

Sudan Domestic Media, July 19, 2010 (covering July 12 to July 18, 2010)

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State-Owned Media

July 12

(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 12 Jul 10)

- A Sudan Vision website editorial discussed the suspension of *Al-Intibaha* newspaper and its owner, which it claimed had violated the Sudanese constitution and was engaged in "inciting hatred towards our brothers from the South." It went on to argue that the closure of the newspaper was necessary for "providing stability for south Sudan citizens to practice their right in healthy environment" and to promote unity for Sudan.

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in Arabic 12 Jul 10)

- Dr. Lual Achwel Deng, Sudan's minister of oil, received the American Charge d'Affaires, Robert E. Whitehead, in Khartoum on July 12 to discuss issues of common concern between the two countries, specifically in relation to oil. Whitehead congratulated the Sudanese minister of oil on his appointment and described the meeting as fruitful, explaining that several issues of mutual concern were covered.

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 12 Jul 10)

- The Sudanese Armed Forces carried out extensive combing operations in the mountains of Adula, between North and South Darfur, resulting in an ousting of all remnants of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) from the area. Lieutenant Col Al-Sawarmi Khalid Sa'd, the Armed Forces spokesman, indicated that the Forces invaded the three axes of Um-Katkut, Um-Sauna and Wada'a and that all remnants of the JEM fled without significant fighting, retreating northward and abandoning many vehicles and their dead and wounded, casualties of a one-hour fight in the Western Al-Awatil area. He added that the area of Adula was free of the rebellion and warned that any area taken by the rebel movements as a base would be a legitimate target for the Armed Forces, which would sweep it without hesitation.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jul 10)

- During a visit to the Eritrean capital, President Omar al-Bashir held important talks with Eritrean President Isayas Afewerki on efforts to complete the Darfur

peace process and the South Sudan referendum. President al-Bashir applauded the role being played by Eritrea in support of Sudan and President Afewerki stressed his country's support of Sudan in light of the conspiracies it confronts.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jul 10)

- President Omar al-Bashir returned to Sudan following a brief visit to the capital of Eritrea. The president was received at Khartoum airport by a number of ministers and senior government officials. Foreign Minister Ali Karti indicated that al-Bashir's visit pertained to ongoing consultations between the two countries.

July 13

(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 13 Jul 10)

- The Sudanese Bar Association affirmed the position of the Sudanese government and people with respect to their complete rejection of the decisions of the "so-called International Criminal Court (ICC)" as well as their understanding of the decisions as hostile and political. The Bar Association issued a statement stressing that "support of any of the decisions of the ICC against the Sudanese leadership, by any Sudanese body, is considered a crime, treason and a threat to national security of the country." It also underlined that "referring the case of Sudan to the so-called ICC through the Security Council was a political action that reflected the political orientation of the bodies that issued it, including the United States of America which does not recognize the ICC and threatens the ICC not to touch the American soldiers who are spreading terror, killings and destruction all over the world."

July 16

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Jul 10)

- The Friday, July 16 sermon was broadcast live on Sudan TV from Al-Shahid Mosque in Khartoum. Shaykh Abd-al-Jalil Nazir Al-Karuri's first sermon centered on religious matters, as did the second sermon, which emphasized the importance of helping the poor. The preacher called on Muslims and the wealthy to share their wealth with disadvantaged people in order to be rewarded by Allah.

July 18

(Republic of Sudan Radio, Omdurman, in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Jul 10)

- The Sudanese government welcomed U.S. efforts to combat desertification, particularly in Darfur, by implementing water and forestation projects and using donor and investor funds in the implementation of service programs that enhance the prosperity of Sudanese citizens. Dr. Nafi Ali Nafi, the presidential aide, noted

that he had discussed the decisions of the so-called ICC with U.S. envoy Scott Gration, and the U.S. position is that they are inconsistent with the positive work of the U.S. in Sudan. Dr. Nafi placed emphasis on the importance of a positive role for the UN and the U.S. in working with Sudan to ensure that a free and fair referendum takes place without the influence of any force.

(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Jul 10)

- The Media Office of the President issued a press release stating that President Omar al-Bashir affirmed that the government does not accept the mediation of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) between the government and Darfur rebel movements because it is part of the government. Media sources recently reported that the SPLM had claimed that it was proposing to act as mediator in an effort to solve the Darfur crisis by bringing the government and Darfur rebel groups to a negotiation forum.