

07 SOM 2 - 07-06-25 Mogadiscio

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<http://ww4report.com/node/4130>

Somalia: police fire on food riot

Submitted by Bill Weinberg on Tue, 06/26/2007 - 22:08.

Somali police fired on a crowd of people trying to storm a food warehouse in Mogadishu June 25, killing five civilians, witnesses reported. Hundreds of people had gathered at a police station that was serving as a food distribution center, said Halima Mudey, who was in the crowd. "People were waiting for the distribution of the food, but some of them tried to storm and steal the maize and cooking oil, then police opened fire and killed five people including my brother," Abdiqadir Mohamed Ilbir said as he wept. He said his brother was shot and killed by the police. Mudey also said five people were killed. (AP, June 25)

Bomb kills Somali cleaning women

Tuesday, 26 June 2007, 07:59 GMT 08:59 UK



Deadly attacks occur almost daily in Mogadishu

A huge roadside bomb has gone off in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, killing at least five people.

The bomb was hidden under a pile of rubbish in the main Bakara market and four of those killed were women cleaning the streets, witnesses say.

The bomb follows a fierce gun battle between heavily armed insurgents and police in the north-east of the city.

A BBC correspondent says residents feel that last week's dusk-to-dawn curfew has failed to curb the violence.

The BBC's Mohammed Olad Hassan in Mogadishu says that hundreds of police officers have sealed off the area after the market bomb.

"It was an ugly scene with blood everywhere. I could not count the dead, I just glanced at once and ran away for my life," businesswoman Hawa Jama told Reuters news agency.

Food aid deaths

The gun battle was sparked by an ambush on a police patrol in north-eastern Mogadishu - seen as an insurgent stronghold.

Our reporter says that most of the area's residents have fled.

This is the first time there have been face-to-face clashes since the curfew was imposed last week.



Bakara market is normally the busiest in the capital

There are no details yet of any casualties from the fighting, in which insurgents used rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns.

The insurgents are believed to be Islamist fighters and gunmen from the Hawiye clan - the largest in Mogadishu.

On Monday, at least three people were killed after security forces opened fire at a crowd demanding food aid in Mogadishu.

Hundreds of people tried to storm a police station where food was being handed out, they say.

"Police opened fire and killed five people," said Abdiqadir Mohamed Ilbir, as he wept for his brother, who was among the dead.

Meanwhile, the 1,600 Ugandan peacekeepers in Somalia have reportedly been paid.

They had been unhappy at a delay in their payments since they were deployed as the first contingent of a proposed 8,000-strong African Union force.

Somalia has been beset by violence since it last had a government in 1991.

Ethiopian and government troops ousted the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC), the Islamist group that controlled most of Somalia for six months last year, in December.

The government is planning a national reconciliation conference next month but Islamist leaders and a growing number of other Somali groups say they will not take part in any peace negotiations until the Ethiopians leave their country.

<http://64.233.183.104/search?q=cache:pRgKHyEsuNwJ:www.rttnews.com/sp/breakingnews.asp%3Fdate%3D06/25/2007%26item%3D77%26vid%3D0+Abdiqadir+Mohamed+Ilbir&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=11>

Shooting At Somali Food Aid Crush Kills Five

6/25/2007 2:45:55 PM Somali security forces fired at an unruly crowd demanding food aid in the capital, Mogadishu, killing at least five.

Hundreds of people were waiting for food packets that were to be distributed by a local organization at a police station. Witnesses said that the security forces opened fire when people tried to storm the police station.

The BBC reported the incident quoting an eyewitness, Abdiqadir Mohamed Ilbir, whose brother was also among the dead. "This is cold-blooded murder," was the reaction of another witness Halimo Abdullahi.

Aid agencies are unable to get enough food for the people of Somalia, the poverty stricken African country.

Al menos cuatro muertos en los combates más duros desde abril en Mogadiscio

10 de Agosto de 2007, 06:56am ET
MOGADISCIO, 10 Ago 2007 (AFP) -

Unos combates con armamento pesado entre insurgentes y las fuerzas somalíes y sus aliados etíopes en la noche del jueves al viernes, los más violentos en Mogadiscio desde abril, dejaron al menos cuatro muertos y ponen en entredicho una reunión de paz que comenzó en julio.

La rebelión en la capital somalí llevada a cabo por varios grupos, entre ellos milicias islamistas, no conocía un brote tan violento desde hace cuatro meses, cuando fallecieron cientos de personas.

Los combates en el sur de la capital somalí estallaron poco antes de la medianoche local (21H00 GMT) y sólo duraron una hora y media.

A mediodía del la situación seguía tranquila, según un periodista de la AFP.

Según varios testigos, los enfrentamientos más intensos tuvieron lugar junto al puesto de policía de Holwadag.

"Nos atacaron con metralletas y lanzacohetes, pero derrotamos" a los insurgentes, dijo Husein Mohamed Farah, agente de esa comisaría.

"No registramos víctimas entre nuestras fuerzas pero un civil murió en una casa próxima", añadió.

Además, los rebeldes también atacaron con obuses de mortero a las fuerzas gubernamentales desplegadas junto a una antigua fábrica de leche.

Según un oficial, que no quiso ser identificado, dos soldados murieron y otros dos resultaron heridos.

También hubo tiroteos en el barrio Ali Kamin, cerca del estadio rodeado por las tropas etíopes, según relataron algunos testigos.

El cadáver de un civil con un disparo en la cabeza fue encontrado el viernes en la zona. "Lo mataron por la noche, pero no sabemos quién", dijo a la AFP un vecino, Siyad Adan Fiyore.

Estos ataques tienen lugar cuando Mogadiscio celebra desde el 15 de julio una conferencia de "reconciliación nacional" para intentar poner fin a la guerra civil en la que está sumida el paupérrimo país del Cuerno de África desde hace 16 años.

Esta enésima conferencia de paz, convocada bajo la presión de la comunidad internacional, había sido suspendida el jueves por la tarde por un periodo de cinco días.

Las dudas sobre su utilidad no hacen sino crecer, pues fue boicoteada por el movimiento islamista, que es la principal fuerza de la oposición. En la conferencia hay delegados de los diferentes clanes, pero la violencia se debe principalmente al enfrentamiento entre el gobierno y los islamistas.

A finales de diciembre de 2006 los tribunales islámicos perdieron el control de la ciudad y del centro y el sur del territorio somalí que controlaban desde hacía meses.

Las fuerzas etíopes intervinieron oficialmente porque consideraban una amenaza para su territorio a los islamistas.

Desde entonces, la capital somalí es escenario de frecuentes ataques.

Además, este viernes, la policía somalí cerró por tercera vez en los últimos meses la radio Shabelle, una de las principales de Mogadiscio, y detuvo a siete trabajadores, según uno de sus periodistas. En anteriores ocasiones se les acusó de "incitar a la violencia".

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