

Report: CIA, Sudan cooperate on Iraq intel

by UPI

WASHINGTON - The CIA works with Sudan to spy on insurgents in Iraq, even as Washington suspects Sudan is involved in civilian deaths in Darfur, The Los Angeles Times said.

The arrangement illustrates continued U.S. cooperation with the regime in Khartoum, at the same time as President George W. Bush denounces mass killing in Sudan's western region as genocide and enforces sanctions on the Sudanese government, the newspaper said.

Some critics accuse the administration of playing down the sanctions to preserve intelligence collaboration with Sudan, the Times reported. But the relationship is an indication of the United States' heavy reliance on intelligence and military cooperation from nations that are considered pariah states because of their human rights records.

"Intelligence cooperation takes place for a whole lot of reasons," said a U.S. intelligence official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "It's not always between people who love each other deeply."

Sudan has become more valuable to the United States since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks because the Sunni Arab nation is a crossroads for Islamic militants en route to Iraq and Pakistan, the newspaper said.

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