

## COMMISSION

# CEASEFIRE VIOLATION REPORT ALLEGED SURRENDER

OF
SLA MEMBERS IN
NYALA

### AFRICAN UNION الاتحاد الأفريقي



### AFRICAN MISSION IN SUDAN

### CEASEFIRE COMMISSION

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HQ/CFC/VIO/OPS/1/G

See Distribution

3/ January 2005

### CFC REPORT NO. 125/04: ALLEGED SURRENDER OF SLA MEMBERS IN

Reference:

A. HQ/ SEC 2/OPS/G dated 31 Dec 04.

### INTRODUCTION

- GoS invited HQ Sector 2 to witness an alleged SLA members' surrender to the GoS on the 21 Dec 04.
- The Sector Commander, 3 Mil Obs, and representatives from GoS, JEM and SLA, as well as an interpreter, went to witness the occasion as requested.

### ASSESSMENT

3. The team established that a group of men, mostly militiamen from various villages East of Nyala, were captured and/or surrendered to the GoS between the 17 and 20 Dec 04. The team also deduced that a few of the men could be members of SLA or JEM.

4. The members surrendered with their weapons, though there seems to be a discrepancy in what the GoS and the capitulators claim were the quantities and types of the weapons handed in.

### CONCLUSION

CFC commends the action of the GoS to have occasions like the surrendering of weapons witnessed by AU and other international peacemakers.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6. It is recommended that:
  - a. GoS should allow CFC to witness the destruction of the weapons and ammunitions, to ensure they are not recycled into the field again.
  - b. AU and Joint Commission should mandate the AMIS Military Component to implement a mechanism with incentives, to encourage citizens to surrender weapons to it for destruction.

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### Enclosure:

Report on the Voluntary Surrender of Alleged SLA Members in Nyala on 21 Dec 04

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GOS

SLA JEM

Information:

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HQ/Sec 2/Ops/G

HQ CFC

Headquarters Sector 2 African Mission in Sudan NYALA, South Darfur

3 | December 2004

### REPORT ON THE VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF ALLEGED SLA MEMBERS IN NYALA ON 21 DECEMBER 2004

### INTRODUCTION

Sector 2 received an invitation by the GOS to witness an alleged SLA
members surrender to the GOS on 21 Dec 04. The Sector Comd led a team of 3
Milobs, GOS, SLA and JEM reps plus an interpreter to the South Darfur PDF HQ
in NYALA in order to witness the occasion as requested. The Team interviewed
some of the surrenders and inspected some surrendered arms and ammunitions
with a view to confirming the claims of the GOS.

### CONDUCT

- 2. The Team arrived at the PDF camp at about 1000 hours and was presented with a group of alleged SLA members who had surrendered to the GOS on 20 Dec 04. A range of weapons and assorted ammunitions claimed to belong to the surrendered SLA members were also presented to the Milobs team. The alleged surrendered weapons and ammunitions included:
  - a. 1 x 82 mm Mortar
  - b. 1 x 60 mm Mortar
  - c. 3 x RPG Launchers
  - d. 1xLMG
  - e. 27 x AK 47 Assault Rifles
  - f. 14 x G3 Assault Rifles
  - g. 5 x Old Assorted Rifles
  - h. 7 x 60 mm Mortar Rounds with Fuses
  - Assorted 7.62 mm Ammunition
  - 31 x AK 47 Assault Rifle Magazines

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k. 12 x G3 Assault Rifle Magazines

### CLARIFICATION

- 3. The Milobs team interacted and conducted interviews amongst the surrendered individuals, a rep of the GOS and the PDF comd of the area. The interviews went thus:
  - a. <u>Interview with ADAM ABRAHIM MOHAMMED (one of the surrendered) on 21 December 2004.</u> He stated the following:
    - (1) That, he was a citizen of MUHAJERIYA currently living in HAWATEEL. He had been trained in HAWATEEL before being moved to MUHAJERIYA and then LABADO. He was under the command of AZRA.
    - (1) (2) He had been a member of the SLA for 9 to 10 months and was 21 years old. He had joined the SLA when the Janjaweed Militia burned his village. They wrote a letter to the GOS forces in the vicinity of BILEL and informed them that they wished to surrender. They gathered at BILEL, collected their weapons in the field and moved to BILEL to surrender. The weapons they brought were G3's, AK 47's, 2 x SKSs, an RPG and 2 other rifles. He does not know where the other weapons shown to the Milobs came from. Since their arrival at the PDF camp they have been treated well.
    - (2) There were a total of 80 people in this group and he was the leader.
  - d. Interview with Col JAFFER ALTAHIR ABDELALIM (PDF commander from KHARTOUM responsible for the area) on 21 December 2004. He stated that, he was from KHARTOUM and that all enquiries should be directed to the local commander.
  - e. <u>Interview with Maj ADDULGASSIM ALI (commander of the PDF in South DARFUR) on 21 December 2004.</u> He stated:
    - (1) There was a security meeting held on 20 December 2004, headed by the Wali, to decide what should happen to the men and their weapons. Until now the men have been kept at the camp. On their release they will be issued with a certificate stating they are free.
    - (2) All the weapons on display were taken from the surrendered

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persons.

### ASSESSMENT

- The following assessments are proffered:
  - The men came from various villages east of NYALA.
  - b. Some of the men surrendered but some appear to have been captured in the market at BILEL and then forced to surrender. The first surrender interviewed was, who claimed to have been captured, became confused in his statements; hence it was clear whether he was telling the truth.
  - c. The men that surrendered contacted the GOS and informed them of their desire to surrender. They gathered together and travelled to BILEL, after which, they moved to the PDF HQ in NYALA.
  - d. The men were captured and/or surrendered between 17 and 20 Dec 04.
  - e. There is disparity in the statements of the self acclaimed group leader and the PDF comd as to whether the weapons displayed to the Milobs team all came from the surrendered men that were presented at the PDF camp that day.
  - The surrendered men have been held in good conditions.
  - g. The Sector Comd also requested for individual SLA and JEM reps independent opinion on the occasion in writing, which they did. Copies attached along with the list of surrenders. From the independent opinions it can be established that neither the SLA nor the JEM reps wanted to accept that any of their members actually surrendered. However, it was instructive that a few of the surrenders could have belonged to any one of these resistance groups, because of the difficulty we encountered before securing the list of the surrenders for fear of the list falling into the hands of the SLA or JEM. Some of the surrenders pleaded with the Milobs that the list doesn't fall into the hands of the SLA particularly.

### CONCLUSIONS

- 4. The men that surrendered were mostly local militiamen tasked with protecting their villages. However, a few of the surrendered could be members of the SLA or JEM. With the advance of the GOS eastwards from NYALA the SLA/JEM and local civil defence, the popular camp, deserted the villages, leaving the rest population with no option but to surrender.
- The individuals surrendered with their weapons, but it was unclear

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whether the GOS added extra weapons amongst those put on display, in order to encourage other SLA/JEM and popular camps to do the same in.

- 12. The future of the men and their weapons is unclear, though the PDF premised the release of the surrenders at the end the decumentation process.
- 13. The actions of both the surrenders and the GOS/PDF was quite exemplary; but it would have been more credible if the authorities could allow an independent body, such as the AU CFC, to witness destruction of the weapons surrendered and ensure that the surrenders a released as promised.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14. The following recommendations are hereby volunteered for your consideration:
- a. The GOS should allow the AU CFC, or some other independent body, to witness such exercise and also arrange for the destruction of the weapons/ammunitions so that they don't get re-circled into the field again.
- 15. People that surrender and hand their weapons in should be granted amnesty in order to encourage as many people as possible to do the same.

ADEL M MOHAMED

Capt

For Sector Comd

## Dafe = 21, 12, 2004 ( )

to the government.

# Notes on investigation with returners from

by the refurnees from DATO areas, I would like to clear up the following facts:

1- The surrendered are armed civilians belong to popular camps of the villages which foll with in SLA Controlled areas 3- The type of weapons Ho the government included: G3, AKM RPG in addition to some traditional grang- But egovernment added two mortary, two RPGs and one LMC 4- According to South Darfur State WALL, the process was an initiative led by some leaders of DAJO tribe to which most of Surrendered are belong-5- The Coromanic of arragement made by the government, - had aimed at a chieving certain potiti Caf objectives and to mislead the public opinion. 6-Eventually, it is worth mentioning that Since the out break of rebellion about two Years ago, no one of SLA fighters Surrendized

> writen by Alla AHMED FAOL ABOHLLA SLA representative

### In The Name of Allahi The Great Merciful The Most Compassionate

Article: The Viewpoint of representative

JEM about The Surrender of Some Citizens from
the rebeis' controlled areas to the PDF.

firstly. Those citizens used to live in Villages Inside The rebels controlled areas like, Eishmu, Unizeaifa and Mow village, and according to their statements, they have weapons for denfer defending back, their animals, villages and properties from The Janjaweeds attacks, then after the entering of the government and ets militias to the area in the previous weeks and occupied the above prentioned villages inaddition to the proceeding of the 95its surrounding villages, which resulted to withdrew of the rebel from and are controlling of the area big the government, beside displaced of all citizens of the above mentioned villages - for the all above those citizens find themselves in a crit ical setuation, having no option except to hand over themselfes Secondly: These people and according to their statements, They received no assistances or supports from the rebel from and the wear pons are belong to them, and they bought it with their Own nursey to during their migration sreaching for graze, so as to protect their wealth from the attacking of Janjoused-

Mirrolly: The weapons are hunded over outside Bilail area and the government brings those people to Negala inorder to gain the mass-media and wat more, and may prove for this, the government added Some weapons to their weapons to as to exaggerate and make those people feefle as if SLA forces.

fourthly: The government and its malitias endager Endangered

the Stability and the citizens security after the signing of agreement with the armed movements, though the government's attacking, led all people of this area to be displaced which it completely opposite to
the Security agreement, because the government Consider all
the people / citizens of these vellages are velebs, and This is opposite to The human right too resented Des representative EM. Abdul Majed Hassan

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