

South Kordofan and Blue Nile Coordination Unit Protection Report¹ #5 - 2015

Period covered: March 1 – April 10, 2015

Date of Report: 12 April, 2015

For **the SPLM-N controlled locations in the Two Areas**, the month of March in terms of civilian protection incidents has been somewhat subdued when compared to the previous three months. No deaths were reported in March 2015 and 20 civilians were reported to having been injured as a result of aerial bombardment or shelling.

However, the intensity of military attacks that affected civilian locations in SPLM-N controlled areas increased near the end of March and into the first week of April, resulting in **17 civilian deaths and 12 persons injured between April 4 and 7th**. Shelling from the SAF garrison in Dilling town into Al Kuk village on April 6th **killed 9 people from the same family**, including a one day old baby, and children of ages 2, 5, 10, two of 13, 15 and 18 years as well as a 23 year old adult. Bombs dropped near a local grinding mill in Tunguli, Dalami County, on April 7th **killed 7 people**; two women, two students and two young children, and an elderly man was seriously injured and then died while being transported to a distant hospital. The grinding mill which provides a critical service for the local population was also destroyed.

Long time observers have noted that this is not an unusual pattern in the two areas, where the SAF / Air Force typically escalates the intensity and spread of aerial bombardment to disrupt the agriculture harvest in the November to January period, and then repeats that escalation in the May – July cultivation season. This pattern of deliberate Government of Sudan military focus on civilian food security and agricultural activities is confirmed over the course of the entire period of the current civil war when viewing the charts presenting the civilian protection incidents from 2011 through 2015, by the Sudan Consortium².

The **apparent use of cluster bombs** (which are designed to detonate before hitting the ground) by the Sudan Air Force was reported in both Dalami County (4 bombs) in South Kordofan and from Kurmuk County (2 bombs) in Blue Nile in March, although no injuries were reported in either of the two locations. Local monitors also reported the presence of a white chemical powder that turned yellow in some of the bombs dropped on Chali Alfil in Kurmuk County in Blue Nile on March 25th.

In **South Kordofan**, the Peace and Community Development Center , a church and the Primary School (Heiban County) were bombed on March 15, injuring ten people. Heavy shelling by SAF was reported into Suguli village (Western Kadugli) from Kadugli town on 17 March, resulting in 57 households displaced. A land mine incident on March 19th in Angarto, Talodi County, which was the site of significant SPLA-N and SAF ground fighting in January, resulted in 2 civilians being injured and the death and injury of livestock. Shelling from Dilling town between 27 and 29 March towards the western region of Nuba Mountains, into a number of villages in Julud, Salara, Karko and Furshsaya payams in Dilling County resulted in injuries to herders as well as killing 10 cows and injuring 5. Shelling into Nitile village displaced people to the caves and the primary school was closed.

On April 4th in Kurngo village, in Miri payam, Kadugli West county, a SAF ground attack resulted in more than twenty households being burnt and more than 500 households (estimated more than 3000 persons)

¹ The South Kordofan and Blue Nile Coordination Unit (SKBN CU) works with local civil society organizations and international humanitarian actors to share credible information on humanitarian needs in the two conflict-affected states. In this focused protection update, the main sources of information are civilians involved in local humanitarian monitoring and protection activities.

²http://www.sudanconsortium.org/darfur_consortium_actions/reports/2015/Sudan%20Consortium%20SK-BN%20Update%20March%20FINAL.pdf

being displaced. 160 goats were also looted in this incident. Ground attacks by SAF into the Al Hadra market area in Dalami County were reported on April 10th.

SPLA-N military initiatives, as part of the declared Sudan Revolutionary Front intention to prevent the Sudan April 13th elections, were reported by media as well as by the SPLA information source in the last two weeks of March, with negative impact on civilians living in Govt. of Sudan controlled area. This included ground attacks against SAF Garrisons in Kalogi, Al Rahamia and Habila. In Habila, the SPLA-N attack on March 28th resulted in over 2,000 persons being displaced.³ On April 6 and 7, during an assessment to Habila conducted by HAC Sudan, UN agencies and INGOs, local authorities confirmed that 21 civilians had died (including 4 children) and 37 were injured, and 2,240 were in need of humanitarian assistance (362 HHs in 13 locations) but the number of people affected was reported as being likely to increase.

In **Blue Nile State**, there were only two reported protection incidents during this reporting period. On 16 March, 17 bombs were dropped on Soda, with two of the bombs detonating at altitude, possibly indicating use of cluster bombs, as a means of deploying anti-personnel ordinance over a wider area. On 25 March, four bombs were dropped in Mofu, two in Mayak (Wadaka) and two in Chali area. No injuries were reported in either incident.

³ <https://radiotamazuj.org/en/article/spla-n-claims-capture-habila-town-south-kordofan> and <https://radiotamazuj.org/en/article/south-kordofan-governor-says-21-citizens-killed-habila-attack>

South Kordofan State

Time, Date	Location		Nature of attack on civilians & weapons used	Human casualties		Animals/crops destroyed	Homes destroyed and # of homeless	Other consequences
	Villages	Payam/ County		Fatalities	Injuries			
1/3/2015	Dabi	Dabi / Heiban	Antonov – 9 bombs		3	3 livestock killed	Huts and gardens burned	
5/3/2015	Tunguli	Tunguli / Dalami	Jet fighter – 4 bombs				1 hut burned	
6/3/2015	Tunguli	Tunguli / Dalami	Antonov – 12 bombs				5 huts burned, 1 tractor damaged	
11/3/2015	Tenassa	Tabanya / Buram	Antonov – 6 bombs		1		3 homes and grain stores	
11/3/2015	Karkar	Umdurdu/ Heiban	Antonov – 9 bombs				7 homes burned – 40 people homeless	
12/3/2015	Alubi	Umdurdu/ Heiban	Antonov – 8 bombs		1			
13/3/2015	Sinarla	Sabat /Dalami	Antonov – 4 bombs				Fields and forest set on fire	
13/3/2015	Kamili	Sabat /Dalami	Antonov – 2 bombs			3 goats were killed		
13/3/2015	Nyukur	Tunguli / Dalami	Antonov – 4 bombs				Grass / bush fires started in fields and on the hills	
15/3/2015	Heiban town	Heiban County	Antonov – N/A		10			Peace Center, church and primary school damaged
17/3/2015	Suguli	Kadugli West	Shelling		1		2 households destroyed	57 HHs displaced to adjacent hillsides
19/3/2015	Angarto	Angarto / Talodi	Landmine		2	4 livestock killed, 10 injured	-	
21/3/2015	Sabat	Sabat / Dalami	Antonov – 6 bombs				-	

21/3/2015	Njakima	Heiban	Antonov – 6 bombs				18 mango trees burnt	
21/3/2015	Um Serdiba	Um Dorein County	Antonov – 4 bombs				Fields set on fire	
27 / 3 /2015	Al Azrag	Heiban County	Antonov – 4 bombs			1 bull killed	20 mango trees burnt	
28/3/2015	Nakama	Heiban County	Antonov – 8 bombs		2			
29/3/2015	Kolana	Tunguli / Dalami	Antonov – 4 bombs			4 livestock killed	1 house destroyed	
29/3/2015	Urma	Sabat / Dalami	Antonov – 4 bombs				Fields set on fire	
1 /4/ 2015		Abri and Tunguli / Dalami	Antonov – 7 bombs				Fields set on fire	
1 /4/ 2015	Sabat	Sabat / Dalami	Antonov – 21 bombs			1 donkey killed	1 HH destroyed	Displacement to the caves - 5 people
3/4/2015	Baga	Tunguli / Dalami	Antonov – 5 bombs			1 donkey, 1 camel killed	3 HHs destroyed	25 people displaced to the caves
4/4/2015	Kurngo	Miri / Kadugli West	SAF Ground attack			160 goats looted	20 HHs destroyed, burnt	500 HHs displaced
5/4/2015	Abyat, Mardes	Tunguli/ Dalami	Antonov – N/A	1	5			
6/4/2015	Al Kuk	Dilling	Shelling	9 – mostly children under 18 years	2		More than 85 sacks of grain destroyed	Families displaced to caves in the hills
7/4/ 2015	Tungli	Tunguli/ Dalami	Antonov – 7 bombs	7	5		Grinding mill destroyed	