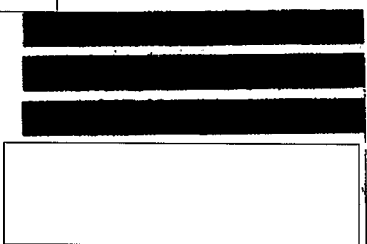


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Senior Executive Intelligence Brief

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Thursday, 1 April 2004

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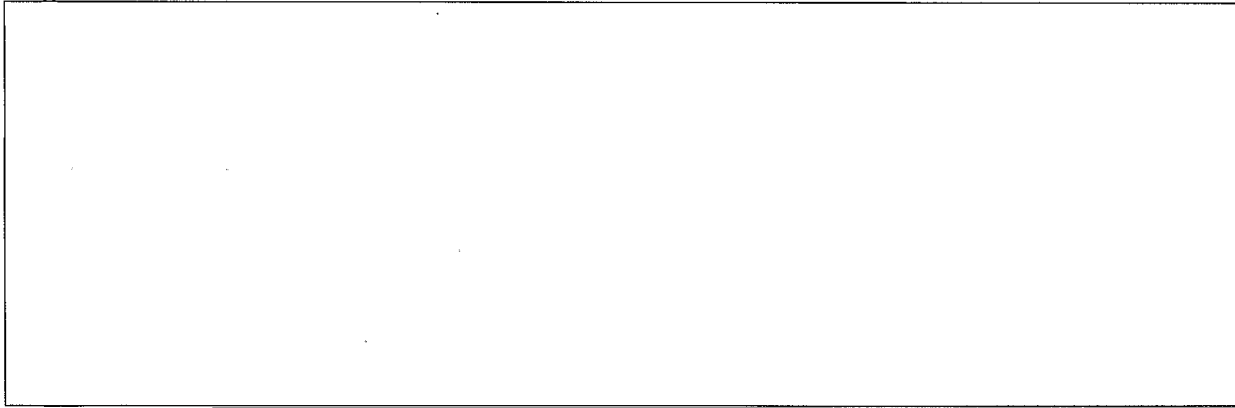
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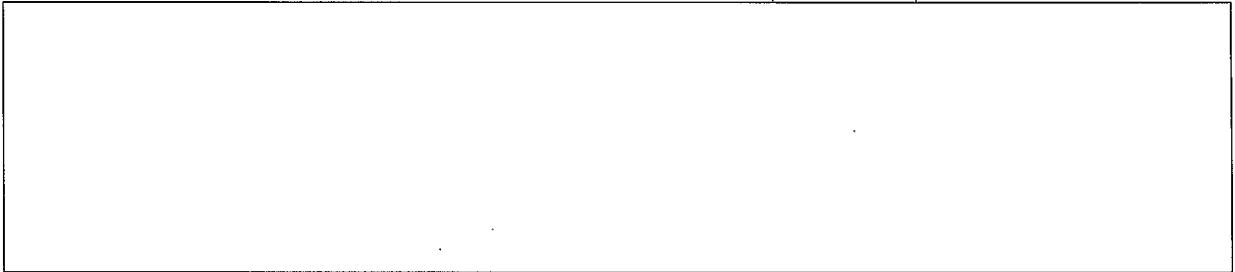
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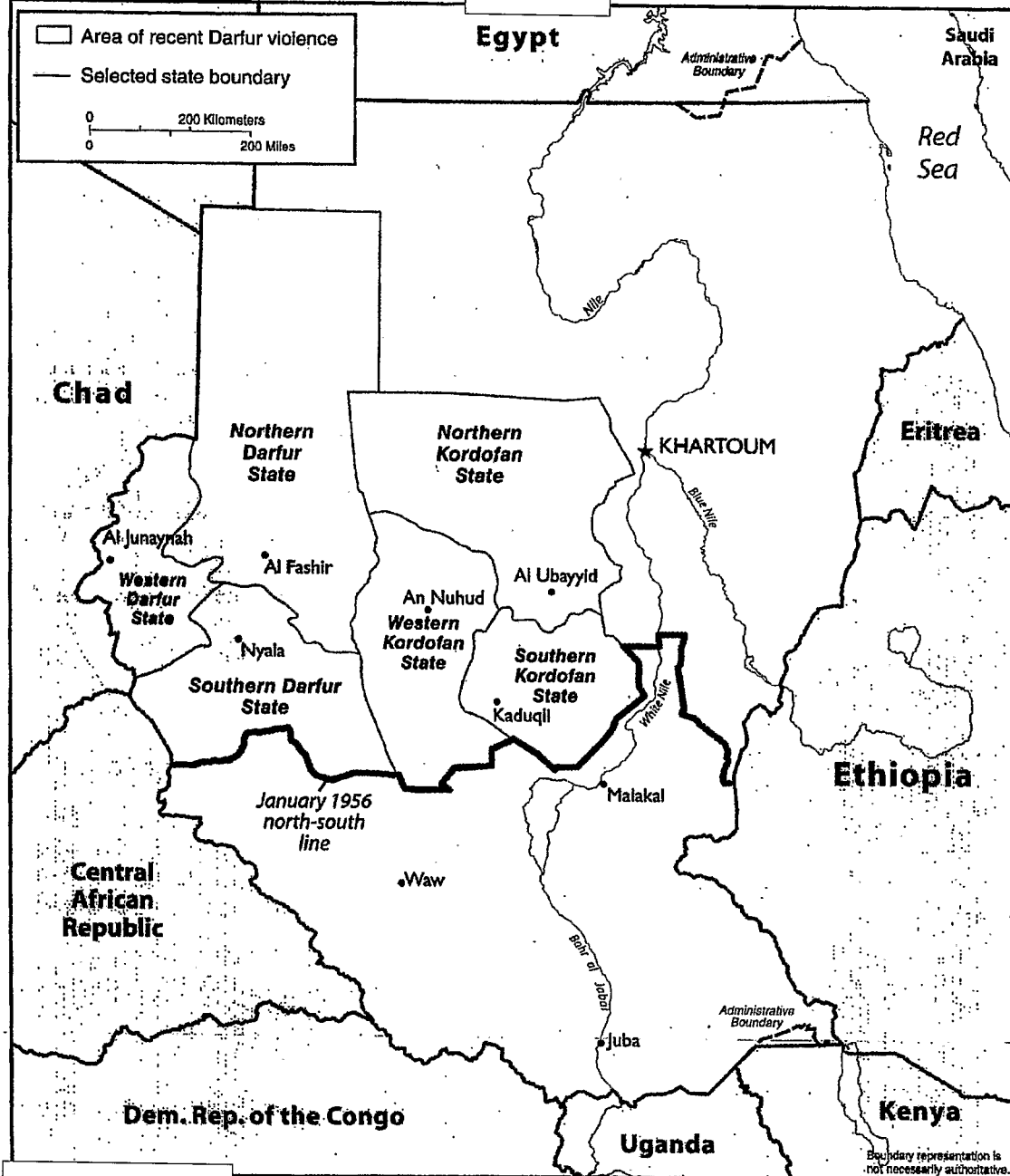
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Sudan: Recent Violence in Darfur Region



Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative. 766420A1 (R00871) 4-04

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Sudan:

Crackdown Bodes Ill for Peace Talks [redacted]

The arrests this week of Islamic ideologue Hassan al-Turabi, senior leaders of his opposition Popular Congress party, and several dozen military officers from the western Darfur region show the regime is determined to resolve the rebellion there with military force. The arrests—ostensibly for coup plotting—will silence Turabi, a longtime foe of the government and critic of its harsh counterinsurgency campaign in Darfur, but probably will further alienate many in the military opposed to the campaign.

— [redacted] Khartoum is planning to purge thousands from the military in the coming weeks who are from Darfur or are perceived to be supporters of Turabi.

(b)(1)
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— About 90 percent of the Army's enlisted soldiers come from Darfur and Kordofan Provinces, [redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

Khartoum's decision on Tuesday to boycott the opening session of Chadian-hosted negotiations on a cease-fire in Darfur is another indication the regime is unwilling to seek a political solution to the rebellion. Khartoum has rejected all attempts to internationalize the crisis, claiming that the fighting is over and that President Bashir's plan for reconciliation talks would address any lingering grievances.

— [redacted] the Sudanese delegation objected to the presence of US, UN, EU, and African Union observers at the opening session and has refused to meet face-to-face with Darfur rebel leaders.

(b)(1)
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— Bashir on Monday issued a decree adding new members—including several prominent regime insiders who have advocated a military solution in Darfur—to his Darfur reconciliation committee.

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