Army clashes spread in South Sudan

Fighting between opposing ethnic military factions in South Sudan has spread from the capital, Juba, to the rural state of Jonglei, with the death toll reportedly reaching 500

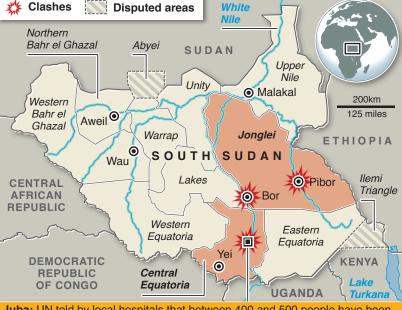
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- South Sudan President Salva Kiir (right) has blamed violence on December 15 coup attempt by forces loyal to his former vice president, Riek Machar (far right)
- Kiir fired Machar in July after former deputy said he would contest 2015 presidential elections
- South Sudanese military has arrested 10 senior political figures in connection with alleged coup plot. Machar remains at large





■ Both men hail from rival ethnic groups – fighting is mostly between forces from Kiir's majority *Dinka* tribe and those from Machar's *Nuer* tribe



Juba: UN told by local hospitals that between 400 and 500 people have been killed since Dec 15. Up to 20,000 people have taken refuge in UN mission