

Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report
June 21 – 27, 2010
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June 27, 2010

(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 27 June 2010)

- There is increased military activity in the town of Beled Weyne, Hiiraan Region and surrounding areas as Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] forces and those of the Al-Shabab Movement prepare for confrontation.
- TFG forces in Hiiraan Region are headed towards Beled Weyne which is currently under the control of the Al-Shabab Movement and have now arrived in the locality of Ceel Gaal
- Al-Shabab forces who are in control of Beled Weyne are seen engaging in heightened activity and the town is bracing itself for another round of fighting between these two sides.
- Reports indicate that government forces that are headed for Beled Weyne are armed with battle wagons and are led by former TFG officers in Hiiraan Region.
- The Commander of the TFG forces, Col Ahmad Hirsi Ugas, speaking on their operations said they intend to take full control of Hiiraan Region

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 27 June 2010)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia's [TFG] Minister of the Rehabilitation and the disabled who is currently visiting Yemen has expressed his disappointment with the government and said the TFG has not been able to attain its objectives.
- "Senior government officials should take their responsibility seriously. They need to observe the laid down laws and uphold the constitution," said Muhammad Ali Ibrahim. The minister of rehabilitation and the disabled reiterated the importance of the TFG military approach in regaining full control of the country.
- "I swear by God that the shots fired by armed opposition groups are heard inside the Somali presidency. Mogadishu can be captured [by the government] and the reason it hasn't happened yet is still unclear to me. The government today controls less than half of the capital and security in these areas cannot even be guaranteed," said the minister of rehabilitation.
- Mr Ibrahim has said that in addition to the conflict between senior TFG officials, another conflict has emerged among members of the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia [ARS] whom he said have been divided along smaller groups, clans and individuals that are after their own personal interest. The minister said he was quite concerned about the country's future if the situation carries on the way it is.
- "The ARS is not united today and you all know that. The alliance which has been a basis for the formation of the current government is disintegrating. It has become a tool that serves the interests of certain individuals. It has disintegrated into clans and small groups," said Mr Ibrahim.

June 26, 2010

(Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 1230 GMT, 26 June 2010)

- Somaliland security forces have arrested a journalist covering the presidential election.
- The security forces of Somaliland have arrested a local journalist identified as Xadiis Muhammad Xadiis, who is the editor of Baadiyenews.com website.
- He is being held at the Hargeysa Central Police.
- The motive of the arrest remains unclear, but his wife has told the media that armed men from the central intelligence service arrived at the couple's residence and took him away.

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali 26 June 2010)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] president, Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad, in his 50th independence day celebrations speech discussed the situation in the country and said many

parts of southern Somalia are now under the control of groups he referred to as "anarchists" whom he said are hell bent on creating chaos.

- "We are being fought by terrorists groups and the peaceful regional administrations such as Somaliland and Puntland should be aware that if they attain victory here, they will then head straight to your regions. We should all come up with a joint solution in curbing these groups," said President Shaykh Sharif.

June 25, 2010

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 25 June 2010)

- Impoverished families in Hargeysa, the capital of Somaliland, are said to be fleeing their homes, fearing violence might erupt in the city.
- Some residents of Hargeysa told [Radio] Shabeelle that some poor families had started leaving their homes for fear of chaos during the presidential elections expected to take place in the country tomorrow.
- A woman, a resident of Hargeysa, told Shabeelle that the move follows the war of words between the parties running for the country's presidency, which might lead to confrontations.
- She said the opposition parties were opposed to the return of President Dahir Riyale Kahin to office, and threatened to use force to oust him if he wins the elections. This statement has caused fear among the residents of Somaliland.

June 24, 2010

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 24 June 2010)

- Puntland security forces have shut down Radio Daljir in Gaalkacyo town, central Somalia. The troops carried a decree from the Puntland's Information Ministry which ordered the closure of the radio, however, the reason of the closure was not stated in the decree.
- The director of Radio Daljir, Abdifitah Umar Gedi, told Radio Gaalkacyo that Daljir is unaware of the reason why the radio was shut down.
- He mentioned that Puntland security forces came to the radio premises and ordered it to be shut down. Puntland regional administration has not yet commented on the closure of the radio.

June 23, 2010

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali 23 June 2010)

- Traditional elders from Mogadishu launched an attack on Hasan Dahir Aweys, the leader of Hisb al-Islam, whom they said has committed atrocities against the Somali public as a result of the curse, God is punishing him through rival groups that are more powerful who also believe he is an apostate.
- "Hasan Dahir is an elderly man and you would think he is at an age where he would start repenting for his crimes against the public but, as you can see today, he is facing a lot of problems which are a payback for the atrocities he has previously committed against the public," said the traditional elder
- "He still isn't facing his full share of the problems because he is responsible for the killings that are taking place in Mogadishu almost every day. He is a man that does practice the religion he is preaching and whose interest is to merely secure the seat of power," said Ahmad Diriye who added that Hasan Dahir has in the past rejected his advice.