

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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April 16th – April 22nd, 2014



Headlines:

- **Al-Shabaab suffer significant losses due to battle with AMISOM, gov't forces last night in Bay region**
- **Ugandan Army Accused of Training Al-Shabaab Fighters**
- **AMISOM and Somali National Army convoy attacked by Al-Shabaab in Lower Shabelle**
- **Al-Shabaab on the Verge of Elimination**

Al-Shabaab suffer significant losses due to battle with AMISOM, gov't forces last night in Bay region

[April 22, 2014 Shabelle News \(Independent Domestic Media\)](#)

- An intense violent confrontation erupted late last night near Awdinle of the Bay region between co-allied African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and Somali National Army against Al-Shabaab terrorist insurgents.

- As AMISOM and the Somali National Army were passing by Awdinle in a several vehicle convoy, fighters from the radical terrorist insurgency attacked the pro-government soldiers leading to aggravated clashes.
- Residents reported to Shabelle that casualties and losses were sustained in the conflict that last for a few hours, although they cannot specify the precise number of loss fatalities in which AMISOM and Somali National Army soldiers suffered.
- A military official from the Somali Federal Government in Bay region speaking on the condition of anonymity, commended the Somali National Army's role in defeating the Al-Qaeda affiliated terrorist cell and impounding their weapons before securing it at a military base near Baidoa, he told Shabelle.
- Furthermore, the Somali National Army backed by Ethiopian troops serving under AMISOM staged a surprise attack targeting senior Al-Shabaab officials in Qansahdere, a district within the Bay region after being tipped off by residents living near the town.
- In Qansahdere, the radical group Al-Shabaab stepped up their military presence in the town due to the retreat of AMISOM and the government troops. The sudden invasion by the terrorist militia to increase their influence in Qansahdere was stopped short last night when the Ethiopian troops fired mortar shells at a distinct location alleged to house the Al-Shabaab officials.
- Al-Shabaab was assumed to have suffered immense fatalities by the abrupt military offensives although government officials in the Bay region are yet to confirm the precise numbers. The Somali Federal Government or Al-Shabaab high-ranking officials are yet to comment regarding the physical fighting last night in Bay.

Ugandan Army Accused of Training Al-shabaab Fighters

[April 22, 2014 Shabelle News \(Independent Domestic Media\)](#)

- Some rogue instructors in the Ugandan army have been accused of training a number of Al-Shabaab fighters using African Union Mission on Somalia (AMISOM) facilities in Somalia, a Ugandan newspaper has revealed.
- New Vision, a government owned newspaper says the army instructors trained 10 Al-Shabaab fighters using AMISOM facilities following instructions from their commanders.
- Two commanders, Major Frank Kawero and Captain Hassan Wantimba are being court martialed in Kampala.
- Lance Corporal Jackson Byabagambi, currently a witness in the case against the two accused officers, told the General Court Martial presided over by Brigadier Moses Ssentongo on Tuesday that the Al-Shabaab fighters were trained at the Aljazeera training ground.
- Byabagambi said the Al-Shabaab fighters were trained following instructions from Watimba.

AMISOM and Somali National Army convoy attacked by Al-Shabaab in Lower Shabelle

April 20, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- Another round of confrontations erupted last night near Wanlaweyn between the Somali National Army & African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) on one side, against the Al-Shabaab Islamist militants.
- The battle was provoked as the Al-Qaeda affiliated Al-Shabaab insurgents ambushed the convoy driven by the AMISOM and Army troops as they were passing by the road leading from Leego to Wanlaweyn.
- Although casualties and losses have been reported, the precise numbers are still unclear. Witnesses report that the wounded were rushed to hospitals immediately after the clashes halted.
- The latest violence between the terrorist insurgents and the AMISOM backed Somali National Army follows on from an increase in conflict that occurs in the Lower Shabelle region.

Al-Shabaab on the Verge of Elimination

April 15, 2014 Shabelle News (Independent Domestic Media)

- The Minister of Information for the Somali Federal Cabinet Mustaf Sheikh Ali Dhuhulow, participated in a special ceremony in London hosted by the Somali community residing in England. During the gathering, the Minister updated the audience on the development of Somalia's security as well as highlighting the positive progress it is going through.
- The Minister explained that Al-Shabaab are on their last legacy with the majority surrendering themselves to the government, and that the rest will be eliminated by the military offensives launched by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and Somali National Army.
- "The insurgents of Al-Shabaab that are staging stealth attacks in Mogadishu are a minority; with the greater part of the Islamist militants in the process of being eradicated." Mentioned Dhuhulow
- The speech by the Minister comes at a time when the Somali National Army backed by the AMISOM force are performing their military offensives to wipe out the Al-Qaeda affiliated Al-Shabaab terrorist cell.