



SUDAN MORNING NEWS

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Aftermath of the JEM attack in Omdurman

-- Dr. Nafei Ali Nafei, the Assistant to President Bashir, announced on May 13 that Sudan is suspending talks with the Justice and Equality Movement. He also called on western states to “stop sympathizing and supporting the armed groups in Darfur.” He pointed out that the JEM attack on Omdurman proves that JEM and Abdul-Wahid’s Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM) have no interest in resolving the problem of Darfur. (*Akhir Lahza*)

-- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has given Chad’s Chargé d’Affaires a week to leave the country, effective from May 13. Sudan’s envoy to the UN, Abdel-Mahmoud Abdel-Haleem, said that Sudan has evidence of Chadian backing for the JEM attack on Omdurman. (*Sudan Vision*)

-- Parliament was in for a “stormy session” yesterday, where the defense and interior ministers presented their reports of the JEM attack on Omdurman. A Member of Parliament called on the Minister of Defense to resign; the National Assembly has called for an investigation into the attack. Lawmakers have also underlined the need for the urgent implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA). Defense Minister Abdel-Raheem Hussein said that he is ready to resign should “the people” agree unanimously. He accused “fifth columnists” of guiding the JEM forces through routes that “skirted army outposts” on their way to Omdurman. The defense minister affirmed that government forces seized a number of vehicles used in the attack, and some guns and ammunition and destroyed a number of vehicles. He said the army lost 93 soldiers and 13 policemen in the fighting and about 30 civilians were killed in the crossfire. He said that government forces are now chasing the JEM along the northern border of

Kordofan. Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahmoud Hamid said in his briefing that the attackers targeted the parliament buildings, the Sudan Radio and Television Corporation, the Presidential Palace and the army headquarters.

(*Al-Ayaam, Al-Ahdath et al*)

-- The leader of the Popular Congress Party, Dr. Hassan Turabi, said that his party “condemns aggression and the ongoing violence in Darfur.” He said that the recent attack on Omdurman should “be a lesson to the government so it could mend its relations with neighboring states.” He described the attack as a “great shock ... that brought the tragedy and sadness of Darfur to Khartoum.” He said that authorities have arrested 21 members of his party, including the wife of JEM leader Dr. Khalil Ibrahim. (*The Citizen*)

Wave of cholera strikes SPLA in Abyei

UNMIS Regional Director for Southern Sudan, David Gressly, told a press conference that a cholera outbreak has been reported among Sudan People’s Liberation Army (SPLA) soldiers in Abyei in the last two weeks and in Juba. He said that UNMIS is training SPLA soldiers on how to combat the outbreak. (*Rai Al-Shaab*)

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.