

Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report
July 18 – 25, 2010
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July 25, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 25 July 2010)

- “Shelling comes following heavy fighting between the insurgents and the government forces supported by AU peacekeepers where heavy mortars were exchanged. The clashes between the two sides are still continuing in other districts including Boondhere District [near the presidential palace].”
- The move comes at a time when a Somali government minister recently accused AU peacekeepers of “targeting and shelling civilian populated areas but these allegations were denied by the spokesman of African troops in Somalia Barigye Ba-Hoku”.

(Source: Daily Monitor website, Kampala, in English 25 July 2010)

Text of report by Al-Mahdi Ssenkabirwa entitled "President says UPDF will attack al Shabaab" published by leading privately-owned Ugandan newspaper The Daily Monitor website on 25 July, subheadings as published

- President Yoweri Museveni emphasized that “Uganda has a right to attack the Al-Shabab terrorists in self-defense.”
- The president said that “by attacking and bombing civilians in Kampala, Al-Shabab had committed an act of aggression against Uganda.”
- "In the past, we were only guarding the three installations as per the AU Force mandate. These reactionary groups have now committed aggression against our country. We have a right of self-defence. We shall now go for them."
- "The UPDF will continue to punish these agents of foreign interests if they dare again to attack the positions of the AU forces, flying the flag of Africa," he said.

July 23, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 23 July 2010)

- The Minister of religious affairs of Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Abdikarim Ali, accused AU peacekeepers in Somalia of “shelling populated areas in Mogadishu”.
- He admitted that “insurgents have made progress over the recent fighting and added that the AU must not shell civilians”.

(Source: UN Integrated Regional Information Network, Nairobi, in English 23 July 2010)

Excerpt from report by Nairobi-based online news service of UN regional information network IRIN on 23 July

- “Several thousand people in northern Somalia have been displaced in recent weeks by clashes between Somaliland troops and a new rebel group, according to local and UN sources”
- The armed group is called Sool, Sanaag and Cayn (SSC) after the regions it hopes to "liberate" from the government of Somaliland, a northeastern region which unilaterally declared independence in 1991. No country formally recognizes Somaliland's statehood.

(Source: Daily Monitor website, Kampala, in English 23 July 2010)

Text of report by Risdal Kasasira and Solomon Muyita entitled "Generals set to unveil Somali war plan" by leading privately-owned Ugandan newspaper The Daily Monitor website on 23 July; newspaper subheadings

- Uganda was preparing to receive details of actions to be taken against the Somali Al-Shabab militants as agreed at a meeting of African military chiefs in Addis Ababa.
- Foreign Minister Sam Kuteesa told Daily Monitor that "I have not yet talked to our people who were at that meeting [which ended yesterday], including the chief of defence Forces [Gen Aronda Nyakairima]. But I am going to get a report from them tonight then you can talk to me in the morning".
- Top military officers from East Africa, the Horn of Africa region and beyond, were given three days in which to come up with a strategy against the Al-Qa'idah affiliated militants to be considered at the ongoing AU summit in Kampala.
- Yesterday, Somalia's minister of defense, Abubakar Abdi Usman, warned that the Al-Shabab are "receiving arms through sea ports and airports under their control in preparation for further attacks on countries in the East African region".
- "They recently announced that they would take the war to the families of the neighboring countries and they will if we don't unite and throw them out. This conflict should not be left to Uganda and Burundi to solve, we request international community to help us flush out the enemies of peace," he said.
- Mr Usman suspects Kismaayo, Hobyo and Baraawe to be entry points for the arms supplies

July 21, 2010

(Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 1230 GMT, 21 July 2010)

- [Presenter] "Puntland regional administration deported about 500 people who hail from southern regions of Somalia. The deportees will be in transit in Gaalkacyo for short time before they ferried back to home regions in southern and central Somalia".
- Puntland's Security Minister Yusuf Ahmad and other government officials justified the deportation as a move aimed at "improving security in the port town of Boosaaso."

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 21 July 2010)

- [Presenter] "A rift has reportedly erupted between the president of Galmudug regional administration and officials of Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a based in Gaalkacyo town, central Somalia. The president of Galmudug Muhammad Ahmad Alin has said that his administration is the sole controller of Galmudug regions and ruled out the recognition and the role of Ahlu Sunnah in Gaalkacyo town. He condemned Ahlu Sunnah officials in Gaalkacyo for carrying out military manoeuvres in the region and said Ahlu Sunnah must not violate the territorial administration of Galmudug."

July 20, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 20 July 2010)

- [Presenter] "The US government reportedly plans top attack strongholds of Al-Shabab Islamic Movement in Somalia. America has been focusing on the best

strategy to eliminate Al-Shabab following the deadly explosions in Kampala, in which about 80 people were killed and scores of others wounded.”

- “A Senior US official, who declined to be named has told the media in UK that his government is planning to crush Al-Shabab and pacify Somalia.”
- The official was quoted as saying that “the US doesn't want its operations to affect civilians, adding that they will only target Al-Shabab”.

July 19, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 19 July 2010)

- [Presenter] “Police commander of Banaadir Region, Ahmad Hasan Ma'alin, warned the government army against selling their arms to the businessmen in Mogadishu”
- Army commanders of Transitional Federal Government of Somalia have accused government soldiers of “selling their weapons to the businessmen in Mogadishu adding that any soldier that is found selling their gun will face serious charges.”

July 18, 2010

(Source: Radio Banaadir, Mogadishu, in Somali 1700 GMT, 18 July 2010)

- [Presenter] “The newly appointed Banaadir Regional administration held a meeting on security issues with part of Hawiye clan elders in Mogadishu. The meeting discussed ways of developing new strategies to tighten security in Banaadir Region's district” as reports confirm.
- Muhammad Hassan Haad, the head of section of Hawiye clan elders, stated that they “would play an active role in restoring peace in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu.”
- On the other hand, Banaadir Regional administration started” cleaning activities in some neighborhoods in several districts of Mogadishu.”