



## South Sudan Watch Update 29th November- 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018



### **IGAD deploys 1,600 troops**

IGADs chiefs of staff agreed to deploy over 1,600 troops from five countries including Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, Djibouti and Somalia to join the Regional Protection Force (RPF) in South Sudan.

As part of the terms of the peace agreement, IGAD decided to contribute troops to the protection force to ensure that there is protection for the citizens and violence repeat as it happened in July 2016.

The deployment has been welcomed the UNMISS chairperson David Shearer. The troops will be provided ratios, 499 from Uganda, Kenya and Sudan each and 99 each of Somalia and Djibouti. <sup>1</sup>

### **South Sudan in urgent fund drive**

The government of South Sudan has called upon the international community and donors to help them raise funds to the tune of \$1.5 billion to help with the recovery plan for the year 2019. The Humanitarian Affairs minister Hussein Mar Nyout said that with the peace that is in the country, the nationals who are about 3 million that fled the fighting are going to return and they will need all the help they can get to recovery, reconstruct and rebuild. Mr. Nyout also called on the donors to increase the funding of the NGOs providing help to the South Sudanese. <sup>2</sup>

### **Don't threaten us SSNDA tells IGAD**

The opposition group called the South Sudan National Democratic Alliance (SSNDA) rebuked IGAD for calling them spoilers of peace in South Sudan. SSNDA

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<sup>1</sup> "IGAD military leaders decide to deploy over 1600 troops in South Sudan," 23 November 2018, Sudan Tribune, available at <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article66650>

<sup>2</sup> "South Sudan wants \$1.5bn for post-conflict recovery," 23 November 2018, The Daily Monitor available at <https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/South-Sudan-wants--1-5bn-post-conflict-recovery/688334-4864738-y84jb7z/index.html>

refused to be a part of the peace agreement that was signed in September this year. SSNDA said that they would not be intimidated by of IGAD calling them peace spoilers, they also added that they regret to see that IGAD only listens to the government.<sup>3</sup>

### **Former SPLM official forms a party**

Dr. Matur Gorjok Gak the former SPLM official in Australia has formed a new political party called the National People's Movement (NPM) which he believes will bring South Sudan's people towards genuine democratic change. Dr. Matur said that the current SPLM had failed to transform into a political party with clear plans for the country, he added that there was a lot of corruption in the country and that tribalism had become rampant. He called upon all the people of South Sudan that want peace to support his movement for better leadership in South Sudan. He plans to impart democracy in the politics of the country and put an end to the fighting.<sup>4</sup>

### **Uganda was conduit for South Sudan get arms**

A report by a British based weapons' monitoring group called the Conflict Armament Research (CAR) says that Uganda assisted South Sudan in purchasing European arms and breaching the EU arms embargo placed on South Sudan. According to CAR, the government of Uganda helped South Sudan's government to buy ammunition from Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia. The report says that the arms were delivered to Uganda in 2014 and 2015 and they would then be transferred to South Sudan. The head of CAR James Bevan says that they have a paper trail from point of manufacture, exportation through Uganda, diversion to South Sudan and finally to recovery of the arms on the battle field. This report also documents the arms that came from China, went through Sudan and ended up in the hands of the rebels in South Sudan.<sup>5</sup>

### **Rape in the rise**

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<sup>3</sup> "Holdout opposition alliance chides IGAD pressure to sign peace agreement," 24 November 2018, Sudan Tribune, available at <http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article66655>

<sup>4</sup> "Former SPLM official forms new political party," 27 November 2018, Radio Tamzuj available at <https://radiotamazuj.org/en/news/article/former-splm-official-forms-new-political-party>

<sup>5</sup> "Uganda helped South Sudan breach EU arms embargo - monitoring group," 29 November 2018, Reuters available at <https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-southsudan-arms/uganda-helped-south-sudan-breach-eu-arms-embargo-monitoring-group-idUKKCN1NY005?rpc=401&>

At least 120 women and girls looking for humanitarian aid were raped and whipped in the period of one month in South Sudan. According to a medical charity organization called Doctors Without Borders, there has been a rise in sexual violence against women in the Unity State which is in the north of the country. One of the midwives with the charity organization Rut Okello said that the targeted people include pregnant women, older women and girls as young as 10 years old.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> "125 Women and Girls Seeking Food Were Raped and Whipped in South Sudan," 2 December 2018, New York Times available at <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/02/world/africa/south-sudan-women-girls-raped-whipped.html>