

**DRC Domestic Broadcasting, 25 October, 2010 (14 October– 24 October, 2009)**

**by Marie Lamensch, MIGS Reporter for the DRC**

**Government owned media**

**(The New Times, government-owned Rwandan newspaper, Kigali, article dated 18 October, 2010, in English)**

**“Rwandan army officers term as "malicious and biased" UN DR Congo probe report”**

*Text of report by Sam Nkurunziza entitled "RDF officers rap UN mapping report"*

- Karongi- Rwanda defence officers who worked in the DRC have criticized the UN Mapping report. Col Goodman Ruzibiza, the Commander of the RDF 201 Brigade, told residents that the UN had been unable to stop the 1994 genocide until the RPF intervened. The RPF then went into the Congo to help Rwandan refugees. He described the report as “malicious and biased.” He believes the UN wants to cover up its own failures.
- Lt-Col Emmanuel Kayihura said the UN has no authority to criticize those who put an end to the genocide and is now only trying to justify its own mistakes. He believes the authors of the report are not happy with Rwanda’s rapid local of development.
- Residents have also criticized the report, describing it as misleading and confusing.

**(The New Times, government-owned Rwandan newspaper, Kigali, article dated 18 October, 2010, in English)**

**“Rwanda, DR Congo defence ministers hail excellent military ties”**

*Text of report by Doreen Umutesi entitled "Rwanda, DRC defense ministers meet"*

- The Minister of Defense, James Kabarebe, met DRC Defense Minister, Mwando Nsimba, in Kinshasa, where they discussed security issues of common interest to both countries.
- Both ministers agreed that the FDLR does not only pose a threat to Rwanda but to Congo as well.
- Both are also committed to make the Great Lakes region more secure. They hailed the “excellent relations” between the DRC and Rwanda.

**(The New Times, government-owned Rwandan newspaper, Kigali, article dated 22 October, 2010, in English)**

**“Belgian envoy to Rwanda says UN "ignored genuine facts" in DR Congo report”**

*Text of report by Edwin Musoni entitled: "UN mapping report wanting - Belgium"*

- The Belgian ambassador to Rwanda, Ivo Goemans, said that the UNions ignored genuine facts while compiling its mapping report on the DRC.
- Goemans added that Belgium asked the UN to come up with a genuine and neutral report

**Privately-owned media**

**(La Conscience, weekly independent newspaper, article dated 14 October 2010, in French)**

**« Nouvelle entrée massive des militaires rwandais au Nord-Kivu ? »**

- According to anonymous calls from villagers, Rwandan soldiers have apparently been entering the country at night, going through the Rubare and Lulimbi posts behind hiding in Virunga Park and Idi Amin Dada Lake. These groups are not part of any known joint missions.
- Other sources say they have witnessed secret night meetings in Bunagana (Rutshuru Territory). The soldiers are said to be planning attacks against non-Rwandan people.
- There has been renewed looting in Walikale where weapons have been stolen. The operation is said to be under the command of the brother of Uganda's president, Salim Saleh. The region is still heavily under the control of Rwanda and Uganda.
- This is an oil-rich region and several multinational companies have already shown interest in exploiting minerals and other primary resources. This would explain the militarization of the country as investors are trying to secure the environment.
- The Rwandan military is taking advantage to put forward its territorial agenda. This is a war within a war: multinational companies are targeting minerals and Rwanda is interested in territory and in securing its own interests in minerals. Congolese authorities have apparently been unable to convince multinationals about their capacity to secure the environment. It is speculated that Rwandans and Ugandans have been moving into the country in order to prove what they are capable of.
- If this proved to be true, it would mean that local populations are in grave danger since their lives are not considered as important as economic interests.

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 17 October, 2010, in French)**

**“DRCongo army troops said involved in crime in northeast”**

- Local administrative leaders of Irumu Territory have denounced the involvement of several soldiers of the Armed Forces of DRC in local armed robberies
- They appealed on the military to seriously look into the issue. They explained that such behaviors diminished the trust of Congolese civilians in those who supposed to protect them.
- There have been increased activities by various armed groups in the past month. This explains the presence of the Armed Forces of DRC as they are trying to restore law and order. Yet, often these same soldiers get involved in various crimes as their salaries remain low.

**(Radio France Internationale, French state-funded public broadcaster, 0330 gmt, dated 18 October, 2010, in French)**

**“Rwanda defence minister in DRCongo for talks on regional security”**

- The Rwandan defence minister, James Kabarebe, was on a 48-hour visit to Kinshasa: the aim of the visit is to assess the security situation in the Great Lakes region and the relationship between Rwanda and the DRC.

**(UN News, article dated 19 October, 2010, in English)**

**“Congo-Kinshasa: ICC Confirms War Crimes Case Against Former Leader”**

- The ICC confirmed the case against a former senior official of the DRC, Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, charged with war crimes allegedly committed in the Central African Republic, including rape, murder and pillaging.

**(Radio France Internationale, French state-funded public broadcaster, 0630 gmt, dated 19 October, 2010, in French)**

**“Rwandan, DR Congo defence ministers meet in Kinshasa over armed groups”**

- The Rwandan minister for defence, James Kabarebe, has ended a two-day official visit to Kinshasa where he met his Congolese counterpart, Charles Mwando Nsimba,
- The two ministers spoke discussed the presence of the FDLR in eastern Congo. The final communiqué shows that nothing concrete has been decided even though both ministers hailed the progress made in the fight against armed groups

**(L’Observateur, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 October, 2010, in French)**

*Through Radio Okapi*

**“Katana: retour au calme après accrochages entre militaires et civils”**

- Civilians and FARDC combatants on Katana fought during the night of Sunday, 18 October.
- One soldier died and several civilians are wounded. The police managed to bring back order.
- The fighting began when unidentified armed men in uniforms attacked the village of Kahungu. One person died during the attack, leading the population to bring the corpse to the local administration office. Authorities tried to disperse the population but during the debacle, a woman fell into the river and drowned. At the same time, a man who had been attacked by armed men the week before died as well. These two deaths exacerbated people’s anger as all these attacks were blamed on the FARDC.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 20 October, 2010, in French)**

**“Sécurité dans l’Est. La RDC et le Rwanda déterminés à traquer les FDLR” by Albert tshiambi**

- Peacekeeping and security in the Great Lakes regions was the main point of discussion between the Rwandan and Congolese Defense Ministers. Both countries emphasized their desire to fight the FDLR in order to stabilize the region.

- Charles Mwando Nsimba and James Kabarebe praised advances made in neutralizing and slowly eradicating several groups in the East. The Congolese Defense Minister urged the Rwandan government to act as shield against the FDL.

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 20 October, 2010, in French)**

- In Tchomia, east of Bunia town, authorities recovered three guns and ammunitions abandoned by a band of criminals. Most of these criminals are demobilized fighters who are unemployed and have joined civilian life.

**(The Daily Monitor, privately-owned Ugandan newspaper, Kampala, article dated 22 October, 2010, in English)**

**“Ugandan writer urges east African countries to embrace DR Congo”**

*Text of report by Daniel K. Kalinaki headlined "With DR Congo we must make love, not war"*

- The UN Mapping report on the DRC sparked off fear among officials in Uganda and Rwanda and both countries have rejected the report's content.
- The Congolese people, especially victims, deserve peace and justice. But who should determine and deliver it?
- They also need opportunity to secure their future; they need treatment, counseling and empowerment.
- Surrounding countries can guarantee regional peace and prosperity by expelling or containing armed groups that pose a threat to regional peace, and creating socio-economic opportunities for citizens.
- The DRC must be welcomed in the East African Community as it will help guarantee peace in the region and create a powerful trading bloc that will lead to Africa's prosperity.
- The author urges governments to hand over for trial any individuals with criminal allegations and calls for peace with the DRC.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 22 October, 2010, in French)**

**“Les FARDC et la MONUSCO poursuivent des patrouilles sur le fleuve Congo”**

- According Monusco's military spokesperson, the FARDC and Monusco have continued patrolling along the Congo River and Obangi River. The security situation is relatively stable in Western DRC. The objective is to ensure the protection of the civilians population in the district of Haut-Uélé.
- Several combatants have expressed their desire to surrender to the FARDC. This is seen as a sign of encouragement.
- The situation North has been tensed in the past week. Monusco is worried about the situation of IDPs in the areas of Irame, Katiri and Nyabiondo.
- In South Kivu, several former rebels (CNDP) have surrendered. The security situation has improved thanks to the deployment of Monusco peacekeepers, FRDC soldiers and members of the National Congolese authorities.