hybrid forces

The spokesman for AMIS, Noureddine Mezni, says AU envoy, Salim Ahmed Salim, and UN envoy, Jan

Eliasson, will soon come to Sudan in a bid to bring the Sudan government and Darfur armed groups to direct talks. He pointed out that the joint AU-UN force deployed to Darfur will only succeed in its mission if there is a peace agreement. He said that the AU is also exerting efforts to eliminate hurdles to the deployment of these forces. (*Al-Khartoum*)

Tense relations between Sudan and Chad

A Chadian military source in Ndjamena said that Chadian military aircraft bombarded "camps of Chadian rebel elements" in an area southwest of El-Geneina in West Darfur on January 7. He added that this is the third air raid in the last three days. The head of the UNAMID, Rodolphe Adada, has expressed concern over the increasing tension in the border areas and pointed out that it would have adverse effects on the deployment of AU-UN peacekeepers. (*Akhir Lahza*)

Officials to discuss Sami Al-Haj

Presidential Advisor, Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail, said that the issue of Sami Al-Haj, the Al-Jazeera cameraman held in Guantanamo detention center, will feature in forthcoming talks in Khartoum between Sudan and a U.S. official. Speaking on an Al-Jazeera program, he declined to name the U.S. government official but said that the Sudanese government is confident that Al-Haj is innocent. "This is a black spot that the U.S. administration has to wipe from its history," he said.

The Sudan Morning News is compiled as a service of the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum, Sudan. It presents a partial survey of the current Sudanese press and international reporting about Sudan. This summary does not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Government.