

Dafina Savic

Cote d' Ivoire: Domestic Broadcasting Report

April 4th -12^h 2011

Privately Owned Media

UN, French helicopters open fire in Abidjan

Source: AFP news agency, Paris, on April 4th 2011

- Helicopters belonging to the UN and French forces fired the military camps of Akouedo and Agban, held by forces loyal to outgoing President Laurent Gbagbo, in the economic capital in Abidjan, earlier today.
- UN spokesman, Hamadoun Toure, confirmed that UN mission helicopters had also attacked the presidential palace as well as Gbagbo's residence.

Gbagbo aide says UN, French strikes are assassination attempt

Text of report by French news agency AFP on April 4th 2011

- According to Toussaint Alain, one of Gbagbo's advisers, the attacks carried out by UNOCI and Unicorn forces against the presidential palace, the residence of Laurent Gbagbo and the military camps loyal to his name, are "illegal acts" and an "assassination attempt".
- Toussaint claimed that, "they are acts of war. The purpose of this action is the assassination of President Gbagbo."

Fighting stops in Cote d'Ivoire after Gbagbo supporters' cease-fire call

Text of report by French news agency AFP on April 5th 2011

- According to Hamadoun Toure, spokesman for the UN mission in Cote d'Ivoire, (UNOCI), "cessation of combat in Abidjan after a call for a cease-fire from the camp of outgoing President Laurent Gbagbo " has been witnessed, however, "sporadic fighting by groups of youths" continue to spread.
- Toure, is concerned that "very soon we shall be faced with a problem of keeping the peace".

Ivorian state television still off air 6 April

Source: Media observation by BBC Monitoring in English on April 6th 2011

- State-owned Ivorian television (RTI) has stopped broadcasting activities since the bombing by UN and French forces of military facilities associated with Laurent Gbagbo.

France not involved in arrest of Ivorian leader, ministers insist

Source: Radio France Internationale, Paris, in French 0730 gmt April 12th 2011

- Defence Minister Gerard Longuet insists that France was not involved in the arrest of former head of state Laurent Gbagbo in Abidjan on 11 April.

- Longuet affirms that “not a single French soldier or any UN soldiers entered the presidential residence where Gbagbo was arrested.”

Government owned Media

Cote d'Ivoire's Gbagbo may be negotiating surrender - Ouattara envoy

Source: Radio France Internationale, Paris, on April 5th 2011

- French ambassador appointed by Alassane Ouattara Ally Coulibaly, reports that after a battle between rival camps raged in Abidjan, President Laurent Gbagbo, was allegedly “in negotiations to give himself up”.

Pro-Ouattara troops commander asks defeated Gbagbo loyalists "to join us"

Text of report by UN Mission in Cote d'Ivoire radio ONUCI FM on April 6th 2011

- After considering that discussions for the surrender of former president, had failed, an attack was launched against the residence of Laurent Gbagbo by Ouattara's Republican Forces of Cote d'Ivoire (FRCI).
- The FRCI forces explained that they “ have resumed fighting because yesterday he [Gbagbo] promised to relinquish power when we were at his residence. [...] and decided to call our superiors to say he was signing a cease-fire, but in the evening he refused to leave power that is why we have resumed fighting.”

Programme summary of Radio France Internationale news 0730 gmt on April 9th 2011

- Water shortages and triple increase in prices of basic foodstuffs have been observed in the economic capital Abidjan in the past four days.

Programme summary of Ivorian ONUCI FM radio news 1800 gmt 10 Apr 11

- In an attempt to destroy Gbagbo forces' heavy weapons, two helicopters belong to the ONUCI continued air attacks around the Presidential Palace in Abidjan today.
- UN spokesman insists that “the raids are meant to neutralize heavy weapons used against civilians [and] were targeted solely against heavy weapons”.

Cote d'Ivoire's Gbagbo arrested with wife, mother, senior FPI party official

Text of report by French state-funded public broadcaster Radio France Internationale on April 11th 2011

- Alassane Ouattara's forces in cooperation with UN and French soldiers have arrested incumbent President Laurent Gbagbo, along with his wife, mother and other senior FPI officials this morning at 11 o'clock a.m. (local time).
- Gbagbo was seized and given to the custody of Alassane Ouattara , currently residing at the Golfe Hotel.

Reactions:

→Cote d'Ivoire: Residents of Abidjan neighbourhood of Abobo celebrate Gbagbo's arrest.

→Burkina Faso: Ouagadougou residents with kin in Cote d'Ivoire celebrate arrest of Gbagbo.

→ Senegal: President Wade urges Ivorian authorities to work to reconcile nation following arrest of Gbagbo.

→ USA: President Obama welcomes arrest of Gbagbo.

UN official confirms Cote d'Ivoire's Gbagbo moved to undisclosed location

Text of report by UN Mission in Cote d'Ivoire radio ONUCI FM on April 12th 2011

- Faran Ark, deputy spokesman of the United Nations. Announced that Laurent Gbagbo was transported outside Abidjan in a place kept secret and he is kept under the protection of the UN forces.
- The deputy made the following statement regarding the situation: “The ONUCI will continue to protect Laurent Gbagbo at his request. It is no longer at the Hotel du Golf but the ONUCI continues to keep him”.