



COMMISSION

CEASEFIRE VIOLATION REPORT

ALLEGED GOS AND JANJAWOOD/ARMED MILITIA ATTACK

ON

ABGAOU VILLAGE

ON

21 NOVEMBER 2004

AU RESTRICTED

AFRICAN UNION		AFRICAN MISSION IN SUDAN
الاتحاد الأفريقي		CEASEFIRE COMMISSION
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HQ/CFC/PIO/OPS/1/G

See Distribution

25 January 2005

**CFC CEASEFIRE VIOLATION REPORT NO. 121/04: ALLEGED GOS AND
JANJAWOOD/ ARMED MILITIA ATTACK ON ABGAOU VILLAGE ON 21
NOV 04**

References:

- A. SLA Complaint dated 22 Nov 04.
- B HQ/ SEC 1/OPS/G Report dated 23 Nov 04

INTRODUCTION

1. SLA lodged a complaint alleging that GoS and Janjaweed/ Armed Militia attacked the village of Abgaou on the 21 Nov 04.
2. Team A commenced with the investigation on the 24 Nov 04.

ASSESSMENT

- 3 The team established that SLA and GoS and/or Janjaweed/ Armed Militia fought outside the village of Abgaou on the 21 and 22 Nov 04.
4. Casualties sustained as a result of the fighting are as follows:

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- a. Civilians: 4 killed and 8 more wounded.
- b. GoS: 4 killed.
- c. SLA: 3 killed and 5 wounded

5. Many civilians fled the area of Abgaou as a result of the fighting.

CONCLUSION

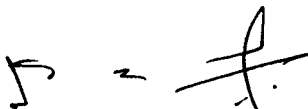
6. SLA and GoS and/or Janjaweed/ Armed Militia fought outside the village of Abgaou on the 21 and 22 Nov 04, killing 4 civilians, 4 GoS soldiers and 3 SLA soldiers. Injuries stood at 8 civilians and 5 SLA. Many people were displaced as a result of the fighting.

7. Determining who attacked whom in this case is difficult, as the positions/ locations of SLA and JEM have not been declared to the CFC. The continued violations of the Agreement by the parties cannot be prevented until their locations have been declared to the CFC.

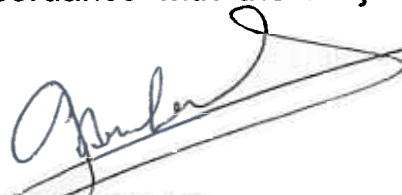
RECOMMENDATIONS

8. It is recommended that:

- a. Joint Commission should encourage SLA and JEM to declare the locations of their forces to the CFC in accordance with the N'djamena Agreement.



FO OKONKWO
Major General
Chairman

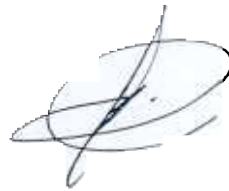


G BOUCHAUD
Brigadier General
Vice Chairman

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IBRAHIM EZ-ADEEN
Brigadier General
GOS Rep



MOHAMMED IBRAHIM
Colonel
GOS Rep

A DARY
Colonel
Chadian Rep



A MUSA
Colonel
Chadian Rep



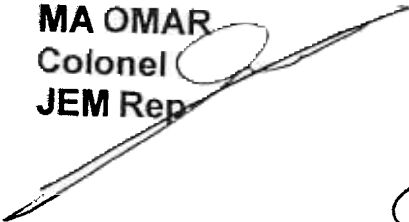
A ABDOU
Colonel
SLA Rep



ALI MUHTAR
Colonel
SLA Rep



MA OMAR
Colonel
JEM Rep



BAHARELDIN BECHIJI
Colonel
JEM Rep



G NIOUKY
Colonel
AU Rep

Enclosure:

(S/NO 108)

Dist - CFC members
12-1-05 £Team A - Sect 1
AMIS
Al-Fashir
SUDAN

25 Nov 04

HQ/SEC1/1/OPS/G

Sector Hqs

**INVESTIGATION REPORT INTO
SLA COMPLAINT IN ABGAOU VILLAGE.****References:**

- A. Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement of 8 April 2004.
- B. Security and Humanitarian Protocols signed on 9 Nov 2004.
- C. SLA written complaint dated 22 Nov 2004.
- D. HQ/SEC 1/OPO/ dated 23 Nov 2004.

INTRODUCTION

1. The SLA submitted a formal complaint which indicated that a ceasefire violation was occasioned on 21 Nov 04 in Abgaou villages (N: 14° 05' 20" E: 25°, 57', 29") which is north east of Al-Fashir. It is alleged that GOS and Janjaweed forces launched an attack against the village on 21 Nov 04. It is against this background that on 24 Nov 04 team A composed of nine Milobs was tasked to carry out an investigation into the complaint.

INVESTIGATION

2. At Abgaou village the team first met the SLA military spokesman Mohammed Hamed. He wondered why the team had not shown up earlier since the incidents took place on 21-22 Nov and the complaint was sent immediately to the CFC. He stated that much of the evidence had now gone. He said that they had to bury the victims in line with the Islamic traditions. He further expressed concern about the last days of frequent air recces carried out by GOS Antonov aircrafts whose roaring engines were also heard by the team during the interview.

3. The team then interviewed the local SLA commander, Abbas Issah Yuma who claimed to have witnessed the incident on 21 Nov 04. He stated that at approximately 1430 hours a group of vehicles were observed coming from the south towards the village. When a group of SLA soldiers went out to examine the arrivals they (SLA) were fired upon at approximately 1 km south east of the village. A heavy firefight then ensued which included the use of HMG's, RPG's and mortars. According to the local commander, the battle lasted until 1930 hours when the attackers withdrew. According to him the attacking force

consisted of approximately 600 GOS and Janjaweed soldiers using 8 Land cruisers, 1 truck, donkeys and camels. They were all dressed in military and Police uniforms. When the attacking force withdrew the SLA called for reinforcements which finally arrived at 0600 hours the following morning. Soon after the GOS and Janjaweed forces attacked again and a new battle was fought, but this time at approximately 2-3 km south of the village. It lasted until 2000 hours when the perpetrators withdrew. Three (03) SLA soldiers and 4 civilians died during the battle while 5 SLA and 8 civilians were wounded. Concerning GOS casualties, the commander stated that they had recovered 4 dead soldiers. Some ID cards were also allegedly found together with the bodies (see Annex A).

4. According to the SLA military spokesman Mohammed Hamed, Abgaou consists of 6-7 villages within an area of 3-4 kms. There are approximately 13 000 inhabitants in the area. SLA has been holding the area since February 2004. Janjaweed has however been looting the area from time to time. But this was actually the first time the area was attacked by GOS who has a camp in Koma (approximately 10 km south of Abgaou). He also stated that most of the population had fled to the bush due to the latest incident but the SLA was now encouraging them to return. He also informed the team that the population was in need of humanitarian assistance.

ASSESSMENT

5. Based on the conducted interviews, observations of Milobs and physical evidence on the ground it is clear to the team that fighting took place outside the village of Abgaou between SLA and an opposing force on 21-22 Nov 04. The team however could not be able to fully establish the identity or the number of the opposing force. Further, the team was not able to interview any civilian witnesses and there was relatively little physical evidence remaining on the ground. However there were indications of an SLA firefight with GOS or Janjaweed due to the size and nature of the battle.


CONCLUSION

6. The investigation team concluded that the SLA and an opposing force fought at Abgaou on 21-22 Nov 04. The team however could not be able to fully establish the identity or the numbers of the opposing force. However, there were indications of an SLA firefight with GOS and/or Janjaweed forces due to the size and nature of the battle.

RECOMMENDATION

7. The team has noticed that the cease fire agreement is not respected by all parties. There is a need for CFC/AMIS to proactively put pressure on all the parties to respect and uphold the stipulations of the N'djamena Ceasefire Agreement, Security and Humanitarian protocols which they have committed themselves by signing.

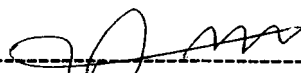
25/11/04
Date



Maj M Azzedine (Team leader) AU

25/11/04

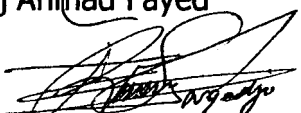
Date



Maj Ahmad Fayed AU

25/11/04

Date



Capt Boboma AU

25/11/2004



Maj Ngoajo AU

25/11/04

Date



Maj Per-Erik Widmark EU


25/11/04

Date



Lt Col Abdul Aziz SLA

25/11/2004



Col Mahadi GOS

Date



Maj Mahamad Bashar JEM

Date



Maj Ahmed Abakar CHAD

Nov 04

Annex:

A. Photocopies of ID-cards allegedly belonging to GOS/Janjaweed soldiers killed during the fight.

said that All parties not respected the Cease Fire Agreement
in Area of Abgaw. but the fact and According to Humanitarian
Cease Fire Agreement On 8 Apr 2004 and also to protocols in Abuja 9 Nov 2004
movement of one party to other area under ~~Not~~ Under Control of it
near Violation of Cease Fire Agreement

That area which this-report concern it under Control of SLA but Gos
Attacked it and team not mention Gos attacked the area of Abgaw only
said that battle took place.

I recommended that CFCLAMIS should provide copy from 8 Apr agreement
and two protocols of 9 Nov 2004 to each team of W investigations to
Based of investigation to Avoid Organy ~~issue~~

Thanks

A/A22 Yabya
SLA
A/A22 Yabya 25/Nov-2004