

Sudan Domestic Media, June 14, 2010 (covering June 7 to June 13, 2010)

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## **June 7**

### **Privately-Owned Media**

**(The Citizen, Khartoum, in English 7 Jun 10)**

- The Sudan People's Liberation Movement's (SPLM) deputy and deputy spokesman of the National Assembly, Atem Garang, accused the National Congress Party (NCP) and political forces from the north of trying to fragment southern forces in order to attain unity. He added that the NCP is campaigning against the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) by accusing them of making efforts to rig the upcoming referendum and said that the NCP is attempting to turn the Sudanese public against the SPLM in case the referendum results in separation.

### **State-Owned Media**

**(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 7 Jun 10)**

- In an editorial, Sudan Vision recalled how the SPLM rigged the elections in the south through the use of fraud and noted that this would be unacceptable in the upcoming referendum. The editorial added that South Sudanese citizens should be able to express their views free of harassment, intimidation or repression.

## **June 8**

### **Privately-Owned Media**

**(Al-Sahafah, Khartoum, in Arabic 8 Jun 10)**

- The University of Khartoum cautioned against the separation of South Sudan, suggesting that it would open the door to "large scale and continuous" violence and unnecessary conflict.

**(The Citizen, Khartoum, in English 8 Jun 10)**

- The National Unity Support Association announced a program supporting the unity of the south and north. It affirmed that it would seek to silence voices calling for separation and promote the unity option.

**(Khartoum Monitor, Khartoum, in English 8 Jun 10)**

- The National Supreme Court announced that there would be re-runs of the Sudanese elections in Central Equatoria State and Unity State in light of appeals made by the independent candidates from both states. Maj-Gen Alfred Ladu Gore, an independent candidate for Central Equatoria State, did not believe that his competitor, Maj-Gen Clement Wani Konga, was victorious in the elections. Similarly, Angelina Jany Teny, an independent candidate for Unity State, challenged the victory of her competitor. Gore's supporters, though angry, were contained by the Government of South Sudan (GoSS). Angelina's supporters in Bentiu, however, demonstrated and confronted the police. Individuals were reportedly killed during the incident.
- Four members of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement for Democratic Change (SPLM-DC) who were arrested in Wau town, the capital of Western Bahr El-Ghazal State, were released after eight months in detention. They were originally arrested by the SPLA. According to one of the individuals who had been detained, the captives were tortured and received beatings and lashings. They were also deprived of food and baths. On May 25, they were told that they would be released because the elections were over and they could therefore carry on with their work.

**June 9**

**Privately-Owned Media**

**(Al-Ayyam, Khartoum, in Arabic 9 Jun 10)**

- The joint peacekeeping forces in Darfur issued a report highlighting the significant increase in the number of victims of the armed conflict in Darfur and identified the month of May as one of the bloodiest months in two years. Over 600 people were killed in May, although official military sources raised doubts about this figure. The increase has to do with conflict between Arab tribes in Darfur and the deadly events coincided with the failure of talks between the Sudanese government and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM). The heavy presence of weapons has intensified confrontations among tribes and contributed to a culture of vendettas.

**(Alwan, Khartoum, in Arabic 9 Jun 10)**

- On June 9, American Vice President Joe Biden met with General Salva Kiir Mayardit. The U.S. has shown increased interest in Sudan and U.S. Congress held two special sessions on Sudan during the month of May. According to *Alwan*, the meeting would be dominated by American interests in South Sudan, where natural resources and the potential for American military

bases have proved attractive. Moreover, *Alwan* claimed that “The SPLM is in essence an American investment project to control the petroleum of South Sudan and divide Sudan” and “This also allows reading the Biden-Salva Kiir meeting as containing within its folds a test for the second act scenario in the South Sudan War”. *Alwan* also suggested that the situation in the south will resemble the situation in Afghanistan and that the U.S. wants the SPLM to produce a “Karzai of the South”. The article concluded that “Biden seeks at the meeting with Salva Kiir to exploit the SPLA to fight a proxy war on Washington's behalf against those who have angered the United States, to fight the Lord's Army in northern Uganda in order to secure Western petroleum investments, and to fight later the Sudanese Army in order to seize all of Sudan's petroleum.”

**(Al-Sahafah, Khartoum, in Arabic 9 Jun 10)**

- The SPLA announced that it had put an end to the rebellion of renegade general Gulwak Gai in Unity State. According to Kual Daim, the SPLA's official spokesman, he fled the areas with 56,000 militia members and headed in the direction of Al-Ban al-Gadid, near Hijlij. The SPLA noted that 36 militia members were arrested and 21 were killed.

**June 10**

**Privately-Owned Media**

**(Juba Post, Khartoum in English 10 Jun 10)**

- The SPLM-DC demanded the immediate release of its members who are allegedly being held by the SPLA Military Intelligence. According to the SPLM-DC, Dr. Odoll Ochay and three others were picked up on May 22 and never released. The SPLM-DC also insisted that it does not have an armed wing and does not associate with any armed group.
- Members of the Eastern Equatoria State Legislative Assembly condemned road attacks near Idolu Bridge in Torit County along Torit Kapoeta road. Two civilians and one soldier were killed in the attack. The aggressors later exchanged fire with security personnel in the area. Numerous civilians were hurt in the cross-fire.

**(Akhir Lahzah, Khartoum, in Arabic 10 Jun 10)**

- The Sudanese government reviewed the campaign the U.S. administration is carrying out against it and derided the U.S. State Department claim that democratic transformation had not taken place in Sudan. A source suggested that the timing of the meeting between Joe Biden and Salva Kiir and the rallies in Juba calling for secession were a U.S. conspiracy against Sudan.

**June 11**

**Privately-Owned Media**

**(The Citizen, Khartoum, in English 11 Jun 10)**

- A Sudanese group spoke out against the UN Human Rights Council over the human rights situation in Sudan. The group argued that the rights situation has deteriorated since the April elections and the elections themselves witnessed serious human rights violations including voter intimidation. The Sudanese government has also heightened efforts to repress certain civil and political rights by once again censoring Sudanese newspapers before they are sent to press using the National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS). The NISS has allegedly arrested four journalists and tortured two of them. They appeared in court on June 9 facing charges with possible death sentences. Six members of a doctor's strike committee were also arrested and some were reportedly tortured. Ali Agab, a former legal officer for the Khartoum Centre for Human Rights (KCHR) and legal advisor for the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS), said that "without basic freedoms and rule of law, the referendum on secession of Southern Sudan, due to take place in January 2011, could result in mass voter disenfranchisement and lead to another civil war. The International Community and the Human Rights Council must remain focused on the Human Rights situation in Sudan."
- A coalition of European organizations stated in a report that foreign oil companies may have played a part in war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by armed groups in Sudan. The report stated that the decision to exploit oil on the part of a group of foreign oil companies in Unity State in South Sudan sparked a violent war over land that lasted from 1997 to 2003. Groups affiliated with the Sudanese government and the South Sudan Army were the primary perpetrators of violence, "committing a range of atrocities including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, forced displacement, looting, rape and torture in the fight to control the oil fields". According to the report, the fighting resulted in 12,000 deaths and 160,000 displacements. The report concluded that the oil consortium—led by Lundin, a Swedish oil company—should have been aware of the consequences of their operations insofar as the Sudanese government seized and controlled land in order to allow the oil companies to operate securely.

**June 13**

**Privately-Owned Media**

**(Al-Ra'y al-Amm, Khartoum, in Arabic 13 Jun 10)**

- The NCP rejected the moves that the SPLM was seeking to make at the UN Security Council and criticized the role of the United States in this respect, arguing that Washington is encouraging the SPLM to separate South Sudan. Haj Majid Siwar, a senior NCP member, claimed there was a link between the SPLM delegation's visit to the UN Security Council and the meeting between Joe Biden and Salva Kiir. The NCP rejected the role played by the U.S.