



UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN SUDAN

UNMIS NEWS BULLETIN**4 January 2007****Carjacking decreases, but huge number stolen over past year***

While cases of carjacking have recently decreased, figures soared in 2006. Some 118 vehicles were taken in Darfur, of which 28 were recovered and 90 are still missing. In total, five UN, 12 commercially hired humanitarian, 17 African Union (AU) /Pacific Architects and Engineers (PAE) and 84 INGO vehicles were stolen.

Moreover, two AU personnel kidnapped in their car on 10 December are still missing, as are five Water, Environment and Sanitation (WES) workers detained with their car on 23 October.

The use of these stolen vehicles by armed militia and rebel factions in further attacks is a growing concern.

Security Incidents in Darfur

Seven people were killed and 30 reportedly injured after fighting broke out on 2 January between the Jamala and Terjam tribes in BulBul Abu Angra (40 kilometres northwest of Nyala). National Security stated that six Jamala and one Terjam had been killed. Government of Sudan (GoS) police are trying to stabilize the situation.

Armed bandits opened fire on a commercial bus 30 kilometres north of Nyala on 3 January, wounding three passengers and the driver. A bandit and a GoS officer were injured during subsequent shooting. On the same date, a UN agency vehicle was car-jacked in El Geneina by four armed men in camouflage uniform, strongly believed to be militia. The driver, who was forced out of the vehicle, was unhurt.

Over the past week, attacks on UN and INGO compounds have decreased. Among those reported, an armed man attempted to break into a UN agency compound in Kutum (North Darfur). Four gunmen broke into an INGO compound in Gereida (South Darfur) and stole money as well as communications equipment.

Security Incidents in Southern Sudan

Four people were killed and six injured on 2 January when a truck carrying 40 to 50 passengers was reportedly ambushed by a large group of unarmed men on the Magwi-Nimule Road at Opari Junction (125 kilometres south of Juba).

No evidence of General Gabriel Tang's troops traveling on a Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) barge from Kosti (400 kilometres north of Malakal) towards Malakal, as alleged by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), has been reported.

A truce between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in Equatoria region has been extended to February 2007. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni sent ten cows as a Christmas gift to the LRA, and local radio arranged for the rebels to transmit Christmas greetings to their relatives.

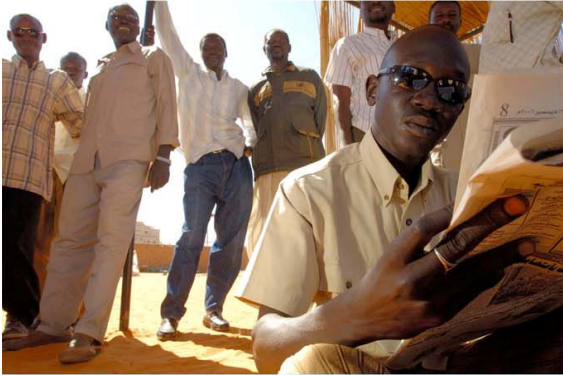
A joint UNMIS and UN Development Programme assessed Pibor and Lekongole for a UN-proposed voluntary civilian disarmament exercise to be conducted by the Government of Southern Sudan. The exercise should start now, at the beginning of the dry season, before Murle communities migrate north with weapons to threaten disarmed Lou Nuer tribes in Akobo.

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Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the North Sudan Disarmament Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission (NSDDRC), with support from the UN Disarmament Demobilisation and Reintegration Unit (UNDDRU), began pre-registering DDR candidates in various locations across Sudan on 12 December.

As candidates arrive at allocated sites, data collectors interview them to obtain vital information required for their verification and consequent demobilization.

At least one of the data collectors or controllers at each site is an SAF officer who can identify each soldier from his battalion. Many have been serving together for over a decade.



At the Omdurman Military Hospital, female SAF military personnel who worked in SAF hospitals as nurses and cooks are also registering. Many served with the SAF all their lives and are eager to start afresh in their communities of origin.

The SAF pre-registration exercise for DDR candidates is the first step of Phase One DDR in Sudan.



DDR Candidates start pre-registration in the North