

Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report
May 10 – 16, 2010
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May 15, 2010

(Source: Radio Simba website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 15 May 2010)

- "Hundreds of newly-trained fighters" of Somali hard-line militants Al-Shabab arrived in the Somali capital", the website of Radio Simba reported on 15 May.
- "The fighters, trained in Middle Shabeelle Region, southern Somalia, arrived in big trucks in Mogadishu this morning. Al-Shabab officials said the new fighters will join others in Mogadishu but declined to give further details."

May 14, 2010

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali, 14 May 2010)

- A member of the Federal Somali Parliament has asked Hisb al-Islam to withdraw their forces from the Hawo Abdi hospital in Lower Shabelle [southern Somalia] where their troops recently established base.
- Umar Burale, a member of the Federal Somali Parliament, spoke to Shabelle about Hisb al-Islam's recent raid on Hawo Abdi hospital located in the areas between Mogadishu and Afgooye.
- The MP said they are "disappointed by Hisb al-Islam's raid on the hospital" and called on armed groups fighting in Somalia to "avoid targeting areas that serve the vulnerable civilian population."
- "Whether Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a, Al-Shabab or Hisb al-Islam, we would like to call upon all armed groups in Somalia to be mindful of institutions such as those of health, education and mosques," said Burale.

May 12, 2010

(Source: Radio Banaadir, Mogadishu, in Somali 1700 GMT, 12 May 2010)

- "An AU peacekeeper has today killed three people and injured four others in Mogadishu's Makka Al-Mukaramma Road." (Direct excerpt)
- "The three civilians died on the spot after the AU peacekeeper opened fire at a minibus plying the main Mogadishu road," reports "Radio Banaadir.
- "Hardline Islamist groups Al-Shabab and Hisb al-Islam are opposed to the presence of the AU peacekeepers in Somalia, and have on several occasions targeted AU troops with explosives using unsuspected vehicles."

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 12 May 2010)

- "Reliable sources have confirmed to Shabeelle that 50 army and intelligence officers arrived in Mogadishu. The officers completed eight months of training in Sudan, which is one of the countries where Somali government forces are being trained."
- Sources told Shabeelle that "the officers arrived through Mogadishu Airport in a chartered plane which flew in from Sudan."
- "The officers are part of a group of officers and soldiers sent to Sudan for training in order for them to take part in an offensive which Somali government officials say is aimed at taking over the country as a whole."

May 11, 2010

(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali 11 May 2010)

- Ethiopia has said it has “received reliable intelligence that Islamist groups fighting in Somalia might be planning to carry out attacks in some of the government offices in Addis Ababa. Civilians have been barred from some roads in the Ethiopian capital.”
- According to Ethiopian media, additional security forces have been deployed at government ministries and embassies of western nations in Addis Ababa. There are concerns that these areas might be targeted with a vehicles loaded with explosives.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 11 May 2010)

- The Galmudug Administration and traditional elders in the Region angrily responded to Hisb al-Islam's announcement that their forces have moved into new areas in south of Mudug Region [central Somalia].
- Officials of the Galmudug Administration and traditional elders in the Region have said “this latest move by Hisb al-Islam amounts to provocation.”
- "We condemn the attacks being carried out by this so called Hisb al-Islam group. It is clear to us that this is an expansionist strategy. This is not the right place for such a tactic as these areas are peaceful. We would like to call upon our brothers to withdraw and pull back their forces," said one of the traditional elders that attended the meeting while talking to Allpuntland.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 10 May 2010)

- The management of Hawo Abdi Hospital in the outskirts of Mogadishu has requested senior Hisb al-Islam leaders to withdraw their forces that have established base in the hospital compound and release the employees jailed by their forces.
- Dr. Hawo Abdi also requested senior Hisb al-Islam forces to release employees of the hospital who are currently held in a prison in Afgooye [Lower Shabelle, southern Somalia] in order to enable the hospital, which has remained shut in the recent past, continue with its operations.
- Dr. Hawo Abdi's request to have Hisb al-Islam forces at the hospital withdrawn and release of the employees from jail comes at a time when the hospital has been shut down in the recent past.

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 10 May 2010)

- A member of the Federal Somali Parliament accused the United Nations Special envoy to Somalia, Ahmadou Ould Abdallah and the Djibouti government of being the source of the conflict among MPs.
- Mowlid Ma'ane Mahmud also accused the United Nations Special Envoy, Ahmadou Ould Abdallah and the Djibouti government of violating parliament laws.
- The MP alleged: “Djibouti government and Ahmadou Ould Abdallah illegally brought together the MPs in the former Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] led by Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmad and member of the Djibouti based Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia which was at the time led by Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad.”

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 10 May 2010)

- Somalia's ambassador in Nairobi, Kenya, confirmed that his government has sent the UN a letter of protest to “complain against foreign ships who dump toxic waste in Somali waters.”
- Speaking to Radio Shabelle, the ambassador representing the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in Kenya, Muhammad Ali, said that they have sent a protest letter to the UN environmental protection agency [presumably UNEP, which has its HQs in Nairobi] complaining about foreign ships that dump toxic waste, collect sea resources, as well as, those who cut trees to make charcoal.