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Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes in Africa



MEDIA MONITORING

19 November 2014

Seven ideas to help end the FDLR rebel group in Congo

Posted by Enough Team

18 November 2014 - In a new report, “How to Dismantle a Deadly Militia” the Enough Project sets out seven key non-military approaches to help ending the FDLR’s ability to continue to threaten peace and security in eastern Congo and the region.

The Enough team just spent the past six months interviewing armed commanders, civil society leaders, diplomats, ex-combatants, refugees, and military experts in eastern Congo on the topic of how to help end the deadly FDLR armed group. Following this research, we are releasing this report, offering seven policy proposals for diplomats such as U.S. Special Envoy Russ Feingold, UN Special Envoy Said Djinnit, and others to take action on.

The research found that the armed group in the Democratic Republic of the Congo known as the FDLR is currently regrouping, mobilizing political support, and continuing to pose a threat to regional security. The FDLR (a French acronym for “Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda”) is one of the most prominent and abusive armed groups in Congo and Rwanda, formerly known as the Interahamwe/ex-FAR and ALiR. Several of its leaders were involved in helping perpetrate the Rwandan genocide, and it has committed repeated massacres against civilians in eastern Congo. Several currently active armed groups in Congo state that combatting the FDLR is the reason they themselves remain active.

The UN Security Council and regional African governments have set a deadline for the FDLR to fully disarm by January 2, 2015 or face military action. While it is unclear who exactly will undertake this military action, as Congo and the troop-contributing countries of the UN Intervention Brigade (mainly South Africa and Tanzania) have hesitated to

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use force against this stated enemy of Rwanda, international diplomats and regional governments, including Congo, can take action on several non-military fronts.

Taking a military approach to ending the FDLR presents a significant set of issues, most notably the fact that the FDLR embeds itself in local communities and refugee populations, creating a legitimate risk that counter-FDLR operations will cause civilian casualties. This risk can be mitigated if operations using special forces target the FDLR leadership and also incorporate strong civilian protection measures. Since the defeat of the M23 rebel group in November 2013 [LINK to blog?], the FDLR has received significant attention in both the region and the broader international community as the next main armed group to address. This attention, however, has translated into little policy action.

Although the FDLR claims that its fighters are in the process of disarming, the group has failed to meet several deadlines set by the UN Security Council and regional African governments. Evidence from UN experts and findings from six months of Enough Project field research in Congo suggest that the FDLR's current strategy is focused on reorganizing itself in three main areas:

- **Generating more income to trade for ammunition and weapons, particularly through trading gold through Uganda and charcoal from Virunga National Park to Goma**
- **Mobilizing political support in an attempt to gain greater legitimacy**
- **Preparing to avoid military defeat through alliance-building and recruitment**

Defeating the FDLR will require a comprehensive strategy that incorporates both targeted military approaches and diplomatic action on non-military areas. In particular, the FDLR's collaboration with the Congolese army and its economic lifelines must be cut off.

How to Dismantle a Deadly Militia makes 7 key recommendations:

1. Regional diplomacy. U.N. Special Envoy Said Djinnit should continue to proactively repair relations between Rwanda and South Africa as well as relations between Rwanda and Tanzania. The aim should be to forge regional consensus for both targeted military operations and urgently-needed non-military measures to neutralize the FDLR.
2. Cutting off the FDLR's economic lifelines, including charcoal. U.S. and UN representatives should bolster the Virunga National Park rangers' (ICCN) plans to halt the FDLR's charcoal supply routes from Virunga National Park to Goma.
3. Accountability for Congolese army officers. UN and US diplomats should escalate pressure on the Congolese government to investigate, suspend, and indict Congolese

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military officers who are suspected of collaborating with the FDLR. The issue should be placed on the agendas of the ICGLR high-level talks and the U.N. Security Council. Such collaboration is a major issue, because it enables the rebels to avoid attacks and resupply.

4. Work to apprehend FDLR leader Sylvestre Mudacumura and encourage public indictments. UN Special Envoy Said Djinnit, US Special Envoy Russ Feingold, and Angolan President José dos Santos should urge MONUSCO and the Congolese government to cooperate with the International Criminal Court, apprehend Mudacumura, and strengthen the case against him.

5. Third-country resettlement. Concrete regional resettlement options should be developed for FDLR combatants who are not indicted for atrocity crimes and who have a fear of return to Rwanda. Such offers should include the protective measures necessary to encourage increased defection.

6. Refugees. Djinnit, Feingold, and Kobler should work with the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to set up protected camps for refugees in eastern Congo. The envoys should also ensure that MONUSCO provides security for the camps.

7. Security guarantees. Djinnit, Feingold, and dos Santos should work with Rwanda to provide an improved security plan that is co-signed by international actors and to issue a new statement that would outline more concrete plans for security and non-prosecution guarantees for FDLR combatants not indicted for grave crimes.

Full report in ENGLISH: <http://www.enoughproject.org/files/FDLRReport-HowToDismantleADeadlyMilitia-EnoughProject-Nov2014.pdf>

Le rapport complet en FRANCAIS:

[http://www.enoughproject.org/files/FDLRCommentD%C3%A9mantelerUneMiliceMauritri%C3%A8re-EnoughProject\(FR\)-Nov2014.pdf](http://www.enoughproject.org/files/FDLRCommentD%C3%A9mantelerUneMiliceMauritri%C3%A8re-EnoughProject(FR)-Nov2014.pdf)

Report: Congo police targeted gangs, executed 51

Source: UPI.com

By Ed Adamczyk

Kinshasa, 18 November 2014 - A crackdown on organized gangs in the Democratic Republic of Congo has led to the execution of dozens by police, Human Rights Watch said.

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A report Monday by the human rights advocacy group, based in New York, said up to 51 people were executed and 33 others disappeared in "Operation Likofi," a four-month anticrime campaign in Kinshasa, the Congolese capital, in 2013.

The 57-page report claims police, typically masked, dragged suspected gang members from their homes and executed them in marketplaces or open fields, without warrants or trials.

"Operation Likofi was a brutal police campaign that left a trail of cold-blooded murders in the Congolese capital," wrote Daniel Bekele, Africa director at Human Rights Watch, in the report. "Fighting crime by committing crime does not build the rule of law but only reinforces a climate of fear. The Congolese authorities should investigate the killings, starting with the commander in charge of the operation, and bring to justice those responsible."

Congo President Joseph Kabila demanded the removal of gangs from Kinshasa in 2013 after complaints about violence.

The report could cause tensions between the poverty-stricken but mineral-rich country and its Western donors. The United States has provided over \$181 million in humanitarian aid to the country in 2014, and the United Nations' largest peacekeeping force, of about 20,000 troops, maintain security in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Réunion d'évaluation : Les ex-M23 ont refusé de venir à Kinshasa

Source : Kongo Times

By Rachidi Mabandu

15 novembre 2014 - Les représentants de l'ex-rébellion du M23 n'ont pas participé vendredi 7 novembre à la réunion d'évaluation de la déclaration de Nairobi. Celle-ci est le document reprenant les engagements pris le 12 décembre 2013 dans la capitale kenyane entre cet ancien mouvement rebelle et le Gouvernement congolais, en vue du retour de la paix dans l'Est de la RDC. Les ex-M23 ont refusé de venir à Kinshasa, disant craindre pour leur sécurité. Qu'à cela ne tienne, les envoyés spéciaux du secrétaire général de l'Onu dans les Grands Lacs, de l'Union européenne, des Etats-Unis, de l'Union africaine et de la Conférence internationale pour la région des Grands Lacs (CIRGL) ont assisté à cette rencontre tenue au siège du Mécanisme National de suivi de l'Accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba.

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L'implication personnelle des envoyés spéciaux pour garantir le processus de construction de confiance, les garanties offertes par le Gouvernement de la RDC quant à la sécurité de la délégation et les facilités de transport offertes par la Monusco n'ont pas eu raison de la mauvaise foi manifeste des ex-M23. " Il y a lieu de se poser la question de savoir si celui qui remet en cause de telles garanties et surtout l'implication des Nations Unies en refusant de se rendre à Kinshasa pourrait-il alors se rendre au DDR à Kamina ", s'est interrogé le coordonnateur du MNS. François Muamba a aussi rappelé que " des invitations antérieures, celles du mois de mai à Goma et du mois de septembre dernier, ont subi le même traitement de la part de M. René Abandi, c'est-à-dire une fin de non-recevoir ".

En tant que structure de suivi et évaluation de la mise en œuvre de ce processus, le MNS déplore ce comportement " en parfait décalage avec les accusations publiées dans certains organes de presse et sur la toile à l'endroit du Gouvernement de la RDC pour dénoncer le soi-disant non-respect des engagements pris ". Le Gouvernement de la RDC, à travers François Muamba, prend à témoin toute la Communauté internationale représentée lors de cette réunion du vendredi 7 novembre pour constater l'absence de la délégation de l'ex-M23 et en prend acte.

Mercredi dernier, le Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies avait insisté sur la nécessité d'accélérer « la démobilisation permanente » des anciens combattants et souhaité que « toutes les parties lèvent les obstacles au rapatriement » des ex-M23 stationnés en Ouganda et au Rwanda. Ces mesures devaient être discutées lors d'une rencontre vendredi à Kinshasa, qui a bien eu lieu, mais sans le M23. Le coordonnateur du Mécanisme national de suivi (MNS) congolais, François Muamba, a déclaré à la fin de cette rencontre que la délégation du Mouvement avait argué de « craintes pour sa sécurité » pour ne pas venir.

Reconnaissant des divergences sur « ce qui est fait et ce qui reste à faire », François Muamba a souhaité que les deux parties se retrouvent pour convenir ensemble d'une feuille de route ». La RDC, a-t-il ajouté, veut achever avant le 31 décembre le rapatriement des ex-miliciens, que Kinshasa propose d'accueillir dans un camp militaire à plus de 1.000 km de la zone de la province du Nord-Kivu où la rébellion a combattu.

Selon M. Muamba, plus de 2.100 d'entre eux ont signé individuellement un acte de renonciation à la violence devant leur permettre de bénéficier de la loi d'amnistie promulguée en février. M. Bisimwa, lui, avance le chiffre de 4.500 signataires. La loi d'amnistie ne s'applique pas aux nombreux crimes de guerre et violations graves des droits de l'homme dont l'ONU accuse certains chefs et combattants du M23, et exclut de ce fait une centaine de responsables du mouvement.

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Au-delà du seul rapatriement des anciens miliciens, le M23 et Kinshasa doivent encore s'entendre pour permettre notamment le retour de plusieurs centaines de milliers de réfugiés, et le gouvernement s'est engagé à œuvrer pour une véritable « réconciliation nationale ».

La prochaine rencontre est prévue début décembre. Elle se tiendra « même sur la lune, pourvu que l'ex-M23 soit là pour en débattre », a prévenu François Muamba, coordonnateur de cette structure. Mais en attendant, le MNS a présenté la Feuille de route des activités contenues dans la Déclaration de Nairobi, conformément à l'engagement pris par le Gouvernement congolais. Ce document remis aux envoyés spéciaux est présenté sous forme d'un chronogramme qui comporte les points tels que l'amnistie, le rapatriement des ex-combattants du M23, le rapatriement des réfugiés...

Congo army colonel, rebel leader sentenced to death

Source: Reuters

By Aaron Ross

Kalemie, 18 November 2014 - A military tribunal in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo on Monday sentenced to death a senior army officer and a rebel commander he was meant to be fighting, defence counsel and observers said.

In a trial that highlighted the deep splits that plague Congo's military, sentence was pronounced after Lieutenant Colonel Nzanzu Birotsho and Jamil Makulu, leader of the Ugandan Islamist Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels, were convicted of terrorism and belonging to an insurrection movement.

But since Congo has observed a moratorium on carrying out death sentences over the past decade, prison time would be the more likely outcome. Three officers convicted alongside Birotsho were expelled from the army and handed sentences ranging from 12 to 20 years. Two others were acquitted.

Makulu and most of the other alleged ADF members charged with crimes were not brought into custody and were tried in absentia.

The trial in the town of Beni in North Kivu province centred on the murder of Colonel Mamadou Ndala, one of the heroes of a rare army victory over M23 - the strongest rebellion in Congo's resource-rich but conflict-ridden east - last year.

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After helping defeat M23, Ndala had come to Beni to plan a joint operation with United Nations troops targeting the ADF when he was killed in a rocket attack on his vehicle near the village of Mazizi in January.

During the trial, a self-proclaimed former ADF commander testified that Birotsho, the former head of military intelligence in North Kivu, provided the rebels with information about Ndala's whereabouts in exchange for \$34,000.

Birotsho's lawyer Augustin Tshisambo acknowledged the verdict of the military tribunal, which expelled him from the army and called for him to pay \$2.9 million in damages to Ndala's family. But he said the court had fallen short of finding his client directly responsible for Ndala's murder.

Violence Rages in Southeastern DRC

Source: VOA

By Joe DeCapua

18 November 2014 - In the southeastern Democratic Republic of Congo, there is an area called the Triangle of Death. It's located within Katanga Province where the U.N. says a humanitarian crisis has been growing worse since the end of 2012.

The U.N. refugee agency – UNHCR – said there are 600,000 displaced people in Katanga Province. That's a result of ongoing fighting and violence. More than 70,000 were displaced in the last three months alone.

In Kinshasa, UNHCR spokesperson Celine Schmitt said the crisis in Katanga has not received as much media attention as conflicts in the northeastern Kivu provinces.

“There are two conflicts ongoing in Katanga. There is an increase of violence by a militia group called the Mai Mai Bataka Katanga – attacking villages, attacking the population. But also there is a conflict between two groups – between the Luba and the Twa in the north of Katanga and [it's] now turning into much more violence. Entire villages have been burned. People are being displaced and women have been raped,” she said.

The Mai Mai Bataka Katanga militia has been fighting the Congolese army. UNHCR says that conflict “reignited” in 2011 after the Mai Mai leader escaped from prison. The fighting between the Twa and Luba results from long standing tensions between the ethnic groups.

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It's happening in what's called the Triangle of Death in northern Katanga. It consists of the three towns of Manono, Mitwaba and Pweto.

“Violence has been ongoing in this area. And the violence was so strong that the area has been called the Triangle of Death. Both conflicts are taking place in the Triangle of Death.”

Schmitt said that “sexual violence is a serious concern.”

“In the north of Katanga, our protection monitors for all our teams on the ground have recorded more than 1,500 cases of sexual violence since the beginning of this year. But we fear that many more cases remain unreported because we lack access to the area -- because of security reasons. But also because women are scared to report the rapes,” she said.

Few rape victims, she said, have access to health care or psycho-social support. When possible, rape survivors have been “referred” to UNHCR’s medical partners for treatment.

The U.N. agency and other aid groups are not able to reach many of those in need. Schmitt learned that first hand.

“I was myself in Katanga last week. I was in the triangle of Death to meet our partners there and to meet the victims. In order to go to some of the villages that have been burned we had to travel an entire day by road. Then we had to cross the Congo River. Then we had to take a speed boat. And after, more or less, six hours we finally arrived in the village,” she said.

One of the places she visited was the Mukondo site for the displaced. About 1,300 people live there. She said elders told her that 19 children have died there since March due to diarrhea, anemia and malaria.

The lack of access to troubled areas is due in part to safety concerns for humanitarian workers, as well as a lack of funding for aid work.

UNHCR is calling for an “increased presence of Congolese authorities” in the area. The agency also is working with the group Search for Common Ground to end the conflict between the Luba and Twa. That includes participatory theater and mobile cinemas to get the communities together and discuss issues.

UNHCR also said MONUSCO – the U.N. peacekeeping mission – should “reinforce its presence to better protect Katanga’s civilian population and prevent further human rights violations.”

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In all, there are more than two-and-a-half-million displaced people in the DRC – the majority in North and South Kivu Provinces.

EXTRACTS - Regular press briefing by the Information Service of UNHCR- Geneva

18 November 2014

Corinne Momal-Vanian, Director of the United Nations Information Service in Geneva, chaired the briefing, which was attended by the Spokespersons for the World Health Organization, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the United Nations Refugee Agency, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNAIDS, the Economic Commission for Europe and the International Labour Organization.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Karin De Gruijl, for the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), said that the UNHCR was deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Katanga, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Violence had forced some 400,000 people to flee their homes since the end of 2012, bringing the total number of internally displaced people in the province to nearly 600,000. During the previous three months alone, more than 71,000 people had been newly displaced.

In October, the UNHCR had registered 1,737 incidents in the territories of Kalemie and the so called “triangle of death” comprised of Manono, Mitwaba and Pweto in northern Katanga. Those included the looting and burning of houses, extortion, torture, forced labour and recruitment into armed groups, as well as sexual violence. However, UNHCR feared that that number of incidents could be significantly higher as insecurity and logistical challenges prevented the Agency’s protection monitors from going to some areas. During the first ten months of 2014, a total of 15,873 incidents had been reported, of which over 88 per cent (or 14,057) had taken place in those four territories.

Sexual violence remained a serious concern. Between January and October, UNHCR protection monitors had helped 1,564 people who had survived sexual violence and referred them to medical partners for treatment. However, as a result of the lack of access to the areas where survivors lived and the fear of many of them to report sexual violence, UNHCR understood that many more cases were unreported.

Ms. De Gruijl said that, in general, the limited presence of humanitarian and development organizations was a serious problem, leading to insufficient assistance to

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displaced people who were struggling to have access to basic services. There were 28 sites hosting IDPs in northern Katanga and many more displaced people lived in host communities. While the UNHCR had built some 1,500 emergency shelters since January, clearly more was needed, including access to health care, potable water, food and education.

The conflicts were taking place in the northern part of Katanga Province, one of the Congo's richest in natural resources. While there had been long-lasting tensions between the two communities, violence between the Luba and the Twa had suddenly flared up earlier in 2014. Attacks by the Mai Mai Bataka Katanga militia and fighting with the army had reignited after the Mai Mai leader had escaped from prison in the provincial capital Lubumbashi in 2011. That had subjected the civilian population to extreme violence, including mass rape.

To stem the violence, there was a need to increase the presence of Congolese civil authorities in the affected areas and to look into peaceful solutions to resolve the conflict between the Luba and the Twa. UNHCR was working with its partner, Search For Common Ground, on reconciliation and peaceful coexistence between the two communities through participatory theatre and mobile cinema, but far more such activities were needed. The rights of minorities and indigenous groups, in particular of the Twa community, should be recognized and protected. At the same time, it was important to end impunity and to promote a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme that assists former combatants to return to civilian life.

UNHCR was calling on the UN peacekeeping mission MONUSCO to reinforce its presence and technical capacity in northern Katanga to better protect the civilian population and prevent further human rights violations.

Ms. De Gruijl specified that nearly 2.6 million people were internally displaced in the DRC. With 600,000 IDPs, Katanga was the third most affected province by internal displacement, after North and South Kivu in the eastern part of the country.

Burundi: Démonstration chiffrée de l'inclusivité et de la neutralité de la CENI

Source : Africa Generation News

18 novembre 2014 - La CENI du Burundi explique son inclusivité et sa neutralité avec des chiffres, et non avec des paroles sans fondement...

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A Bujumbura, vendredi 14 novembre 2014, la Commission Électorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI) a répondu aux Média qui colportent les paroles non vérifiées de certaines personnalités politiques qui qualifient cette institution de -non neutre ou non indépendante – et, surtout, qu'elle n'aurait pas inclus toutes les représentations politiques du pays et la société civile.

Chiffres à l'appui, la CENI a expliqué en donnant l'exemple des Commissions Electorales Provinciales Indépendantes (CEPI) qu'elle a mis en place le mardi 14 octobre 2014 comprenant 163 membres assermentés :

- 95 places ont été données à 25 partis politiques reconnus au Burundi :

- CNDD-FDD (17 places) ;
- UPRONA (16 places) ;
- FRODEBU-NYAKURI (17 places);
- FNL (8 places);
- FRODEBU (7 places);
- UPD (6 places);
- MSD (4 places) ;
- CNDD (2 places);
- 17 autres partis politiques (1 place chacune).

- 17 places à des fonctionnaires de l'Etat ou à l'administration (70% des fonctionnaires du Burundi ont été embauchés sous la dictature militaire des Bahima burundais - Micombero, Bagaza, et Buyoya- , grosso-modo de 1966 à 2005, où l'UPRONA était le parti unique. Aujourd'hui, encore, une grande partie du personnel de l'Etat burundais est membre de l'UPRONA);

- 4 places pour les non classés ou non affiliés aux partis politiques ;

- 47 places ont été attribuées à la société civile burundaise (29 places) et aux confessions religieuses (18 places).

En conclusion, pour la CENI, avec cet exemple donné des CEPI, le débat sur – l'inclusion de toutes et tous – et de – sa neutralité - est clos. Pour, ceux qui contesterait la CENI en disant qu'elle est proche du CNDD-FDD (la 1ère force politique du pays aux élections de 2010), désormais, les journalistes pourront leur apposer ces

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chiffres. La CENI ajoute : « C'est donc une répartition où il n'y a pas de majorité des membres d'une même famille de provenance ».

Pour la mise en place des Commissions Electorales Communales Indépendantes (CECI), les CEPI se sont chargées, dès leur nomination, en suivant la même procédure légale que celle appliquée par la CENI pour les nommer.

Zambia Eyes another Private Railway to Angola, DRC

Source: AFK Insider

By Jeff Kapembwa

17 November 2014 - Zambia may soon have another private railway line that would link the country with Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) from Chingola in northern region, after North Western Railway and South Africa's Grindrod Limited signed a US\$1 billion joint venture agreement to construct a more than 580km rail link.

The new railway line, whose construction is expected to start this quarter, marks a milestone in Zambia's contribution to infrastructure development, as espoused by the SADC regional leadership.

Once completed, the railway line is expected to boost mines in north-western Zambia, where vast deposits of copper and other minerals, including gold, have been discovered and are being tapped to full potential.

Speaking during the recent mining indaba in DRC, North Western Railway's managing director and Chairperson Enoch Kavindele revealed that funds for the railway line have been secured and that work would start soon to ensure the project is completed in good time.

Kavindele said they seek to expedite the construction and ensure that mines in the north-western part of the country and service providers have easy links to the sea and ports for exports.

Lumwana mine, a unit of Barrick Gold and Kansanshi Copper Mine, a subsidiary of First Quantum Minerals Limited, are some of the mining companies expected to benefit from the new railway line.

The railway project when completed, will link Zambia with Angola up to the port of Jimbe. The first 290km phase of the line will run from Chingola to the Kansanshi, Lumwana and Kalumbila mines, at an estimated capital cost of about US\$489 million.

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The second phase, that will cost US\$500m, will connect with the Benguela railway line on the Zambia-Angola border near Jimbe and will open a direct corridor to Lobito.

This, if achieved, will allow landlocked Zambia to import oil directly from Angola and other nearby sources and will stimulate further mining activities in the north western and copperbelt regions.

"The first locomotives will be ready to carry copper concentrate in 18 months," Kavindele recently told Southern Times.

One dead, 200 arrested as Kenya police raid radical mosques

Source: AFP

Mombasa, 17 November 2014 - One man was killed Monday as Kenyan security forces arrested over 200 people and seized weapons in raids on mosques accused of links with Somalia's Al-Qaeda affiliated Shebab militants, police said.

Security forces began the operation in the early hours of Monday morning, targeting the Masjid Musa and Sakina mosques in the port city of Mombasa.

"We had information that the group has been planning an attack, and that is why the raid was conducted," Mombasa police chief Geoffrey Mayek said, adding that 201 people had been arrested.

A 20-year-old man was shot dead by police during the raid in the Musa mosque after he tried to throw a grenade at officers, Mayek said.

"As we entered the mosque, one youth armed with a hand grenade attempted to hurl it at our officers who quickly shot him," he told reporters.

Hand grenades and a pistol were seized.

Several Islamic preachers have been shot dead in Mombasa in recent years in alleged extra-judicial killings by security forces and power struggles between rival Muslim factions. Churches have also been attacked.

Hussein Khalid, from the Mombasa-based civil society group HAKI Africa, condemned the raids, warning that "force will only act to heighten tension in what is already a volatile situation."

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Western nations have warned their nationals to avoid all but essential travel to Mombasa, a key transport hub as well as an important tourist centre for the country's Indian Ocean coastline.

The city has been hit by bombings and shootings since Kenya invaded Somalia in 2011 to attack the Shebab, later joining an African Union force battling the Islamists.

The Shebab carried out the September 2013 attack on Nairobi's Westgate shopping mall, killing at least 67 people as a warning to Kenya to pull its troops out of southern Somalia.

Diplomatie : L'Angola fait don de trente-six véhicules à la RCA

Source : CamerPost.com

18 novembre 2014 - La présidente de transition en Centrafrique, Catherine Samba-Panza, a présidé mardi à Bangui la répartition entre les services de l'Etat de trente-six véhicules (12 bus et 24 pick-up) offerts par l'Angola, un don qu'elle a salué comme une illustration de l'excellence des relations entre son pays et Luanda.

«Non seulement c'est un geste fraternel mais également un élan de solidarité envers les autorités de transition. Le moins qu'on peut se dire est que la coopération avec l'Angola est au beau fixe en dépit de tout », s'est réjouie Catherine Samba-Panza.

Pour elle, ce don vient aider au renforcement de capacité de la présidence, du gouvernement et de quelques-unes des institutions de la transition «qui sont dans le besoin pressant et qui doivent faire avancer les choses ».

«Dans les limites des véhicules mis à notre disposition, j'ai fait des choix raisonnés en tenant compte des priorités et surtout de l'urgence de faciliter la mobilité pour certaines institutions. Au fur et à mesure des généreux dons que d'autres pays amis pourront nous faire nous porterons notre choix, que les institutions non retenues prennent leur mal en patience », a-t-elle relevé.

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Ban Ki-moon demande au Soudan de permettre à la MINUAD d'enquêter sur des allégations de viols massifs au Darfour

Source : CRI Online

18 novembre 2014 - Le secrétaire général des Nations Unies, Ban Ki-moon, a demandé lundi au gouvernement soudanais de permettre à la mission onusienne de mener une enquête approfondie sur des viols massifs présumés à Thabit dans le nord du Darfour.

Selon les médias locaux, des viols de masse présumés de 200 femmes et filles auraient eu lieu à Thabit. L'Opération hybride Union africaine-Nations Unies au Darfour (MINUAD) s'est déjà rendue, le 9 novembre dernier, à Thabit mais la forte présence des militaires et des policiers dans la ville a rendu toute enquête concluante difficile. La MINUAD a depuis lors tenté de se rendre à nouveau dans la ville afin de faire la lumière sur toutes ces allégations.

"Le secrétaire général est préoccupé par le fait qu'après d'intenses consultations avec le gouvernement de Khartoum et avec les autorités locales au Darfour, la MINUAD s'est vue refuser l'accès à Thabit hier", a indiqué le porte-parole de M. Ban dans un communiqué de presse.

"Or, seule une enquête approfondie par la MINUAD permettra de faire la lumière sur ces graves allégations", selon le communiqué.

Le secrétaire général a exhorté le gouvernement du Soudan à accorder sans plus tarder un accès sans entrave à Thabit et à sa population, afin que la MINUAD puisse vérifier les faits allégués.

Khartoum accusé de bombarder le territoire du Soudan du Sud

Source : APA

14 novembre 2014 - Le Soudan du Sud a accusé son voisin du nord de bombarder certaines parties de son territoire notamment dans l'Etat du Haut Nil, dix jours après que les dirigeants des deux pays ont convenu de renforcer la sécurité le long de leur frontière commune.

Le porte-parole de l'armée nationale du Soudan du Sud, le colonel Philip Aguer, a déclaré jeudi que le bombardement de Maban était l'œuvre de jets soudanais et a

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confié aux journalistes à Juba que ces bombardements avaient fait deux morts et six blessés.

Le Soudan a quant à lui démenti ces accusations qu'il qualifie de ridicules.

Dans un communiqué publié vendredi, le porte-parole de Forces armées soudanaises (SAF), le colonel Alswarmy Khalid Saad a déclaré qu'aucun de ses appareils de combat n'avait mené des raids au Soudan du sud.

“Ce sont de fausses allégations. Nous n'avons mené aucune frappe aérienne, ni au Soudan du Sud ni nulle part ailleurs hors de nos frontières” a souligné le colonel Saad.

Après le sommet du 4 novembre dernier, Juba et Khartoum avaient annoncé dans un communiqué conjoint qu'ils s'étaient entendus pour résoudre leur différend frontalier en suspens, notamment celui d'Abyei.