



SOUTH SUDAN

Restoring Unity & Dignity of the People

National Salvation Front/ Army

OFFICE OF THE SPOKESPERSON

General Headquarters

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NAS Statement on Security Situation in South Sudan

The Leadership of National Salvation Front (NAS) is closely following the unfolding security situation and attacks on civilians in Nasir and Ulang Counties in Upper Nile State as well as in Western Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal States.

In the last few days South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) and its allied militia dispatched thousands of troops using three (3) military barges to Nasir, well equipped with all sorts of armaments, tanks, armored personnel carriers (APCs), different artillery pieces and helicopter gunships and drones to provide air support for planned military operations against civilians in the area.

SSPDF forces and militia are engaged in communal violence and direct military operations against civilians in Western Equatoria and in Western Bahr el Ghazal States for several weeks now under the pretext of dismantling illegal check-points.

These attacks on civilians in their areas have resulted in unnecessary loss of lives, unleashing a humanitarian crisis and likelihood of communal fights erupting all over South Sudan.

The Leadership of NAS would therefore like to state the following;

1. NAS condemns in strongest terms possible the Kiir's regime and the command of SSPDF deployment of force against the Nuer civilians in Nasir and Ulang Counties of Upper Nile.
2. NAS likewise condemns in the strongest terms possible the regime policy of orchestrating communal violence by pitting communities against each other and using the SSPDF against some communities as is now happening in Western Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal.

3. The statements of SSPDF Spokesperson claiming dismantling of check-points or troop rotation are lies being spread to cover up for their planned operations on civilians.
4. NAS warns the people of South Sudan and International Community that the regime of Salva Kiir has declared war against some communities in South Sudan that will result in war crimes, including genocide the same way as he did it in December 2013 and 2016 against the Nuer people.
5. The security situation in the country is not isolated from the grand scheme of political entrenchment and succession power alignment being carried out by Salva Kiir in Juba within government and the SPLM to cement his control on power through cronies. This latest move by President Kiir has clearly exposed him as a true tribal chauvinistic leader and SPLM as a vessel for championing backward tribal hegemony.
6. NAS calls on the humanitarian organization, the region, UNMISS and International Community to monitor this development keenly and if possible and take necessary actions.
7. NAS calls on the people of South Sudan to rise up and intensify the struggle against the regime of Salva Kiir in all forms to restore power to the people and usher in a new dispensation for the country. The regime is using communal fights to divert the attention of the people of South Sudan so that continues to loot and sell resources of South Sudan through dubious loans.
8. Finally, the Leadership of NAS extends its solidarity to the civilians in the Nasir and Ulang counties, and in Western Equatoria and Western Bahr el Ghazal and encourage them to be strong and resilient in facing this looming adversity from the tribal regime of Salva Kiir.

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