



Security Council

Distr.: General
30 July 2019
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 25 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach herewith, a letter from the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan on the incident relating to the attack on the “Souq Faid Alzaraf” market, which took place on 15 July 2019 and resulted in eight casualties (two of whom were peacekeepers of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)) (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Omer Mohamed Ahmed **Siddig**
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 25 July 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]
16 July 2019

Letter dated 16 July 2019 from the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee regarding the attack on the market in Suq Fayd al-Zaraf in the Abyei region

With regard to the above-mentioned subject and further to the communications between us, I should like to inform you that, at 11.20 p.m. on 15 July 2019, the Suq Fayd al-Zaraf area, which lies 8 km north of Abyei city, came under armed attack.

We have been informed that the market's peace committee received information indicating that a Popular Army armed group was on the move in the Marial Achak area and would attack the market. This information was conveyed to the United Nations forces commander in the Umm Bilayil area, as he is responsible for protecting the market. However, the guards were not reinforced, as they should have been.

At precisely 11.20 p.m., a force comprising 65 armed individuals attacked the market in three groups. The first fired on the United Nations guards, the second attacked the village next to the cattle market and the third broke into the cattle pen and stole 180 head of oxen.

Eight persons were killed in the attack:

Two Arab persons, Munawwar Muhammad Ahmad Balbut and Al-Sadiq al-Nur

Two members of the United Nations forces

Four Dinka persons – three women and one child

In addition, six persons sustained injuries of varying severity, two of whom were taken to Mujlad Hospital.

Information available to us indicates that a large Popular Army force is spread out across several areas in the Abyei "box". We conveyed this information to the commander of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). We met with him at 5 p.m. on 15 July 2019.

Based on the information available to us, no effort has yet been made either to trace this group or to recover the stolen cattle. We therefore expect a reaction from the owners of the cattle.

We kindly request that you contact UNISFA command, the Security Council and the African Union regarding this matter.

(Signed) Ahmad al-Salih **Saluhah**
Co-Chair, Abyei Joint Oversight Committee – Sudanese component