



Sudan People's Liberation Army



Office of the SPLA Spokesman

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Press Release on the Occasion of Passing out the SPLA Special Forces' Brigade

H.E. Dr. Riek Machar Teny, the Vice President of the GOSS, on behalf of H.E. Gen. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the First Vice President of the Republic of the Sudan, the President of the GOSS and C-in-C of the SPLA, passed out yesterday the 10th May 2007, the **SPLA Special Forces' Brigade**, that has successfully completed one (1) year intensive special military training in New Cush or Heiman SPLA Training Centre. New Cush is in Budi County of Eastern Equatoria State.

The Passing out Ceremony was attended by the following comrades, beside the Vice President of GOSS:

- Hon. James Wani Igga, the Speaker of Southern Sudan Legislative Assembly (SSLA);
- 5 Advisors and Ministers of the GOSS;
- 2 Chairpersons of the Specialised Committees of the SSLA;
- Governor of Eastern Equatoria State and Commissioners of Budi and Kapoeta East Counties;
- SPLA Chief of Staff, Deputies Chief of Staff, Directors of Branches, and Commanders of the Specialised Units of the SPLA General Headquarters (GHQs);
- Commander and some senior officers of the Joint Integrated Units;
- Commander and some senior officers of the SPLA 2nd Infantry Division in Greater Equatoria;
- Senior officers representing the Police, Wildlife and Fire brigade; and

- The public in New Cush and Taposa nomads who are still in that area.

The morale of the graduated soldiers is very high, and there is no doubt that they will increase the capacity of the SPLA to contribute effectively in the security of Southern Sudan and the Sudan at large. The SPLA will continue to train more Special Forces in conformity with the strategy of the SPLA GHQs to transform the SPLA from a guerrilla army to a modern strong army.

On a related development, the propeller of the Helicopter that was boarding the Speaker of the SSLA, the SPLA chief of Staff and others back to Juba, knocked a tree in the vicinity of the airfield when it was about to take-off, due to mechanical problem. The Helicopter was not damaged and no any person was hurt. Our people should not allow the rumour mongers and the prophets of doom, to use this incident to create confusion again.

Lt. Gen. Oyay Deng Ajak, the SPLA Chief of Staff is congratulating the marginalised people of the Sudan, the entire SPLA and particularly the **Special Forces' Brigade** on this occasion.

Thanks.

Signed:

Maj. Gen. Kuol Deim Kuol
SPLA Spokesman