
Current Intelligence Report Circular

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Israeli delegation and US diplomats meet with Sudanese officials of Sovereign Council in Khartoum

An Israeli delegation met with General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and other top Sudanese officials in the Sudanese capital Khartoum on 19 JAN, according to an anonymous Sudanese military official and Israeli news reports. On the way to Khartoum, the Israeli delegation briefly stopped in Egypt's Sharm el-Sheikh. Despite having an apparent close relationship with Sudan's military rulers, Israel has kept a low profile in regard to commenting on the coup in Sudan on 25 OCT 21. The details of the meeting have not been revealed. Also on 19 JAN, according to the US embassy in Khartoum, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Molly Phee and US Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa David Satterfield met with pro-democracy activists from the Sudanese Professionals Association and the Forces for the Declaration of Freedom and Change to discuss the UN efforts to end the deadlock in Sudan. In response to the deaths of 7 protesters, and injuries of 100 more by Sudanese security on 17 JAN, the diplomats were sent to reaffirm the US stance of ending violence and respecting freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Furthermore, the US assistance will not resume to the Sudanese government until there is an end to violence and a civilian-led government is formed. The diplomats later met with military leaders of the Sovereign Council, who committed to an inclusive national dialogue, an establishment of a civilian-led government based upon consensus, and a peaceful environment for the political process to proceed. END.

CMCD Note

Shortly after the 25 OCT 2021 military coup, the United States asked Israel to use its ties to Sudan to help minimize violence in the country. Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett refused to comment on the meeting details between himself and the Sovereign Council on 19 JAN. On 27 JAN, US President Joe Biden announced his nomination of John Godfery to be the first US ambassador to Sudan in twenty-five years. Godfery speaks fluent Arabic, has served in various countries like Iraq, Libya, and Syria, and currently works on ISIS related matters with the US Department of State. Furthermore, on 01 FEB, the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee will hold a meeting to discuss future policy towards Sudan and the specific agenda is unclear at this time.

Sources

AP News, US senior diplomats in Sudan to try to resolve post-coup crisis

<https://apnews.com/article/omar-al-bashir-david-satterfield-africa-middle-east-sudan-5252ef4add7a55266b5a04abd0fcdb19>

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https://twitter.com/USEmbassyKRT/status/1484152541667549184?s=20&t=mIBzZP0BFDGUL-Ko_IHQIQ

Middle East Eye, Israeli delegation visits Sudan to meet with ruling general: Report

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/israel-sudan-meeting-with-ruling-army-chief-burhan-report>