SUDAN BI-WEEKLY SITREP

SECURITY & OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT | APRIL 1 - 15, 2026



FIGURE 1: EXECUTIVE RISK HEATMAP - THREAT VECTORS & STABILIZATION DEGRADATION

I. EXECUTIVE STRATEGIC SUMMARY

- **The Kinetic Transition to Targeted Aerial Attrition:** The operational theater has fundamentally shifted toward unmanned aerial vehicle asymmetry, with both state and non-state actors prioritizing the elimination of high-value leadership nodes, medical infrastructure, and logistical hubs over traditional territorial acquisition.
- **Macro-Economic Contraction and Liquidity Hemorrhage:** Structural fiscal degradation has accelerated past critical thresholds, catalyzed by a fourteen percent customs dollar hike, rampant gold smuggling generating a four billion dollar deficit, and severe fuel hyperinflation crippling humanitarian and commercial transport corridors.
- **Heightened Security Measures and Judicial Enforcement:** State apparatuses have increased internal security measures, utilizing joint security cells and specialized terrorism courts to dismantle suspected insurgent collaboration networks through detentions and strict legal sentencing.
- **Cascading Infrastructure Failure and Humanitarian Collapse:** The deliberate targeting of electrical grids, compounded by unchecked biological outbreaks including measles and dengue fever, has neutralized urban resilience, while catastrophic secondary hazards in displaced persons camps emphasize the total breakdown of civilian duty of care.

The overarching conflict trajectory throughout the first half of April 2026 demonstrates a calcification of hostilities, characterized by a transition from fluid frontline skirmishes to deeply entrenched campaigns of asymmetric resource denial. The Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces have both optimized their utilization of precision drone strikes, rendering conventional safe zones entirely obsolete. This strategic recalibration indicates an acknowledgment by both commands that outright military victory remains elusive, prompting a pivot toward destroying the adversary's capacity to sustain prolonged operations. Consequently, the targeting matrix has expanded to encompass critical civilian infrastructure, transforming localized logistical nodes into primary military objectives.

Compounding the kinetic friction is an unprecedented collapse of the macroeconomic framework, effectively weaponizing poverty and resource scarcity against the civilian populace. The synchronized escalation of gasoline and diesel prices across multiple governorates has functionally severed inter-city mobility and inflated the transportation overhead for life-saving commodities. The intervention of the Higher Economic Committee to restrict luxury imports and manipulate the customs dollar to offset the four thousand Sudanese Pound to United States Dollar exchange rate represents a desperate administrative maneuver to retain sovereign solvency. This liquidity crisis is further exacerbated by the illicit extraction economy, primarily rampant gold smuggling, which systematically drains the state's capacity to subsidize essential imports.

Simultaneously, the governance framework has prioritized enhanced security protocols, characterized by structural reviews, increased coordination with local police forces, and expedited judicial processes. The reorganization of the military high command, spearheaded by the appointment of General Yasser Al-Atta, signals a consolidation of command structures designed to maintain internal stability and security. This administrative hardening is mirrored at the municipal level, where Joint Security Cells operate with expanded mandates, conducting targeted operations in residential districts to address suspected security threats. The deployment of specialized tribunals and the enforcement of capital punishment underscore a strict enforcement doctrine aimed at ensuring civilian compliance within contested and state-held territories.

Furthermore, internal fragmentation within the Rapid Support Forces, particularly in North Darfur, has become increasingly evident. The recent defection of senior commanders, notably Major General Al-Nour Guba, exposes severe operational rifts within these non-state hierarchies. For humanitarian actors, this fragmentation severely complicates access; coordination with central RSF leadership is proving less reliable as an increasing number of localized armed groups operate independently of established command structures, compounding an already functionally hostile environment.

The resultant humanitarian landscape is one of absolute systemic failure, necessitating an immediate paradigm shift for international non-governmental organizations operating within the theater. Despite the reopening of localized operational headquarters by United Nations entities, the operational environment remains functionally hostile. Secondary hazards, such as spontaneous fires in internally displaced persons camps, structural collapses in unregulated mining sectors, and unexploded ordnance detonating in urban centers, generate a compounding mortality rate completely distinct from direct combat fatalities. With acute food insecurity projected to envelop twenty-one million individuals due to massive agricultural shortfalls, the current trajectory points irrevocably toward a total collapse of human security infrastructure by the end of the fiscal quarter.

II. COMPREHENSIVE BIWEEKLY OVERVIEW

The tactical environment has been redefined by a hyper-reliance on unmanned aerial vehicles and long-range artillery, moving away from infantry-centric territorial consolidation. The Sudanese Armed Forces executed precision drone strikes targeting both non-state actor combat vehicles in the Blue Nile and high-value political leadership residences in South Darfur, demonstrating enhanced aerial intelligence capabilities. Conversely, the Rapid Support Forces deployed suicide drones against critical medical infrastructure, notably resulting in massive casualties at healthcare facilities in the White Nile region. This reciprocal aerial bombardment strategy guarantees persistent collateral damage, complicating the spatial deployment of humanitarian assets and indicating a high likelihood of continued airspace volatility.



Simultaneously, the proliferation of unexploded ordnance presents a severe latent threat to urban recovery and civilian mobility. Incidents involving the detonation of 130-millimeter and 155-millimeter artillery shells buried beneath refuse in dense residential districts highlight the permanent contamination of the urban operational theater. The emergence of sophisticated counter-insurgency tactics, such as the deployment of mobile anti-aircraft artillery units by the 19th Infantry Division, suggests that both factions are actively preparing for a protracted aerospace conflict. The documentation of munitions remnants at strike sites further confirms the continuous resupply and deployment of advanced kinetic systems despite international embargoes.

Frontline fluidity remains concentrated along critical logistical arteries, where joint insurgent forces frequently deploy artillery shelling to soften defensive positions before initiating mechanized assaults. The tactical recapture of strategic roadways connecting key governorates demonstrates the premium placed on controlling transit corridors. However, the sheer volume of military operations aimed at intercepting arms smugglers and dismantling clandestine intelligence cells reveals that the frontlines are not strictly geographic, but rather permeate the socioeconomic fabric of allegedly secure municipalities. The interception of operatives utilizing covert communication networks confirms that the intelligence war is equally as kinetic as the physical battlefield.

Political restructuring has accelerated, heavily focused on centralizing command and addressing internal administrative fragmentation. The military leadership executed a sweeping personnel overhaul, elevating General Yasser Al-Atta to Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces while simultaneously retiring General Mohamed Othman Al-Hussein and twenty-one major generals. This reorganization is designed to eliminate operational redundancies and consolidate command cohesiveness amidst a volatile operational climate. Concurrently, the formation of interim judicial councils by non-state actors in contested territories illustrates an ongoing effort to establish parallel governance structures and monopolize legal authority outside the purview of the central state.

The defection of senior non-state commanders, notably the capitulation of Major General Al-Nour Guba alongside one hundred and thirty-six combat vehicles, exposes severe internal rifts within insurgent hierarchies. Such defections provide state forces with critical tactical intelligence and mechanized assets, while simultaneously damaging the psychological cohesion of opposing ranks. In response, state apparatuses have intensified their engagement with established political entities, such as the Democratic Unionist Party and the Justice and Equality Movement, attempting to forge broad coalitions to legitimize their military mandates.

The Access-Cost Matrix for humanitarian and commercial logistics has entered a state of critical distress, driven by systemic energy deficits and predatory bureaucratic policies. Localized administrations systematically enacted fuel price hikes, driving the cost of gasoline to 5,496 Sudanese Pounds per liter and diesel to 7,678 Sudanese Pounds in central agricultural zones. This artificial inflation immediately paralyzed inter-city travel, forcing transport agencies to universally increase ticket prices and effectively trapping vulnerable populations within active conflict zones. The World Food Programme documented a twenty-four percent aggregate increase in fuel costs nationwide, a metric directly proportional to the spiraling costs of essential food commodities and the deliberate strangulation of civilian purchasing power.

III. GEOGRAPHIC DEEP-DIVE (EXPANDED ANALYSIS)

KHARTOUM STATE

The operational environment within Khartoum State remains highly volatile, characterized by an aggressive state-led security surge attempting to consolidate control over deeply fractured urban environments. Local authorities initiated massive infrastructure rehabilitation projects, specifically removing twelve thousand tons of war debris and two hundred and ten destroyed vehicles from the vital corridor between Al-Mugran and Al-Tabia. This clearance is less about humanitarian recovery and more about establishing secure logistical arteries for military convoys moving through central Khartoum. Concurrently, the Sovereign Council issued directives to rehabilitate the Virgin Mary Church, attempting to signal a return to societal normalcy and religious tolerance amidst ongoing urban pacification efforts.

Despite these stabilization optics, the subterranean threat of unexploded ordnance poses a critical, daily hazard to civilian survival. In the Burri and Nasir Extension neighborhoods, mine action teams were deployed following the detonation of a buried 130-millimeter to 155-millimeter artillery shell, which was triggered simply by a localized waste fire. Furthermore, joint civil defense and mining security units successfully dismantled complex explosive remnants in the Safia neighborhood of Khartoum North. These incidents confirm that the entire metropolitan and suburban footprint remains highly contaminated, effectively serving as a dormant minefield that restricts safe civilian resettlement and complicates the deployment of heavy reconstruction machinery.

Law enforcement and intelligence operations have increased significantly as the state transitions from conventional warfare to comprehensive urban policing and stabilization. The Joint Security Cell executed fifty coordinated operations across the state, resulting in the detention of two hundred and eleven individuals accused of insurgent collaboration, accompanied by the seizure of tactical vehicles and weapons. In the East Nile district, specialized police units arrested nineteen suspects, dismantling narcotics and arms trafficking networks.

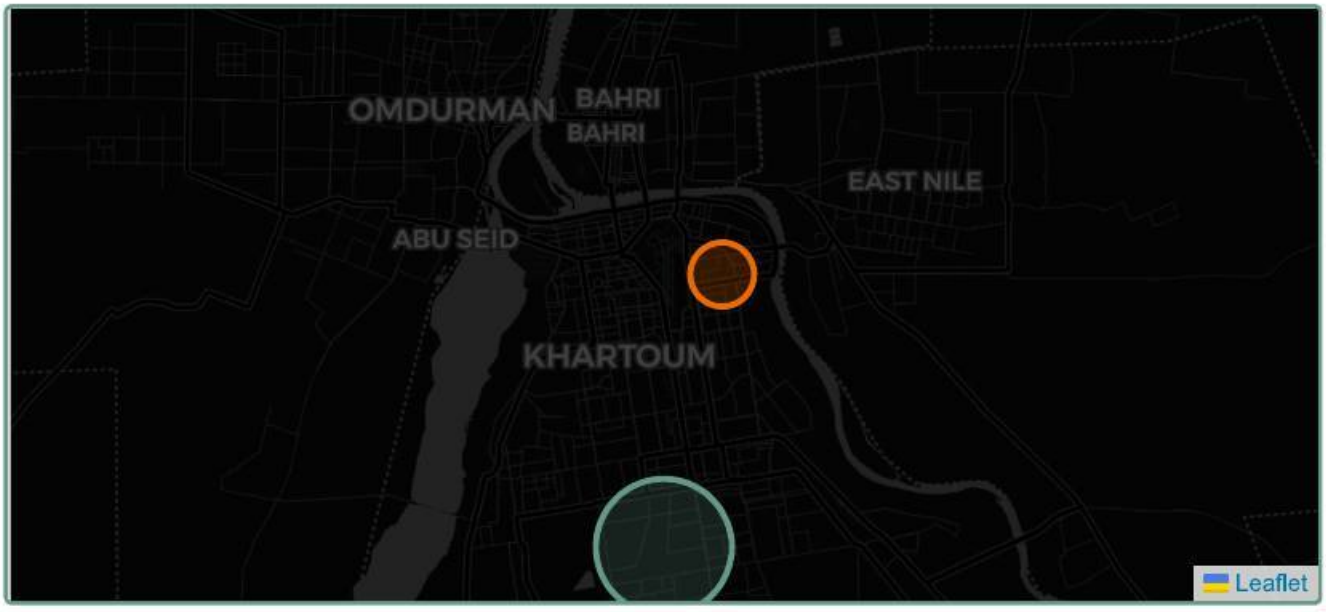


FIGURE 2: KHARTOUM STATE INCIDENT CONCENTRATION - SECURITY & UXO HUBS

THE DARFURS

The Darfur region has devolved into a theater of targeted assassinations, mass casualty aerial bombardments, and catastrophic secondary displacements. The Sudanese Armed Forces have unleashed a devastating drone campaign designed to eliminate non-state actor leadership and logistical supply lines. In South Darfur, a precision drone strike in Nyala explicitly targeted the residence of political leader Osama Hassan of the Democratic Alliance, resulting in his immediate death and signaling a tactical shift toward the elimination of political-military figures. Similarly, continuous unmanned aerial vehicle strikes targeted entrenched armed actor positions throughout South Darfur, leaving highly dangerous munitions remnants scattered across civilian access routes.

The civilian toll of this aerial superiority strategy is profoundly catastrophic, particularly in North Darfur. A drone strike deployed by state forces targeted a civilian gathering, identified as a wedding ceremony, in the Al-Salama neighborhood of Kutum. This operation resulted in forty confirmed fatalities and over one hundred critical injuries, representing one of the highest single-incident civilian casualty events of the quarter. Additional aerial bombardments targeted fuel tankers and ammunition depots near the Tulu market in Zalingei, Central Darfur, and struck suspected insurgent positions in the El Sireaf area and the western neighborhoods of Ed Daein in East Darfur. These strikes effectively ensure that commercial hubs and residential zones remain highly lethal environments.

Biological threats are multiplying rapidly in the absence of functioning health infrastructure. A severe measles outbreak in Ed Daein resulted in fifty-nine verified fatalities, with hundreds of concurrent infections overwhelming the remnants of the local medical system. This epidemiological disaster is a direct consequence of the systematic destruction of healthcare capacity, epitomized by the insurgent raid on Al-Usra Hospital in Ed Daein, where medical staff were assaulted and essential diagnostic equipment was intentionally destroyed. The targeted neutralization of health workers ensures that even highly treatable outbreaks invariably result in mass casualty events.

THE KORDOFANS

The Kordofan operational theater is defined by a highly complex, multi-factional kinetic environment where state forces, non-state paramilitaries, and regional insurgent groups engage in constant territorial contestation. The Sudanese Armed Forces successfully repelled a major assault on the city of Dilling in South Kordofan, executing a counter-offensive that resulted in the capture of the Al-Tukma village area. This tactical victory successfully reopened the primary logistical highway connecting South and North Kordofan.

However, the civilian population in Dilling remains subjected to relentless asymmetric bombardment. Joint forces comprising the Rapid Support Forces and the SPLM-N Al-Hilu faction executed sustained artillery shelling against residential sectors of the city. Over consecutive operational periods, this indiscriminate barrage resulted in the deaths of at least six civilians, including children, and inflicted numerous critical injuries. The utilization of heavy artillery in densely populated urban terrain indicates a deliberate strategy to terrorize the local populace and force mass evacuations.



FIGURE 3: TACTICAL HOTSPOTS - DARFUR, KORDOFAN & WHITE NILE DRONE STRIKES

The justice system in North Kordofan has been mobilized to address severe internal security challenges. The Criminal Court in El Obeid issued a death sentence by hanging to an individual convicted of collaborating with armed actors to facilitate armed robberies against civilians, demonstrating the state's reliance on capital punishment as a primary deterrent. Simultaneously, intelligence apparatuses executed a targeted drone strike in the Kordofan axis that successfully eliminated a high-ranking armed actor field commander known by the callsign "Hraibat".

IV. DEEP-DIVE TREND ANALYSIS

Trend 1: The Normalization of Asymmetric Aerial Attrition: The operational doctrine of both primary combatant forces has irrevocably shifted from infantry-led territorial expansion to precision aerial resource denial. This phenomenon is defined by the systemic deployment of unmanned aerial vehicles to execute decapitation strikes against leadership nodes, neutralize mechanized convoys, and systematically dismantle critical civilian infrastructure. The utilization of drone technology allows both factions to project lethal force deep into theoretically secure territories without risking high-value ground assets, thereby flattening the operational theater into a state of perpetual, omnipresent vulnerability where frontlines are dictated solely by the flight radius of localized drone operators.

Trend 2: Enhanced Judicial Frameworks and Security Consolidation: A distinct strategic trend involves the expansion of the state's legal and intelligence frameworks to systematically address internal security challenges and neutralize clandestine opposition networks. This phenomenon relies on the deployment of specialized terrorism courts, sweeping arrests by joint security cells, and the strict application of sentencing guidelines, including capital punishment, for activities deemed subversive. It represents a deliberate transition from localized policing to a highly centralized justice system designed to ensure civilian compliance and dismantle the adversary's urban intelligence capabilities through comprehensive administrative enforcement.

Trend 3: Systemic Energy Deficits and Logistical Strangulation: The deliberate manipulation and degradation of national energy infrastructure, specifically electrical grids and localized fuel reserves, has emerged as a primary weapon of mass disruption. This phenomenon involves the destruction of power generation capabilities through kinetic strikes and the aggressive artificial inflation of petroleum products by regional administrations. The strategic objective is to paralyze the opponent's mechanized mobility while simultaneously restricting the civilian population's ability to maintain agricultural output or evacuate from active combat zones.

TREND IMPACT: INCIDENT DISTRIBUTION BY PRIMARY INITIATING ACTOR

56%	15%	29%
SUDANESE STATE	RAPID SUPPORT FORCES	NON-STATE / CRIMINAL

V. OPERATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT & TACTICAL OUTLOOK

The operational theater is currently defined by a "Critical-Denial" access paradigm. The synthesis of hyper-inflated logistics, continuous aerial bombardment of civilian infrastructure, and strict administrative and security enforcement has functionally severed consistent humanitarian access to contested zones. The environment is no longer merely complex; it is actively hostile to external logistical intervention.

RISK CATEGORY	LIKELIHOOD	STRATEGIC IMPACT	MITIGATION STATUS
Lethal UAV Strikes	Critical	Extreme	High Priority
Medical Infrastructure Targeting	High	High	Critical Failure
Arbitrary Legal Detention	High	Medium	Unmitigated
Total Infrastructure Grid Failure	Critical	Critical	Unmitigated

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Mandate Autonomous Medical Evacuation Infrastructure:** Immediately sever all reliance on domestic healthcare facilities for staff stabilization. Procure and maintain dedicated, highly secure aerial evacuation contracts to third-country trauma centers, as local hospitals are primary targets for precision drone strikes and tactical raids.
- **Implement Off-Grid Logistics and Energy Independence:** Transition all critical infrastructure, including cold-chain storage and communication hubs, to decentralized solar arrays and redundant generator systems. The total collapse of the Northern State power grid and hyper-inflation of diesel fuel render municipal energy grids entirely non-viable for sustained operations.
- **Establish Hyper-Stringent National Staff Security Protocols:** Develop robust legal and physical protection frameworks for all national personnel. Given the widespread deployment of intelligence operations and courts handing down strict sentences for perceived subversion, national staff face elevated risks of detention and require immediate access to high-level diplomatic and legal support frameworks.
- **Decentralize Humanitarian Depots to Mitigate Camp Hazards:** Immediately relocate essential emergency stockpiles outside the perimeters of large internally displaced persons camps. The frequency of catastrophic, uncontrollable fires in settlements such as Al-Neem and Dabba Naira guarantees that centralized in-camp warehouses will be destroyed, necessitating dispersed, fire-retardant storage solutions.
- **Adopt Aerospace Threat Mitigation Frameworks:** Re-evaluate all compound security and field movement protocols to prioritize protection against precision unmanned aerial vehicles and long-range artillery. Traditional perimeter security is completely ineffective against the current kinetic threat model; operations must prioritize low-profile, highly mobile deployment strategies that avoid presenting stationary targets.