

Sudan Domestic Media, May 10, 2010 (covering May 3 to May 9, 2010)

By Kristen Zbikowski, MIGS Reporter for Sudan

### **May 3**

#### **(Juba Post, Khartoum in English 3 May 10)**

- Alfred Ladu Gore, who competed for the governorship of Central Equatoria State, called the election results an “insult” to the people. He claimed that the elections were rigged in favor of those aiming to compromise the upcoming referendum. According to Gore, two tanks full of military police wearing South Sudan police uniforms were stationed outside the gate of his residence, "ready to shoot and demolish" everything within the compound the week election results were announced. Claiming that he did not request police protection, he questioned their presence. Gore added that "[t]hey came here to murder me and my supporters" and noted that one of his bodyguards had been briefly arrested. He advised his supporters to refrain from resorting to violence, which would only give the “oppressors” an excuse to harm them, and announced his intention to challenge the election results in court.

#### **(Al-Sahafah, Khartoum, in Arabic 3 May 10)**

- Fifty-six people were arrested following investigations in relation to Darfur’s Al-Mawasir Market case.
- According to the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM), the National Congress Party (NCP) is beginning to destabilize the security situation in south Sudan in order to delay the referendum. The SPLM warned of the potential collapse of the comprehensive peace process and indicated its intention of raising the issue with the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD). At a press conference, the SPLM’s secretary general, Pagan Amum, claimed that the NCP had planted an armed group in the south. He indicated that the NCP was supporting the SPLM-DC in setting up militias and striking areas in the south. Amum argued that the NCP’s objective was to destabilize security in the south in order to delay or prevent the scheduled referendum. Amum added that this was an act of treason against the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and would lead to the collapse of Sudan, creating chaos.

#### **(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 3 May 10)**

- Gair Shwan, South Sudan’s Minister of Interior, emphasized the strong desire of the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) to reach peaceful reconciliation in the area. He informed reporters that his government was seeking to calm the situation and avoid military escalation. He added that he hoped that all parties would be

- open to dialogue and described the situation in Jonglei as under control. GoSS expressed interest in dialogue with Lt. Gen George Athor following assaults on the part of his militias on military sites.
- The Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) accused militants of attacking the base of Doleep Hill, near Malakal, killing 12 and injuring 20 others.

**(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 3 May 10)**

- The Wali (governor) of the Blue Nile State, Malik Aggar, emphasized the importance of unity in Sudan and warned of the painful consequences of separation.
- On May 2, several citizens supported by “armed movements and unruly people”, staged riots in Al-Fashir, the capital of North Darfur State. The riots targeted specific sites in the city and the residence of the state's Wali governor. According to the director of the state's police forces, police confronted demonstrators and were able to secure the targeted locations. Police, facing resistance, resorted to using batons and tear gas in order to disperse the demonstrators. According to the director, Maj-Gen. Abd-al-Rahman al-Tayyib Mahmud, three demonstrators were killed, 25 others were injured and 104 were arrested. He affirmed that North Darfur State's security situation was now stable and calm.

**May 4**

**(Al-Ayyam, Khartoum, in Arabic 4 May 10)**

- According to *Al-Ayyam*, “The media propaganda that separation has become inevitable is part of the ‘psychological war’ and we must immunize ourselves against falling victims to such psychological warfare.”

**May 5**

**(The Citizen, Khartoum, in English 5 May 10)**

- According to Maj-Gen Alfred Akuoch, former member of Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly, Dr. Lam Akol of the SPLM-DC has connections with militias. He informed journalists that “It is very true that Lam Akol has an operational militia group in the Shilluk territory” and claimed that the April elections were less fair and free because of the heavy presence of Lam's militias. He said that children had been caught voting in SPLM-DC-controlled areas, that the militias had prevented voters from voting for non-SPLM-DC candidates, and that he was intimidated at the polls. Peter Loi, an SPLM candidate who lost to the SPLM-DC, stated that Lam has brainwashed citizens using lies and instilled enmity in them against other tribes.
- The NCP accused the SPLM of seeking to create splits between the two partners and impede improvement of relations.

**(Sudan Vision website, Khartoum, in English 5 May 10)**

- According to a Sudan Vision website editorial, the unity of Sudan is important “to avoid the anticipated dangerous consequences of secession”.

**(Al-Ahram al-Yawm, Khartoum, in Arabic, in Arabic 5 May 10)**

- On May 4, the National Council for Press and Publications (NCP) suspended the publication of *Al-Ahram al-Yawm* newspaper for three days following its publication of a controversial column that criticized Sudan’s electoral process. In response, the newspaper vowed to remain "steadfast in the face of the enemies of freedom and democracy from the hawks of the (ruling) National Congress Party".

**May 6**

**(Al-Sahafah, Khartoum, in Arabic 6 May 10)**

- Muhammad Uthman al-Mirghan, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), criticized the West and the United States for accepting the results of Sudan’s elections despite knowledge of the flaws. He claimed that they accepted the results in order to allow for separation of the south in the coming referendum. He added that he rejects the arrest warrant against Omar al-Bashir because a sitting head of state cannot be brought to trial. He argued that all foreign meddling in Sudan’s affairs aims at separating the north and south and separating Darfur with an autonomous government. He warned that secession of the south would lead to instability.

**(Al-Ra'y al-Amm, Khartoum, in Arabic 6 May 10)**

- According to Pagan Amum, the SPLM's secretary general, statements from Sudan’s Central Bank claiming that foreign debts should be remedied prior to the referendum are illogical. He warned that the south could be forced to give up the Sudanese pound and adopt foreign currency if the Central Bank set oppressive conditions.

**(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 6 May 10)**

- Sudan’s Armed Forces denied claims of sieges on certain towns in Darfur’s three states. A statement issued by the spokesman of the Armed Forces affirmed that the army will respond forcefully and seriously in order to protect civilians. The statement referred to acts and aggressions committed by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) in west, south and north Darfur since its refusal to sign a cease-fire agreement.

## **May 7**

### **(The Citizen, Khartoum, in English 7 May 10)**

- On May 6, at a forum titled “The approaching separation,” Kamal Umar Abd-al-Salam said that the NCP was more interested in power than in addressing the confidence crisis of southerners. Rabi Abd-al-Aati of the NCP stated at the same forum that external parties were pushing the south toward separation. He called on the SPLM to stand up against Western parties pushing for separation.

### **(Sudan TV, Omdurman, in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 May 10)**

- In a sermon that was broadcast live on state-owned TV from the Al-Shahid Mosque in Khartoum, Shaykh Abd al-Jalil Nazir Al-Karuri slammed Israel for interfering in the Nile River waters issue and urged the country to leave the issue to member states.

## **May 9**

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

- Thirty people were killed and dozens more were injured in clashes between the Al-Misiriyyah tribe and the Al-Rizaygat tribe in the Artala and Gatala areas of West Darfur State. According to sources, the clashes were renewed on May 4. More violence was sparked on May 8 in the Bong Hilah area. This led hundreds of citizens to flee to the Iridah area in southern Darfur. A military force moved into the conflict zone and border areas in order to prevent the conflict from spreading to South Darfur State. Those displaced by the conflict stated that humanitarian conditions were tragic and they lacked food and water following the renewal of the conflict.

### **(Al-Ra'y al-Amm, Khartoum, in Arabic 9 May 10)**

- Following investigations in two constituencies in eastern Sudan, the National Elections Committee (NEC) disclosed that there were cases of rigging in the elections. The NEC indicated that staff from two polling stations would be brought to trial. The investigation resulted from a YouTube video showing rigging in the polling process.

### **(Suna news agency website, Khartoum, in English 9 May 10)**

- Police arrested two individuals suspected of killing two Egyptian UNAMID soldiers at Tulus Locality in Southern Darfur State. According to the Commissioner of Tulus Locality, Maj. Gen (Rtd.) Muhammad al-Hassan Bairag, the arrested individuals belong to a seven-man gang which has been involved in looting and terrorizing citizens.