



U.S. EMBASSY JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN  
Office of Public Affairs

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For Immediate Release

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Press Release

**U.S. Ambassador Expresses Condolences on the Death of  
Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol**

U.S. Ambassador to South Sudan, Susan D. Page, condemned the May 4 attack that killed Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol and a United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) Ethiopian peacekeeper. “We are profoundly saddened by the death of Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol and a UN peacekeeper who was accompanying him. Chief Kuol had just met with a Sudanese delegation under the auspices of the United Nations and was working for a peaceful, negotiated settlement for Abyei. We urge all parties to show restraint in this critical time and not to react hastily while we all work to gain a clearer understanding of the events that led up to this terrible incident. Our deepest condolences go out to the family and loved ones of Chief Kuol in this time of profound grief, as well as to all the Ngok Dinka. We also express our condolences to the family and loved ones of the Ethiopian peacekeeper, who was killed on the eve of Ethiopian Orthodox Easter. May God rest their souls and grant a speedy recovery to those who were wounded in the attack.”

The U.S. Government strongly condemns this act of violence and demands that those responsible be held accountable. We urge the governments of South Sudan and Sudan to exercise restraint during this sensitive and volatile period. We appeal for calm in Abyei and implore all sides to avoid further escalation of violence.

We urge the parties to the conflict in Abyei to use the mechanisms, namely the Joint Security Committee, which they have put in place, to investigate these acts of violence and to facilitate a transparent and effective investigation to bring those responsible to justice and to ensure this tragic incident does not escalate into further violence. We especially urge all parties to cooperate fully in the investigation.

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