



unamid
african union - united nations
mission in darfur

يوناميد
بعثة الاتحاد الأفريقي - الأمم المتحدة
في دارفور

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

National Press Review

04 September 2011

The recent eruption of fighting between GoS and SPLM North -sector added a new wound to the already wounded Sudanese body politic as reported by the local press today.

Fighting still ongoing:

According to the **Citizen** daily, SPLM north-sector secretary general said battles were still continued to repulse government forces from the towns of Kurmuk and Gisan, as well as from strategic areas in Dinder. In a press statement Arman reportedly added that SPLM north-sector would keep its strategic alliance with the rebel movements in Darfur, disclosing that a meeting was held yesterday attended by SPLM north-sector deputy leader ,SLMA A/W Nur and Mini Minawi and a representative of JEM. Arman reportedly said the four parties would form an opposition front to work for toppling the regime in Khartoum.

Agar whereabouts unknown:

Meanwhile, news about the whereabouts of the sacked Blue Nile governor was conflicting; while some media reports said he defected to Juba, this news was denied by the South Sudan government. Quoting **Al Jazeera** website, **Al Akhbar** daily said Agar was lifted by a UN plane, while members of his government are still stranded in the town of Russeris after withdrawing from Al Damazin, the capital city of the state.

A political or military decision?

UNAMID Communication and Public Information Division Contacts

Kemal Saiki Director ksaiki@un.org tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 3529; mobile: +249 (0) 92 241 0020

2011-04-09, UNAMID National Press Review

Email: unamid-publicinformation@un.org - Website: <http://unamid.unmissions.org/>

The editor-in-chief of **Al Tayar** daily (yesterday issue) raises the question which party started the shootout, noting that if it was the military that decided that, this will be understandable since no army would wait until it is attacked. “But if the decision was political aimed at striking at the unannounced rebellion in the state, this would imply that the door for dialogue has been completely locked,” he notes

Let us call a spade a spade:

Al Khartoum daily editorial describes the developments in the Blue Nile and South Kordofan as a treacherous targeting of national stability. The paper says the declaration of the state of emergency in the Blue Nile was a rational decision to avert potential losses by the conflict there, urging Sudanese political forces to ally with the ruling party at least for the time being to stand against the armed mutiny.

The war of Damazin:

Dia Eden Bilal, the editor-in-chief of **Al Sudani** daily says irrespective of who started the shoot-out, the important question is whether a zero hour was set for it, or whether it happened by chance. He goes on to argue that the government was not keen on opening a new fighting front in the Blue Nile, but it was in fact hoping that Agar would mediate between it and rebel Al Hilo of South Kordofan as stated by president Bashir in his interview with Al Sudani daily. “The Sudanese Army fears the repetition of South Kordofan scenario where the shoot-out was started by SPLA, and for this reason it has moved its forces to Damazin to avoid surprises,” Bilal argues.

Agar ill fate:

Musa Yaagoub, a columnist with **Akhbar Al Yom** daily recalls how the sacked governor of the Blue Nile, Agar behavior always conflicted with the interest of Sudan, citing Agar alliance with the Darfur rebel movements and his support to Al Hilo rebellion in South Kordofan. Yaagoub maintains the recent measures taken against SPLM north-sector came late, especially that the sector visited Israel to get logistical support and struck the Kawda alliance with the Darfur rebel movements.

Salva Kiir promise:

[UNAMID Communication and Public Information Division Contacts](#)

Kemal Saiki Director ksaiki@un.org; tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 3529; mobile: +249 (0) 92 241 0020

2011-04-09, UNAMID National Press Review

Email: unamid-publicinformation@un.org - Website: <http://unamid.unmissions.org/>

The editor-in-chief of **Al Rayed** daily highlights Salva Kiir statement in his speech on the occasion of the declaration of the birth of the new South Sudan state, when he said they would not forget the people of Nuba Mountains and Blue Nile states. The writer concludes that the statement clearly reflects the pre-meditated intention to support these two regions mutiny against the central government. The writer also slams SPLM north-sector secretary general, Yasser Arman, accusing him of seeking to station forces in the Blue Nile and South Kordofan, and to launch war in the former to realize his secular political project.

[UNAMID Communication and Public Information Division Contacts](#)

[Kemal Saiki](#) Director ksaiki@un.org; tel.: +249 (0) 92 244 3529; mobile: +249 (0) 92 241 0020

2011-04-09, UNAMID National Press Review

Email: unamid-publicinformation@un.org - Website: <http://unamid.unmissions.org/>