

Sudan's transition continues

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Sudan's new military junta dismantled the state security council and completed a roundup of former government leaders following the coup that deposed President Gaafar Nimeiri, the official news agency SUNA said Sunday.

It said anti-Nimeiri demonstrations and a general strike were continuing.

Nimeiri, considered one of the United States' firmest allies in Africa, remained in Cairo, capital of neighboring Egypt.

SUNA reported its transmissions had been interrupted temporarily Sunday "because the masses of the people today decided to continue the political strike and civil disobedience until the state security apparatus was disbanded and all the figures of the defunct regime arrested and put on trial."

"We resume our transmission now that the state security council has been disbanded and all the prominent figures of the defunct regime have been arrested," the agency reported, without giving details of the arrests.

"Brothers in the engineers' union have volunteered to operate our transmission equipment because the political strike and civil disobedience is still continuing."

Gen. Adbul-Rahman M.H. Swareddahab, who announced Nimeiri's overthrow on Saturday, said earlier that the army would take over the security agency, and appropriate its weapons and communications equipment.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Tom Krajeski said U.S. charge d'affaires David Shinn met Swareddahab in Khartoum Sunday at the general's request.

Krajeski said Swareddahab "expressed interest in the maintenance of continued good relations with the United States and appreciation for the assistance the United States has provided Sudan in recent years."

Demonstrators marched on the headquarters of the State Security Department on Sunday to demand its liquidation. The General Command's order followed.

SUNA said earlier the new regime was rounding up "all" of Nimeiri's supporters.

Botha calls for unity at Easter assembly

MORIA, South Africa (AP) — President Pieter "P.W." Botha told an Easter assembly of some 2 million black churchgoers that blacks and whites must stand together against "messengers of terror."

And the country's largest alliance opposed to white-minority rule vowed more mass actions. Leaders of the United Democratic Front, at a conference Sunday in Azaadville, specifically called for a New Zealand rugby team to cancel its planned tour later this year, saying it could lead to bloodshed.

Both gatherings came during a weekend of violence in six black townships in eastern Cape Province. Police used tear gas Saturday to disperse thousands

of mourners at a funeral in Port Elizabeth's Zwide township for four blacks killed in riots.

Botha was the guest at the annual Easter assembly of the conservative blacks' Zion Christian Church, held on a hillside near Moria in northern Transvaal Province. He applauded the church's stand for law and order and called on all blacks and whites to "come together and talk to each other as we are doing now."

Church followers came to Moria in more than 1,000 buses, in private cars and on foot to attend the 75th anniversary of the founding of the church. Leaders called it the largest Easter gathering in Africa. Crowd estimates came from both journalists and church officials.

The fundamentalist Zion Christian Church, headed by Bishop Barnabas Lekgenyane, shuns the political activism for black rights followed by most of the Roman Catholic, Anglican and other English-speaking churches.

Botha told the vast audience, "We shall not tolerate people who come from far away with evil minds to kill and injure innocent people. We must not allow them to burn our houses and destroy our property. We must all stand together against these messengers of terror. Our trust in God must enable us to withstand evil with firmness."

He did not mention the violent protests against his government's policy of apartheid, or racial separation, but said, "In the past, we have not really listened to each other. Let us start listening to each other as we are doing now. We must jointly strive to find out what our problems are. Then we must jointly strive to find solutions to our problems."

"There is no hatred we cannot heal with love," he added.

At the United Democratic Front conference, leaders said their supporters would "go into the streets time and again" to oppose apartheid. It was the multi-racial front's first national conference since it was founded in August 1983 as a coalition of community groups and trade unions. About 310 delegates plotted strategy and elected a new executive committee.

Patrick Lekota, a front spokesman, told reporters, "We remain entirely committed to our non-violent approach, but our programs will obviously involve more and more mass action. The struggle must be placed in the hands of our people."

He said the front would mobilize its 600 affiliate organizations, with more than 2 million members, to oppose the planned New Zealand rugby tour.

In late 1984 and last February, 16 leaders of the Democratic Front were arrested on treason charges and are still being held without bail. Popo Molefe, national general secretary, said the conference elected a new executive board of 16 members, reduced from 39, to streamline the decision-making process.



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