

## SAF weapons documented in South Kordofan

Since June 2011 the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) have been battling the Sudan People's Liberation Army North (SPLA-N) in South Kordofan, resulting in thousands of deaths and the displacement of tens of thousands into South Sudan and as far as Kenya and Uganda. In November 2011 the Small Arms Survey documented weapons that the SPLA-N had reportedly captured from SAF soldiers during ground battle in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.<sup>1</sup> Since January 2012, the Survey has obtained evidence that SAF is using large-calibre rockets, cluster bombs, and anti-personnel (AP) landmines against SPLA-N and allied forces. In addition, SAF employed an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) that was shot down by the SPLA-N.

### Samples of munitions and explosives



Since December 2011, SAF has fired dozens of Chinese manufactured 302 mm Weishi rockets (WS-1) into the Kauda region of South Kordofan. Depending on the model, these rockets can have a maximum range of at least 100 km, and are fired from a truck-mounted, four-tube multiple rocket launch system. The rockets contain an FG-42 rocket motor with an advanced hydroxy-terminated polybutadine (HTPB) rocket propellant and a warhead filled with steel ball bearings. Locals in the area claim that these rockets have killed 18 civilians since December.

<sup>1</sup> See <<http://www.smallarmssurveysudan.org/pdfs/facts-figures/weapons-tracing-desk/HSBA-Tracing-Desk-SAF-in-South-Kordofan.pdf>>.



Unexploded Russian manufactured RBK bomb filled with AO 2.5 RT submunitions. SAF reportedly dropped this bomb near Braum town on 10 April 2012. Although Sudan is not a signatory of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, most countries have ceased using cluster bombs on humanitarian grounds.



Unexploded cluster munitions resembling Chinese manufactured DPICM Type 81 bomblets were recovered by the SPLA-N in Toroji on 29 February 2012. Two teenage boys were reportedly killed when they picked up the colorful orange ribbons at the scene of impact.





The SPLA-N reportedly recovered these No. 4 pedal type AP-mines from SAF when it took control of Toroji town on 27 February 2012. The mines have Farsi markings, suggesting possible Iranian production (unconfirmed). The mines are contained in crates with markings from the Sudanese Military Industrial Corporation subsidiary, Yarmouk Industrial Complex, which indicates that the mines were most likely repackaged in Sudan. Similar boxes have been observed in South Kordofan. Sudan signed the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (Ottawa Treaty) in 1997, and ratified it in 2003, banning the use, stockpiling, production, and transfer of landmines.



Iranian made Ababil-3 UAV that was reportedly shot down by the SPLA-N on 13 March 2012 near Toroji. Part of the engine appears to have been manufactured by the Tillotson company of Ireland. SAF has employed similar UAVs over Darfur for reconnaissance. One crashed in 2008 after flying over rebel-controlled Jebel Marra, according to the UN Sudan Panel of Experts. The video recorder was traced to a UK company that had sold it to an Iranian front company based in Dubai.

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