



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

The President

His Excellency Salva Kiir Mayardit
President of the Republic of South Sudan
Statement on the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Day

May 16th, 2026

Fellow Citizens,

On this day, we remember the brave forces of Battalion 105 who fired the first bullet that began our revolution, as we mark the 43rd Anniversary of our Movement. We also remember the sacrifices of our martyrs who gave their lives during the long struggle for our nationhood.

Today, we remember, and I salute my colleagues, starting with Comrade Dr. John Garang de Mabior who led our struggle with steely determination, Comrade Kerubino Kuanyin Bol who fired the first bullet in Bor, Comrade William Nyuon Bany whose actions in Ayod amplified the momentum of our struggle, and all the sons and daughters of South Sudan who joined the cause for national liberation. You will never be forgotten. You are our history!

All organized forces must keep the strong values and spirit of the struggle that brought us our liberation as they work to restore law and order across the country.

As we celebrate this day, every citizen should reflect on the journey that brought us to nationhood. May the sacrifice and dedication of those who came before us inspire the next generation to move South Sudan forward.

Let us all unite to work for a peaceful, united and prosperous South Sudan.

-The End-

