

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Brett Collins, Country Desk Officer for Somalia



Headlines:

- Somalia's Ministry of Defense to Improve its Military
- Puntland State Forces Withdraw from Galgala Mountains
- Heavy Confrontations at the Outskirts of Kismayu
- NGO Staff Killed in Galkayo
- Simultaneous Blasts Rock Town in Hiran Region
- Civilians Killed at Somalia's Border Town with Kenya

Somalia's Ministry of Defense to Improve its Military

January 23, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- Somalia's Deputy Defense Minister Abdalla Hussein Ali who held a press conference in Mogadishu yesterday evening stated that the Government will improve the facilities it provides to its army in efforts to regain the total stability of the country.
- Mr. Abdalla also congratulated and complimented on all the Somali Government forces who are dutifully defending and fighting Alshabab troops in all parts of the country.
- "We have planned a strategy that will be offered in a framework to the Federal Government of Somalia," said the deputy prime minister.

- Somali Government forces often face challenges from Alshabab fighters who often launch guerrilla attacks on Government forces.

Puntland State Forces Withdraw from Galgala Mountains

January 26, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- Puntland army forces have withdrawn from the Galgala Mountains after they raided bases used by Al-Shabaab wing of the Northern parts of Somalia.
- The forces peacefully took over the bases used as training camps from the Alqaida affiliate in Puntland. The forces have now returned to Bosaso town the headquarter town of Bari region of Somalia.
- Puntland state security minister told the press that they killed 3 Al-Shabaab fighters and two of them sustained injuries however sources in the town told Shabelle radio that they have seen forces belonging to the Puntland forces who sustained injuries of different degrees during their arrival.

Heavy Confrontations at the Outskirts of Kismayo

January 26, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- News reports from Somalia's port city of Kismayu confirm that troops belonging to the Juba administration attacked a base belonging to Shabab fighters at a small town located at the outskirts of the city.
- The Shabaab fighters retaliated back but fled from the area after intense fighting from their opponents.
- Residents confirmed to Shabelle radio in Mogadishu that a state of emergency was imposed in the unstable city by the Juba administration during the fighting.

NGO Staff Killed in Galkayo

January 26, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- Armed men last night killed Abdi Mohamed Adan an official working non-Governmental organisation known NRO.
- The news has been confirmed to Shabelle by an eye witness and residents of Ga'alkayo town the capital of Mudug region.
- The NGO which provides education and humanitarian assistance has been working in the region for several years.
- Puntland state troops have started operations to hunt down the culprits behind the killing of the official.

Simultaneous Blasts Rock Beldweyne Town in Hiran Region

January 25, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- News reports from Beldeweyne town which is the capital town of Hiran region have confirmed to Shabelle radio that simultaneous attacks occurred in the western part of the town. Residents and Government officials who were contacted by Shabelle radio confirmed to us that the blast accidentally killed those who were orchestrating the landmine but did not establish the exact number of the people who were killed during the blast.
- AMISOM troops and Government troops immediately arrived at the scene and started an operation to hunt down the remaining suspects who were plotting the mission.
- Guerilla attacks on government troops in Beledweyne town which is in the hands of AMISOM troops from the Djibouti contingent and Somali Government troops are often carried out by Al-Shabaab fighters who control large parts of Hiran region.

Civilians Killed at Somali Border Town with Kenya

January 25, 2014 Shabelle News (Domestic Media)

- News reports from Beledhawo town in Gedo region which borders Kenya confirm that two civilians were killed on Friday evening by unknown men armed with AK 47 rifles.
- The news has been confirmed to Shabelle by residents and relatives of the two murdered young men in their early 20s.
- The Governor of the region told Shabelle radio that Al-Shabaab fighters were behind the incident who easily escaped from the scene.
- Such incidents often occur in Beledhaawo district and other districts in Gedo region which is mostly controlled by Government troops.