

ACTION: DS-00

INFO LOG-00 AF-00 AID-00 CA-00 CIAE-00 INL-00 DNI-00  
 DODE-00 FBIE-00 UTED-00 VCI-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 LAB-01  
 M-00 VCIE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OCS-00 NIMA-00 P-00  
 DOHS-00 IRM-00 SSO-00 SS-00 NCTC-00 ASDS-00 FMP-00  
 CBP-00 SCRS-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00 DRL-00 NFAT-00 SAS-00  
 SWCI-00 /001W

-----17810B 301502Z /38

O 301457Z AUG 06  
 FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4335  
 INFO DARFUR COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RELEASED IN FULL

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 002062

NSC FOR COURVILLE AND SHORTLEY

E.O. 12958: N/A  
 TAGS: ASEC, CASC, PGOV, SU  
 SUBJECT: 10,000 PROTESTERS DENOUNCE FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN  
 DARFUR

1. At 1000 hours local, approximately 10,000 protesters converged at the Khartoum offices of the United Nations Development Program, about 2km east of the Embassy. According to the local head of the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), several protesters chanting and carrying signs have denounced the US and UK governments and President Bush and Prime Minister Blair directly. This demonstration comes one day after the conclusion of A/S Frazer's visit to Khartoum. It initially began as two separate protests in different parts of the city, with one denouncing possible UN intervention in Darfur and the other criticizing recent price increases for fuel and food staples.

As of 1330 hours local, all demonstrators had dispersed. During the course of the demonstrations, Embassy personnel were advised to refrain from any unnecessary movements around Khartoum until further notice.

2. No incidents of violence have yet been reported, and the consular section reports no inquiries or expression of concern from unofficial Americans in Khartoum. A warden message circulated August 29 informed Amcits of the possibility of demonstrations and the continued terrorist threat to US and western interests, and urged them to maintain a low profile and to avoid crowds.

3. A previously-scheduled Embassy Emergency Action Committee

UNCLASSIFIED

(EAC) met to review the security situation in country and to review our security posture and preparedness in both Darfur and Khartoum. The EAC, chaired by the CDA, also brainstormed on various scenarios and trip wires that would necessitate more stringent security measures, which will be reported septel.

4. CDA reminded the EAC that Embassy Khartoum has no/no Marine Security Guard force, and that it is incumbent upon all official Americans to exercise a heightened degree of security awareness. He strongly urged all to exercise the utmost caution in the days ahead. It was also decided that the RSO would schedule a mandatory briefing for all official Americans at which he would review and respond to questions about what officers need to know and do in the event of an emergency.

HUME

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED