"Inside Perspective with Cindy Castano"

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Deciphering Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement

Special Guest Faith McDonnell Director, of Religious Liberty Programs and Church Alliance for a New Sudan at The Institute on Religion and Democracy, Washington, DC

And Author of Girl Soldier: A Story of Hope for Northern Uganda's Children

Three years ago this week, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement was signed between the National Islamic Front regime in Khartoum and the SPLM/A of Southern Sudan. With business as usual in Khartoum, they have not held to critical promises and the peace agreement is on the verge of crumbling. Armed conflict has erupted between the two sides. Free elections are scheduled for next year but the assassination of a US diplomat in the capital of Khartoum indicates the government of Sudan is playing hardball to prevent the South from fair participation. Faith McDonnell discusses the political concerns and the hope for the future of Sudan.

<u>Faith McDonnell</u>: As Director of Religious Liberty Programs and of the Church Alliance for a New Sudan (CANS) for The Institute on Religion and Democracy, she writes frequently and speaks widely on the subject of the persecuted church to churches, civic groups, and on college campuses. Faith has co-organized rallies in support of persecuted Christians in Sudan in front of the White House, the Canadian Embassy, and the Sudanese Embassy, has drafted legislation on religious persecution for the Episcopal Church and for both houses of the United States Congress, and coordinated a ten-day vigil for Sudan outside the U.S. State Department. In June 2007, her book, *Girl Soldier: A Story of Hope for Northern Uganda's Children*, was published by Chosen Books, a division of Baker Publishing Group.