

Kenya Domestic Media, August 2nd (Covering July 26th - August 1st)

By Laura Kern, MIGS Reporter for Kenya

State-owned media

Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) website 31 July 10

- A new opinion poll by a hitherto unknown company called East Africa Dateline has indicated that the NO team is in the lead for the referendum. The survey, which was released Saturday July 31. The poll is inconsistent with previous polls conducted by various research companies that have consistently shown the YES team as leading by a steady margin.

KBC Radio, Nairobi, In English, 1000 GMT 26 July 10

- Ten people died last night in the Kibera Soweto Area of Nairobi and more than ten others are blind after drinking a local brew suspected to contain methanol. The woman who is suspected to have brewed the drink has been arrested. The government continues to urge people to stop drinking illegal brews because citizens with energy to build the nation are dying.

Privately owned media

NTV, Nairobi, in English 1800 GMT 30 July 10

- Three Kenyans have been arrested in connection with the bombings in Kampala Uganda that killed 76 people earlier in the month. The suspects were charged with terrorism and murder but will only be able to be tried in high court. The trial is scheduled to take place the 27th of August.

The Daily Nation Website, Nairobi, in English 30 July 10

- Hundreds of paramilitary GSU officers arrived in Nandi in the Rift Valley Province to enforce security for the August 4 referendum. Certain groups targeted by threatening hate leaflets have continued to leave Nandi as well as Trans Nzoia East District.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1000 GMT 29 July 10

- Five people were killed and several others injured in clashes over land in Ruai, southeast of Nairobi. The affected residents are all internally displaced and claim to have occupied the 400-acre piece of land for the last two years after being

resettled on it by the area MP. Their property was looted in the chaos. An eyewitness claimed that the unidentified attackers were youths armed with machetes and pistols.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 29 July 10

- Hundreds of security personnel were moved to the Kenya-Somalia boarder after intense fighting took place between the Al-Shabab and Hizb al-Islam militias in Dhoblai, Somalia. Authorities wanted to seal off the Liboi boarder ahead of an inflow of refugees escaping the fight.

The Daily Nation, Nairobi, in English 28 July 10

- President Kibaki strongly criticized Daniel arap Moi, his predecessor, yesterday for opposing the proposed constitution. Mr. Moi was in power for decades and continues to be politically active in the country including his current campaign against the policies of his successor.

The Daily Nation Website, Nairobi, in English 27 July 10

- Police in Nyeri seized 300 bullets stuffed in a bag full of cabbages. Witnesses stated that the man was arrested in a matatu in Karatina town [Kenya] from Isiolo. Unconfirmed reports also stated that an AK-47 was recovered. Security agencies have already been alerted on the proliferation of illegal firearms in the region.
- Police have been on the lookout more recently for weapons in northern Kenya where disarmament programs have not been put into place. Pastoralists were asked to give up their weapons without question during this disarmament period, but many villagers refused due to an entrenched gun culture in which the weapons are used to raid other communities for livestock.

The Daily Nation Website, Nairobi, in English 27 July 10

- Police issued guidelines on how YES and NO campaign rallies are to be conducted. Guidelines include notifying the police commissioner of the area three days before the rally is to take place. In addition to those who engage in hate speech, anyone who 'gate-crashes' their opponent's rally will be put on notice.

The Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 26 July 10

- On Sunday July 25th, villagers in Bungoma West District pelted stones at a campaign helicopter carrying Forestry and Wildlife Minister, Noah Wekesa

Saboti, MP Eugene Wamalwa, and former Kimilili MP Mukisa Kituyi to prevent it from landing. The MPs were headed to a YES rally for the constitution. After several attempts the pilot did land safely once another group overpowered the stone throwers on the ground. Three people were badly hurt but no details were given about the seriousness of their injuries. The group attacking the plane was made up of supporters of Foreign Affairs Minister Wetang'ula, the area MP.

- Both Wetang'ula and Wamalwa are potential and rivalling candidates for the presidency in 2010. It has not been clear whether Wetang'ula is in fact in the YES or NO camp.