

Sudan Domestic Media, August 9, 2010 (covering August 2 to August 8, 2010)

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State-Owned Media

August 2

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 2 Aug 10)

- President Omar al-Bashir appointed three presidential advisors, namely Dr. Mansur Khalid Muhammad Abd-al-Majid, Dr. Harun Waru Won and Mrs. Dilka Makor Tau.

August 4

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 4 Aug 10)

- Lual Deng, Sudan's petroleum minister, expressed hope that his appointment as minister would promote confidence between the two ruling partners in the country, particularly with the allocation of 20 percent of job opportunities in the ministry to southerners. Deng noted that committees were created to interview southerners who will be given positions at the national level. He added that some southerners were upset by his remark suggesting that oil would lead to unity, remarking that separatists reject statements focusing only on economic issues.

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Aug 10)

- Bilateral talks between President Omar al-Bashir and Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi began in Tripoli today. The talks covered a number of issues including bilateral relations, cooperation between Sudan and Libya and other issues of common concern. President al-Bashir was accompanied by the presidential advisor, Dr. Mustafa Uthman Ismail, the minister of the presidency affairs, Maj-Gen Bakri Hasan Salih, the head of the National Security and Intelligence Service (NSIS), Maj-Gen Muhammad Atta al-Maula and state minister at the ministry of foreign affairs, Kamal Hasan Ali. Following his arrival, President al-Bashir was received by the General People's Committee of Libya, Dr. Al-Baghdadi al-Mahmud and several other officials, including members of the Sudanese embassy in Tripoli.

August 5

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Aug 10)

- President Omar al-Bashir returned to Sudan following his two-day visit to Libya. During his trip, the president had meetings with Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi over ties between the two countries and ways to boost these ties.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Aug 10)

- A document released by the rebel Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) of Abd-al-Wahid Muhammad Nur and obtained by Sudan TV contains a plan calling for the physical elimination of all Darfur leaders who were involved in the Doha talks with the Sudanese government. According to the document, the directives to physically eliminate certain individuals will target leaders of civil society organizations in the Kalma camp in Southern Darfur State as well as other officials who were involved in the talks. The leadership of the SLA has called for the immediate carrying out of these directives.

August 7

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 0000 GMT 7 Aug 10)

- President Omar al-Bashir ordered the governors of the three Darfur states to expel any regional or international organization that acts beyond its mandate in the area. Speaking at Friendship Hall in Khartoum, President al-Bashir emphasized Sudanese authority in Darfur and the camps; pressed the Darfur rebels to join the peace process; and called on all Darfuris to support development and services in the region. President al-Bashir also thanked those who have supported Sudan in resolving the Darfur crisis, such as the individuals involved in the signing of the Abuja Peace Agreement and the leaders of Libya, Qatar and Chad.

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 7 Aug 10)

- Vice President Ali Uthman Muhammad Taha received the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers, the General Secretary of the Turkish Justice and Development Party, Na'im Shahine, and the accompanied delegation in his office on August 7. The meeting examined the historical ties between Sudan and Turkey and ways to further develop them economically, culturally and socially. The chairman of the delegation noted that the visit was in the context of improving relations between the two countries.

August 8

(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 8 Aug 10)

- The government of Southern Darfur State rejected a statement connected to a UN official claiming that it prevented certain humanitarian organizations from entering Kalma camp. The governor of Southern Darfur noted that the situation in the camp remains tense, stating that shots were heard up until August 5.

Conversely, Mr. Jamal Yousif, the Humanitarian Aid Commissioner in Southern Darfur State, stated that humanitarian organizations were not being prevented from entering the camp. He indicated that most of the people fled to other villages located to the north and east of Kalma and added that the Southern Darfur government had permitted aid organizations to enter. Yousif stated that Osha arranged a visit by aid organizations to villages around Balil camp where the displaced had returned.

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 8 Aug 10)

- The Sudanese parliament hailed the National Intelligence and Security Services decision to lift press censorship. The acting chairman of the parliamentary committee on human rights, Abd-al-Rahman Ahmad Shaykh Al-Fadini, said that the decision would improve the role of the national media in forming public opinion and highlighting issues related to peace, unity and the cohesion of Sudan. Al-Fadini also remarked that he was confident that the press would play a responsible role in light of the current realities in the country.

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 8 Aug 10)

- On August 8, the Sudanese government announced the suspension of the agreement between the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the National Radio Corporation as of August 9 due to acts carried out that went against the provisions of the agreement and national laws. The government issued a statement noting that the Ministry of Information pointed out that the decision was not related to the news service provided by the BBC in Sudan and that the door would remain open to correct mistakes made. The statement indicated that the BBC violated the agreement by bringing in equipment of live TV broadcast (SNG) through the diplomatic pouch of the British embassy. The BBC Trust also conducted an “information activity” in the country without obtaining final approval and a BBC broadcast from Juba without government permission and approval.