

Addresses Residents

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[Speech by Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir to the people of Juba on 10 February—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Brother Staff Major General Allison Manani Magaya, governor of Equatoria Region, brother citizen Barnaba, chairman of the Salvation (?People's Committee), brother citizens, inhabitants of Juba town, greetings to you all. In fact, I am very happy today to be able to come and see Juba, so as to see the citizens of Juba, to listen to the problems of Juba, to (?review) the problems that Juba has lived through, and to find a solution to Juba problems. [applause]

I am very happy today to come and see the citizens—the citizens who [word indistinct] standing with all their bravery to defend their town, defend their country against the rebellion and destruction. Allow me first to thank you for the warm reception, the welcome, and [words indistinct] there was no specified time people in Juba were not aware, but despite this, the people came, and now you are standing in the rain to hear the word of the revolution [applause]. The rainy season is luck.

[Words indistinct] when the revolution was established, it was basically established for peace. Its first objective was peace. The first work we undertook was the (?establishment) of peace. That is why the first work we undertook was the national dialogue conference for peace. We included in it a lot of people—people from the political leadership of all areas, from the north, the south, and the areas in the east and west. They came, sat down, and put forward solutions to the problem of the war and how people could achieve peace. We endeavored to ensure that peace was achieved.

Delegations went to the African countries, European countries, so that people would talk to the rebel movement, so that people would be convinced that (?we were for) peace. We started negotiations and finished them, but the rebels do not want peace. They said they wanted to liberate Sudan. I do not know from whom they are liberating Sudan. Liberating Sudan from the Sudanese citizens? They only want destruction. The rebels have destroyed the entire country. They destroyed Bahr al-Ghazal, Upper Nile, and now they have come to destroy Equatoria.

[Words indistinct] made in Juba was that people leave Juba so that they destroy it. They wanted people to go to the bush [words indistinct] so that relief organizations stopped bringing in relief, so that people would die inside Juba. That was the objective of the movement, aimed at killing people through hunger. I request you and the Armed Forces to defend Equatoria, defend Juba, and that you form popular defense forces, so that the Equatoria citizens defend their country against the destruction. We shall, God willing, continue to transport the relief and supplies for the citizens. [applause] We

have formed a Salvation People's Committee to help in the administration of the [words indistinct].

On behalf of [words indistinct] I thank you [word indistinct] that we in the Salvation Revolution [words indistinct] shall strengthen the Armed Forces to help defend your country, defend Equatoria, defend Juba, and God willing, we shall end the rebellion. If the rebellion wants peace, we are ready for peace and prepared for peace, but if they do not want peace, we, God willing, are prepared for war. Goodbye. God is great, and glory to Sudan! [applause]