



[HIU Highlights Report No.12](#) **January 1, 2006 – March 31, 2006**

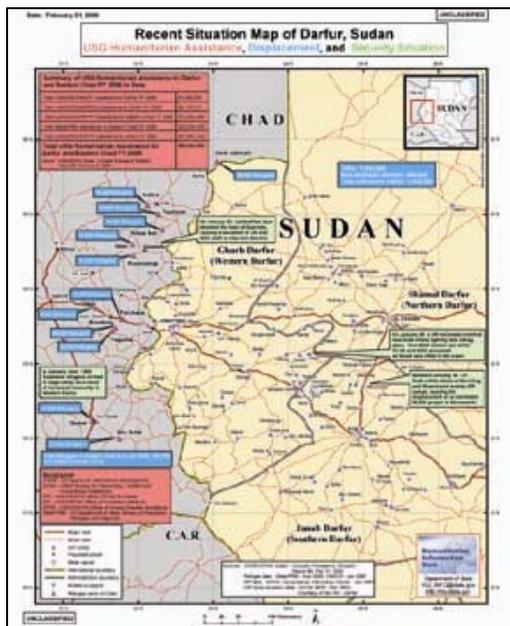
The Humanitarian Information Unit serves as a USG interagency center to identify, collect, analyze, and disseminate unclassified information critical to USG decision makers and partners in preparation for and response to humanitarian emergencies worldwide, and to promote best practices for humanitarian information management

This report describes select initiatives underway, recent collaborations, key meetings, and upcoming items of interest. All products that are mentioned in this report are attached and are also available on the HIU website. See page 5 for log-on information.

[Status of Select Initiatives:](#)

[Sudan Activities Update](#)

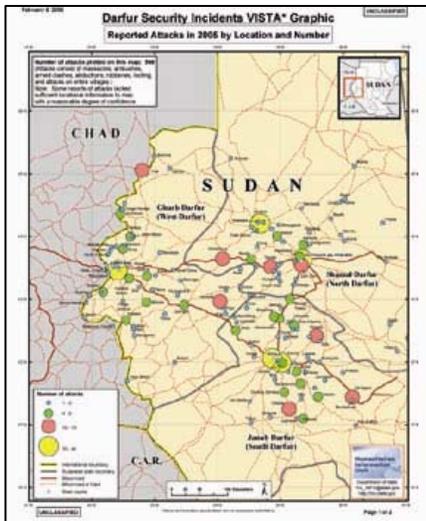
The HIU produced a Situation Map of Darfur, displaying information on USG humanitarian assistance to Darfur, numbers and locations of IDPs in Darfur and Sudan refugees in Chad, and significant security incidents that took place in Darfur in January 2006 (see map to the left). The



HIU is in the process of updating this map with more recent information. This map was shared with the U.S. Embassy in Khartoum and used as part of the briefing packet for a recent congressional delegation visit. The Situation Map of Darfur was disseminated throughout the USG and was also provided to InterAction's Sudan Working Group and Reliefweb. The map is attached to this report and is also available on the HIU website.

The HIU also created a Visualized Information Synthesized Temporal Analysis (VISTA) product displaying information on security incidents in Darfur during the January - December 2005 period (see map on Page 2). VISTA is a new format that the HIU is beginning to utilize that categorizes and displays geospatial, temporal, numerical, and textual data to provide a humanitarian "common operating picture" about a particular emergency, issue, or sector. To

create this product, the HIU compiled a database of about 670 separate and de-conflicted security



incidents in Darfur, using reporting from the USAID Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART), the United Nations Mission in Sudan, the African Union, and the United Nations Department for Safety and Security and plotted them on the map. As part of the VISTA prototype, the HIU also graphically displayed the number of attacks by month and type. The graph shows a decrease in the number of attacks on civilians in November and December 2005. By this time, increased fighting in Darfur and Chad had already led to relocations of UN and NGO staff, reducing not only their access for reporting incidents, but also their exposure to attacks. This 2-page VISTA product is attached to this report and is also available on the HIU website (POC: Dennis King, POC: KingDJ2@state.gov and Christopher Ard, ArdCM@state.gov).

Follow-up to Field Support in Pakistan

In the first quarter of 2006, the HIU followed up on last winter’s field support work by Kathleen Miner, who was deployed in Pakistan with the Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) from USAID’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, to assist with their response to the October 8, 2005 earthquake. Following her return, Ms. Miner made a number of presentations on the theme of integrating geographic information systems (GIS), humanitarian response efforts, and information management best practices based in part on her experience in Pakistan. These included a presentation at a National Press Club seminar (see below) and a lecture at a George Washington University Political Geography graduate seminar. Kathleen also participated in a presentation for Michael Hess, the Assistant Administrator of USAID’s Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), on the work of the Pakistan DART.

On January 27, Ms. Miner was a panelist at a National Press Club seminar entitled: “Managing Critical Communications for Emergency Response.” The panel discussion focused on lessons learned from recent domestic and international disasters. Panelists from Jefferson Parish in Louisiana; the American Red Cross, the Palo Alto Police Department and the Department of Defense engaged in a lively discussion on these issues (POC: Kathleen Miner, MinerKR@state.gov).

Progress on the Populations at Risk Information Project

The *Committee on the Effective Use of Data, Methodologies and Technologies to Estimate Sub-National Populations at Risk* of the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies of Science held a workshop on March 13 and 14 in Washington, D.C. where guest panelists made presentations to inform the Committee’s study. The Committee will meet again in April prior to finalizing its recommendations.

The Populations at Risk Information Project aims to improve how the USG estimates and manages subnational demographic information on vulnerable populations in crisis-prone

countries with poor or unavailable data. The Project also seeks to elevate USG interagency awareness of this critical information need and the applicability of better sub-national population estimates to the implementation of USG foreign policy. The HIU has led this initiative since 2004, bringing together study sponsors and overseeing other pieces of the initiatives as well, such as an exercise to create sample country profile packages (POC: Noam Unger, UngerNC@state.gov).

Collaboration Efforts:

HIU Participation in the Blue Advance 2006 Exercise

HIU team members Dennis King and David Springer participated in the interagency Blue Advance '06 exercise at the Joint Simulation Center in Suffolk Virginia, where they performed the duties of the information manager and geo-spatial analyst on a field-deployed S/CRS Advanced Crisis Team (ACT) in a hypothetical reconstruction and stabilization scenario. This exercise was sponsored by US Joint Forces Command at the behest of the US Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) and was oriented towards a US Joint Task Force providing support to a stabilization, transition and reconstruction operations (SSTRO) mission. Personnel from S/CRS, DOS/PRM, USAID/DCHA and the Department of Treasury also participated. During the exercise, the HIU team members produced several maps which helped provide senior and working level exercise participants with a comprehensive graphic understanding of the unfolding events and potential humanitarian responses (POC: Dennis King, KingDJ2@state.gov and David Springer, SpringerDT@state.gov).

Humanitarian Information Management (IM) Briefing at USAID

On 8 March, HIU Chief Alan Davis made a presentation on Humanitarian IM during the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) senior staff meeting. He emphasized that the HIU views the critical function of IM to be the development and implementation of a *systematic* approach to identifying, collecting, analyzing, and sharing data for decision support. The HIU Chief recommended the adoption of practical IM techniques that allow for information and data to be used *strategically*. Investments in information management best practices and techniques are likely to pay the biggest dividends in terms of allowing for greater efficiencies and enhanced analysis during complex humanitarian emergencies and very large disasters. This is because these kinds of emergencies are categorized by their (a) significant magnitude and requirement for a comprehensive and multi-faceted response; and (b) prolonged duration where a plethora of agencies engage. A summary of an HIU IM handout is available on the HIU website (POC: Alan Davis, davisa@state.gov).

Remote Sensing Software Information Technology Change Control Board (ITCCB) Approval

The HIU completed actions that resulted in the State Department's ITCCB approval of the use of remote sensing software on the State Department's unclassified intranet "OpenNet" system. The ERDAS Imagine Professional 8.7 software allows users to perform analyses of remotely sensed data, with operations that rely on the classification of satellite imagery data to represent features

such as heat concentrations and land use, the rendering of aerial photography to see flooding extents, and the use of high resolution imagery to perform visual verification of development extents (POC: Tiffany Hill, HillTL2@state.gov).

World Health Organization (WHO) Collaboration Visit

In January, HIU team member Nathan Heard participated in a visit to WHO headquarters in Geneva with other USG colleagues to advance collaboration between WHO and the Office of the US Global AIDS Coordinator in data sharing and information management. WHO manages one of the world's largest health-related spatial data repositories. One of the best practices in information management that HIU discussed with WHO representatives is standard setting for codes and metadata, to allow GIS users to join data from multiple sources to create a single product. Continued collaboration with WHO will improve the ability of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief to utilize GIS for HIV/AIDS surveillance and program management, monitoring, and evaluation. WHO also manages HealthMapper, which is a GIS software product that is freely available to developing countries. This can be viewed at http://www.who.int/health_mapping/en/ (POC: Nathan Heard, HeardNJ@state.gov).

Presentation on the HIU to the Intelligence Support to Multinational Operations (ISMO) Course at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)

As part of HIUs training and education outreach efforts, COL Doug Nash made a presentation on interagency cooperation in complex humanitarian and stability and reconstruction operations to U.S. and multinational students attending DIA's ISMO course. He stressed that a key factor in the performance of their duties is an understanding and recognition of the critical role that information management plays in complex humanitarian emergencies and how the creation of an interagency "common operational picture (COP)" is crucial towards the synchronization of US and multinational efforts (POC: Doug Nash, NashDE@state.gov).

Other Items of Interest

We are pleased to announce that two Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) recently joined the HIU team. The HIU welcomes Ms. Jean Arkedis, a new Humanitarian Affairs Analyst, who recently began her two-year PMF program at the State Department. Ms. Arkedis holds a Masters Degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and has significant professional experience in disaster mitigation and emergency response. The HIU also now has on board Ms. Gina M. D'Andrea-Weatherup, who is serving in the HIU on a five-month rotation from DoD. Ms. Weatherup hails from the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Army (Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights), where she worked on civil rights policy research for civilian employees. Her work at the HIU focuses on gender-based violence in conflict areas, and includes assistance on other projects, including the Populations at Risk Information Project. Welcome aboard!

Attachments:

- a) Map: Recent Situation Map of Darfur, Sudan: USG Humanitarian Assistance, Displacement, and Security Situation, February 21, 2006
- b) Map and Graphic: Darfur Security Incidents VISTA Graphic: Reported Attacks in 2005 by Location and Number, February 6, 2006

HIU Contact Information:

HIU Address:

Humanitarian Information Unit
Department of State
SA-44 Room 602
301 – 4th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20547
(Office Fax: 202-203-7790)
HIU_info@state.gov

HIU Website:

To visit our website, please log on to <http://hiu.state.gov> and use the following case-sensitive username and password.

Log-in Information: Username: User12

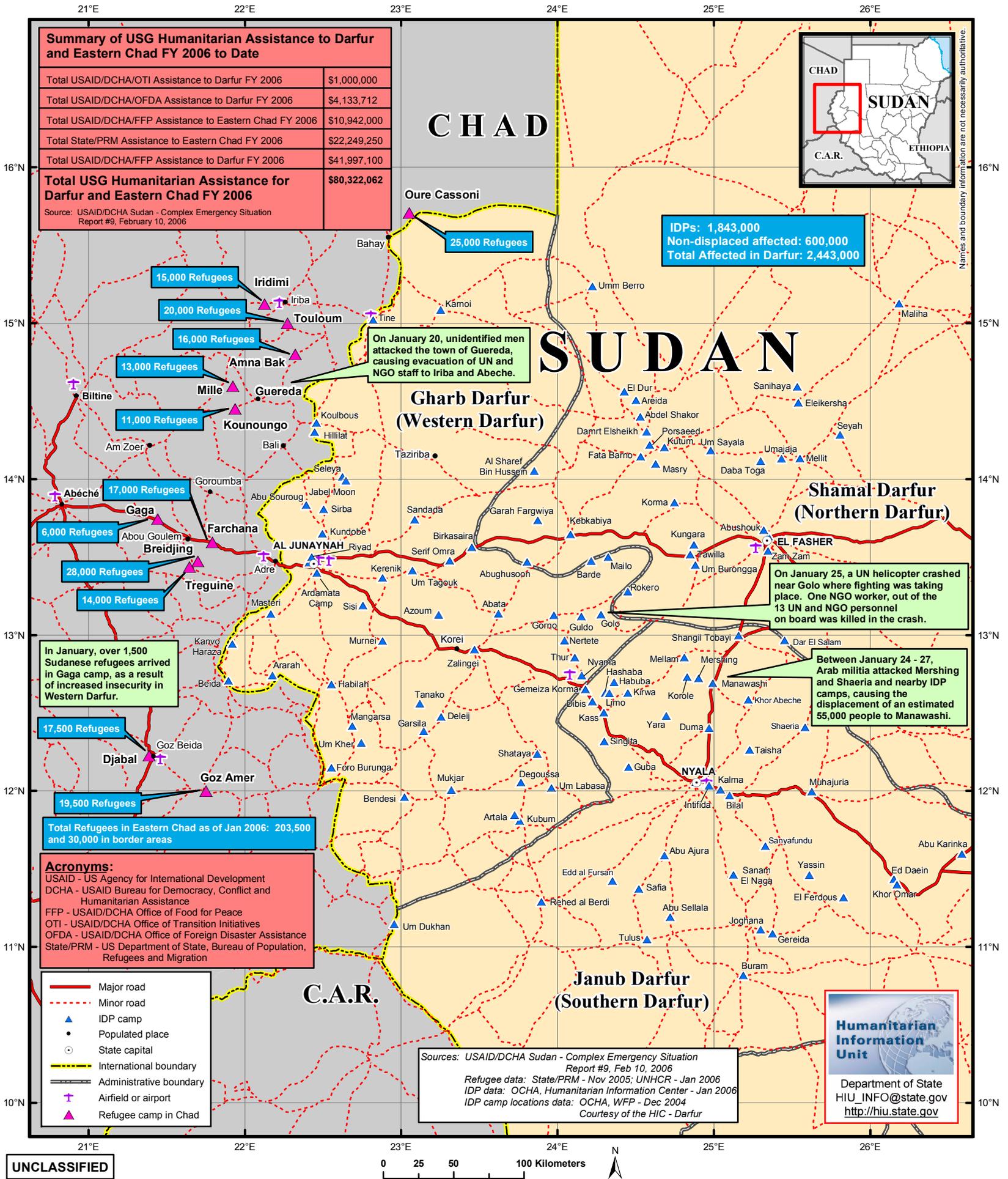
Password: Password

HIU Direct Telephone Lines & Agency Affiliation:

Alan L. Davis, Director (USAID):	202-203-7771	Jean Arkedis (DoS PMF):	202-203-7776
David Springer (NGA):	202-203-7789	Nathan Heard (STG contract)	202-203-7788
Colonel Doug Nash (DoD):	202-203-7779	Tiffany Hill (STG contract):	202-203-7791
Dennis King (DoS):	202-203-7782	Victoria Jabara(STG contract)	202-203-7784
Noam Unger (DoS)	202-203-7773	ChristopherArd(CSC contract)	202-203-7774
David Dodson (DoS):	202-203-7910	Gina Weatherup (DoD PMF):	202-203-7786
Fred Smith (DoS)	202-203-7783	Kathleen Miner (AIDcontract):	202-203-7780

Recent Situation Map of Darfur, Sudan

USG Humanitarian Assistance, Displacement, and Security Situation



Summary of USG Humanitarian Assistance to Darfur and Eastern Chad FY 2006 to Date	
Total USAID/DCHA/OTI Assistance to Darfur FY 2006	\$1,000,000
Total USAID/DCHA/OFDA Assistance to Darfur FY 2006	\$4,133,712
Total USAID/DCHA/FFP Assistance to Eastern Chad FY 2006	\$10,942,000
Total State/PRM Assistance to Eastern Chad FY 2006	\$22,249,250
Total USAID/DCHA/FFP Assistance to Darfur FY 2006	\$41,997,100
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance for Darfur and Eastern Chad FY 2006	\$80,322,062

Source: USAID/DCHA Sudan - Complex Emergency Situation Report #9, February 10, 2006

IDPs: 1,843,000
Non-displaced affected: 600,000
Total Affected in Darfur: 2,443,000

On January 20, unidentified men attacked the town of Guereda, causing evacuation of UN and NGO staff to Iriba and Abeche.

On January 25, a UN helicopter crashed near Golo where fighting was taking place. One NGO worker, out of the 13 UN and NGO personnel on board was killed in the crash.

Between January 24 - 27, Arab militia attacked Mershing and Shaeria and nearby IDP camps, causing the displacement of an estimated 55,000 people to Manawashi.

In January, over 1,500 Sudanese refugees arrived in Gaga camp, as a result of increased insecurity in Western Darfur.

Total Refugees in Eastern Chad as of Jan 2006: 203,500 and 30,000 in border areas

Acronyms:
 USAID - US Agency for International Development
 DCHA - USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
 FFP - USAID/DCHA Office of Food for Peace
 OTI - USAID/DCHA Office of Transition Initiatives
 OFDA - USAID/DCHA Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
 State/PRM - US Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

- Major road
- - - Minor road
- ▲ IDP camp
- Populated place
- State capital
- International boundary
- Administrative boundary
- ✈ Airfield or airport
- ▲ Refugee camp in Chad

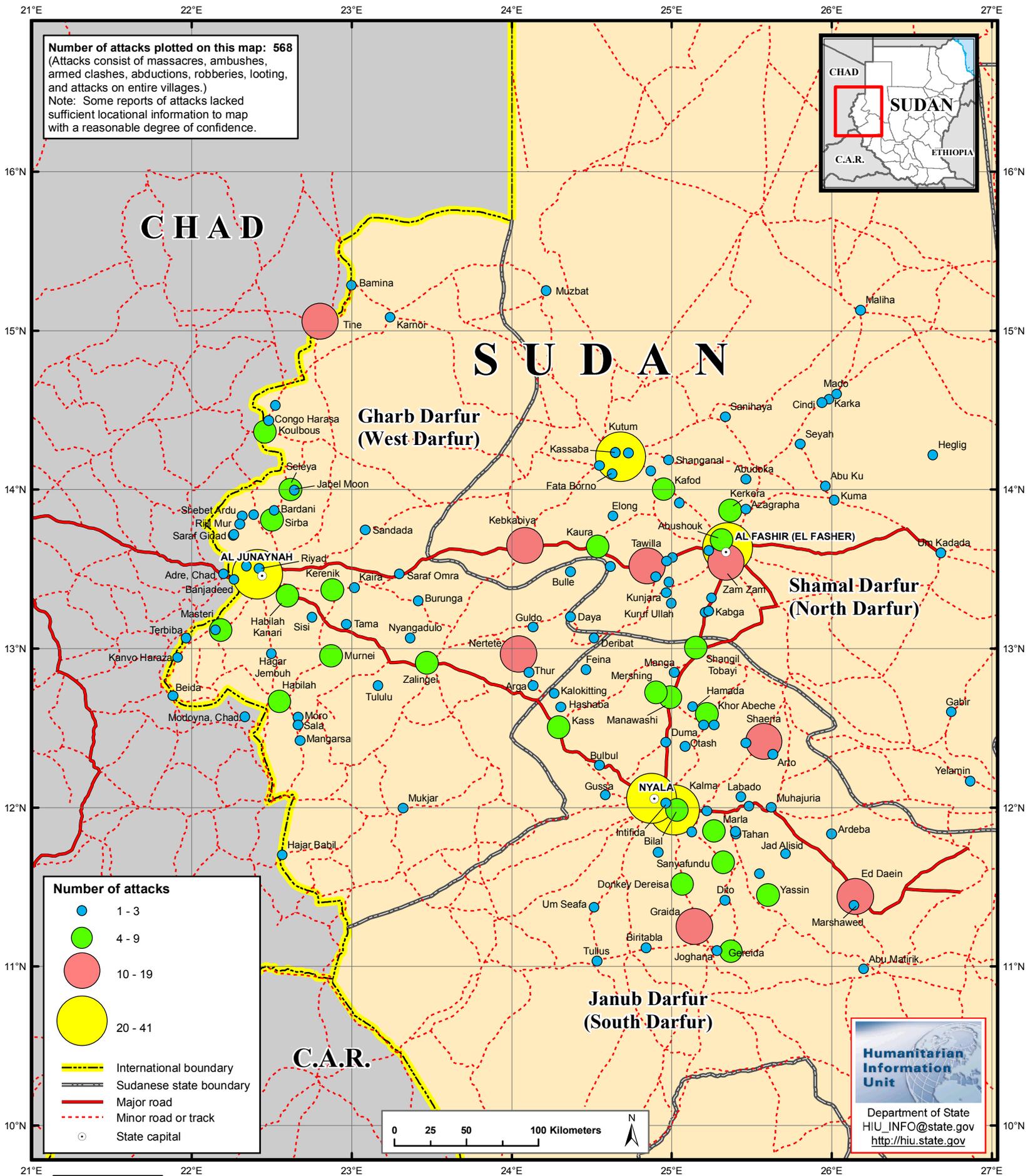
Sources: USAID/DCHA Sudan - Complex Emergency Situation Report #9, Feb 10, 2006
 Refugee data: State/PRM - Nov 2005; UNHCR - Jan 2006
 IDP data: OCHA, Humanitarian Information Center - Jan 2006
 IDP camp locations data: OCHA, WFP - Dec 2004
 Courtesy of the HIC - Darfur

Humanitarian Information Unit
 Department of State
 HIU_INFO@state.gov
<http://hiu.state.gov>

Names and boundary information are not necessarily authoritative.

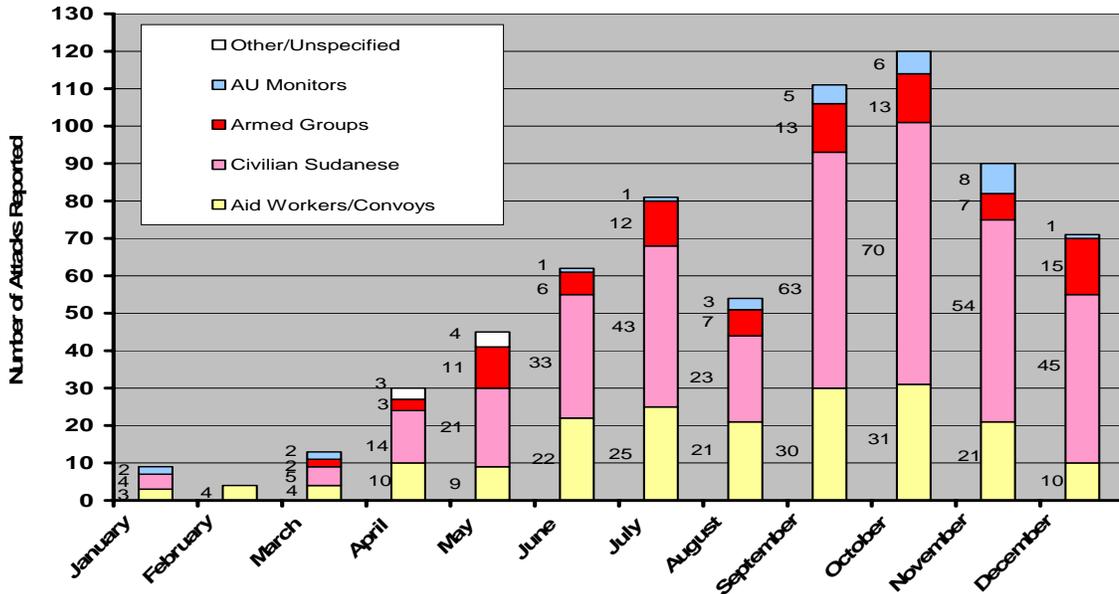
Darfur Security Incidents VISTA* Graphic

Reported Attacks in 2005 by Location and Number



Darfur Security Incidents VISTA* Graphic

Reported Security Incidents in 2005 by Month and Target
(compiled from USAID, AU/AMIS, UNMIS and UN DSS reporting)



Reporting from sources became more consistent in July 2005. This accounts for underreporting of incidents Jan - June 2005.

In Nov- Dec 2005, increased insecurity led to relocation of UN and NGO staff, reduced access, and a decrease in reported incidents.

Darfur Security Select Chronology

DATE	EVENT
25 Jan 2005	One hundred South African Police Service officers deployed to AU/AMIS
22 Mar 2005	USAID/DART officer wounded in attack near Kass, South Darfur
26 May 2005	AU/AMIS Pledging Conference held in Addis Ababa raises \$291m in donor pledges
9 Jun 2005	NATO announces logistical support for AU/AMIS
July 2005	AU/AMIS Nigerian Battalion (680 troops) deployed to Nyala Sector and AU/AMIS Rwanda Battalion (680 troops) deployed to El-Fasher Sector.
July 2005	UN aid agencies and NGOs temporarily withdraw following attacks in IDP camps
Sep 2005	6th round of Inter-Sudanese Peace talks start in Abuja, Nigeria with representatives from GOS, SLM/A and JEM.
23 Sep 2005	UN Security Council extends UNMIS through March 2006 to support AU/AMIS
26 Sep 2005	Chad: Cross border attack by Sudanese militia kills 75 civilians in Modonya, Chad.
Sep 2005	Sudanese militia attacks Aro Sharow IDP camp, killing 35; GOS forces attack Tawilla.
8 Oct 2005	Four AU/AMIS peacekeepers and two civilian contractors killed in attack near Menewasha by SLM/A; 35 AU/AMIS personnel detained by JEM near Tine.
Oct 2005	6,100 AU/AMIS personnel, 900 contractors and 3 UNMIS officers in Darfur
Dec 2005	Increase in inter-tribal fighting causes new displacements in West Darfur
Dec 2005	Clash between Chadian military and army deserters in Adre, Chad; Increase in tensions between Chad and Sudan lead to relocations of UN and NGO staff

Acronyms

AU/AMIS – African Union Mission in Sudan	NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization
GOS – Government of Sudan	SLM/A – Sudan Liberation Movement/Army
JEM - Justice and Equality Movement	UNMIS – United Nations Mission to Sudan
UNDSS – UN Department of Safety and Security	USAID/DART – US Agency for International Development/Disaster Assistance Response Team



* VISTA (Visualized Information Synthesized Temporal Analysis) is a new product of the Humanitarian Information Unit, February 6, 2006

UNCLASSIFIED