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South Sudan's Kirr Shrugs off International Calls to Cease Hostility

As South Sudan's provocations against Sudan continue, the international community has chimed in, condemning and calling for an end to this unwarranted aggression.

- The African Union (AU)—“notes with alarm the occupation of Heglig by the armed forces of the Republic of South Sudan, and calls for their immediate and unconditional withdrawal.”
- The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon— urged both sides to “immediately cease hostilities, remove their forces from each others' territory and avoid further bloodshed.”
- The European Union (EU)—“The move by the South Sudanese armed forces to occupy Heglig is completely unacceptable.”
- The U.S. state Department—“we condemn South Sudan's military involvement in the attack on and seizure of Heglig, an act which goes beyond self-defense and has increased tensions between Sudan and South Sudan to dangerous levels.”
- Sudan—“The Government of South Sudan must change course and shun this aggressive posture before it's too late.”

Against the advice of the world bodies and members of the international community, South Sudan's President Salva kiir is adamant about maintaining the course of aggression, saying to the UN Secretary General that **“you do not need to order me because I am not under your command. I am a head of state accountable to my people and do not have to be ordered by someone I do not fall under his direct command. I will not withdraw the troops.”**

This statement is a clear indication that South Sudan is determined on waging a war against Sudan. It has consistently scoffed at calls to stop supporting rebels that have devastated communities in South Kordofan and Blue Nile. The world must seriously ask the question, why is South Sudan intent on plunging the region into turmoil? For those who are serious about peace in the region and in the world, now is the time for action. Sudan has honored the call of restraint long enough.