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Centre de Recherches et d'Études Géostratégiques

Center for Geostrategic Research and Studies

MEDIA MONITORING

« INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE »

From February 1st to 8, 2021

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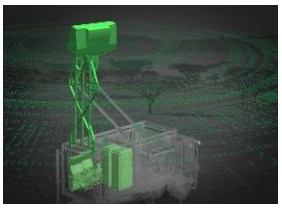
AFRICA

SOMALIA – 02/01/2021 : Nine killed in hotel attack in Somali capital : police : Nine people died after al Qaeda-linked Islamist insurgents stormed a hotel in the Somali capital Mogadishu, battling security forces until the early hours of Monday, a police spokesman said. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**



SOUTH AFRICA – 02/01/2021 : Hensoldt South Africa launches new radar business after Tellumat acquisition : Hensoldt South Africa has launched its new radar business following the acquisition of Tellumat business units last year.
(Defence Web-Article Link)

UGANDA – 02/01/2021 : Uganda on alert as group claims to cause unrest : he Ugandan government on Sunday said it will arrest any group that intends to cause chaos between Feb. 3-7. **(Xinhuanet-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 02/01/2021 : Fugitive ex-leader of Ethiopia's Tigray region vows 'extended resistance' : The former ruling party in Ethiopia's northern region of Tigray is committed to "extended resistance", according to an audio message purporting to be from its leader, who accused federal government forces and their allies of rape and looting. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 02/01/2021 : US Africa Command leaders visit DRC : US Africa Command's Deputy to the Commander for Civil-Military Engagement, Ambassador Andrew Young, and Director of Intelligence, Rear Admiral Heidi Berg, visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to demonstrate support for the Congolese commitment to enhancing military professionalism and welcome the countries' re-established security cooperation relationship, Africa Command said. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 02/01/2021 : More than 200 000 flee 'apocalyptic' conflict in Central African Republic : More than 200 000 people have fled fighting in the Central African Republic (CAR) since violence erupted over a December election result, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) said on Friday, with nearly half crossing into the Democratic Republic of Congo. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

SOUTH AFRICA – 02/01/2021 : Agriculture minister "concerned" about farm attacks : Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Minister Thoko Didiza added her voice to those speaking out against the lack of rural security especially concerning farm attacks.
(Defence Web-Article Link)

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NIGERIA – 02/01/2021 : Nigeria's new army commander visits troops in Borno state : The newly appointed chief of defence staff will have to prove he can handle the islamic insurgency that has killled over 36 000 people. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

SUDAN – 02/01/2021 : Rising tension as Ethiopia and Sudan deadlocked on border dispute : Bickering over contested farmland along the border has in recent weeks deteriorated into armed clashes.
(Al Jazeera-Article Link)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 02/01/2021 : Central African Republic suspect to fight war crimes allegations at ICC-lawyer : A former Central African Republic "Seleka" faction commander suspected of war crimes intends to contest allegations brought at the International Criminal Court, his lawyer said on Friday.
(Defence Web-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 02/01/2020 : The plight of Eritrean refugees in Tigray camps : They have survived gun battles, attempted abductions, attacks by angry militiamen and days-long treks to safety with nothing to eat but moringa leaves.
(Africa News-Article Link)

SUDAN – 02/01/2021 : UN independent experts call for 'justice, accountability and reparation to victims' in Sudan : Recent intercommunal violence and deadly attacks in Darfur have prompted two independent UN human rights experts on Monday to urge the Government of Sudan to urgently implement strong measures to ensure the safety of civilians, including the internally displaced. **(UN News-Article Link)**

ZIMBABWE – 02/01/2021 : UK slaps sanctions on four top Zimbabwe security officials : Minister for State Security Owen Ncube is among those hit with travel bans and asset freezes.
(Al Jazeera-Article Link)

MOZAMBIQUE – 02/01/2021 : EU must step up military assistance to Mozambique, says Portuguese presidency : The European Union must step up its military and security assistance for Mozambique as the southeast African country struggles to cope with a growing threat of jihadist insurgency, Portugal's foreign minister, Augusto Santos Silva, has told EURACTIV.
(Euractiv-Article Link)

BURKINA FASO – 02/02/2021 : Eight Killed in Gang Attack on Burkina Faso Gold Miners : Gold mining has in the past dozen years become a strategic activity in Burkina Faso.
(The Defense Post-Article Link)

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LIBYA – 02/02/2021 : Libyan delegates gather in Geneva to pick new PM amid rising tensions back home : Libyan Political Dialogue Forum's convention kicked off Monday in Geneva in the presence of the UN Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General Stephanie Williams. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 02/02/2021 : Africom forces conduct first engagements in Somalia since repositioning : US Africa Command forces completed the first engagement into Somalia since the repositioning of US forces under Joint Task Force – Quartz, on 30 January. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

NIGERIA – 02/02/2021 : 'I was crying': Kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirl phones home after seven years : Nearly seven years since Islamist militants kidnapped two of his daughters from their school in northeastern Nigeria, a hurried phone call let Ali Maiyanga know that his family's ordeal might soon be over. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

ALGERIA – 02/02/2021 : In Algerian mountains, army operation shows persistent militant threat : Algerian soldiers fired high-calibre rounds into a scrubby hillside of the Ain Defla mountains last week, part of an operation against the persistent threat of Islamist militants after they launched a fresh attack last month. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 02/02/2021 : Repression escalates in the DR Congo – HRW : President Felix Tshisekedi's administration in the Democratic Republic of Congo has increasingly cracked down on the media and activist groups during its two years in office, Human Rights Watch has said. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

LIBYA – 02/02/2021 : Closed highway and dangerous desert detour underline challenges to Libyan peace : Libyans watching a peace process nearing a critical phase this week in Switzerland need only try driving from one side of their country to the other to understand the obstacles to diplomacy. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 02/02/2021 : Al-Shabaab ambush kills 8 in Somalia : Terrorists target military personnel escorting vehicles carrying goods to capital Mogadishu. **(AA-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 02/02/2021 : Sudan minister warns Ethiopia against filling dam without deal : Irrigation minister said citizens living near Blue Nile downstream at risk as Addis Ababa plans to begin second filling of GERD. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

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NIGERIA – 02/02/2021 : Nigerians in Maiduguri without power for a week after jihadist attack : Locals in Nigeria's northeastern city of Maiduguri have been without power for a week after jihadists blew up supply lines from the national electricity grid. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 02/02/2021 : 3 al-Shabaab militants killed after mortar attack : Mortar attack in central Dhusamareb city aimed at targeting government delegation led by president, premier. **(AA-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 02/02/2021 : Tigray opposition parties assert 50,000-plus civilian deaths : A trio of opposition parties in Ethiopia's embattled Tigray region estimates that more than 50,000 civilians have been killed in the three-month conflict, and they urge the international community to intervene before a "humanitarian disaster of biblical proportion will become a gruesome reality". **(AP News-Article Link)**

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 02/02/2021 : Old rivalries and new fighting in CAR : Newly displaced people share their stories of hardship as CAR's years-long struggle for stability continues.
(Al Jazeera-Article Link)

AFRICA – 02/02/2021 : African radicals must realise the importance of pan-Africanism : The success of individual struggles in Africa depends on achieving continent-wide solidarity.
(Al Jazeera-Article Link)

ETHIOPIA – 02/02/2021 : UN says 20,000 refugees missing in Tigray : Two camps destroyed during fighting in November left thousands of mostly Eritrean refugees vulnerable, caught in conflict, says UN. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 02/02/2021 : Human rights: Widespread attacks in DR Congo may amount to crimes against humanity : The UN human rights office, OHCHR, has warned against potential crimes against humanity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) following a spike in attacks by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) armed group, in two provinces in the east of the country. **(UN News-Article Link)**

TANZANIA – 02/02/2021 : Police 'foil' strike by truck, bus drivers : Long haul transporters decry death of colleague allegedly tortured by law enforcers. **(AA-Article Link)**

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LIBYA – 02/02/2021 : Pro-Haftar militias clash in Libya's Sirte : Cause of the clashes remains unclear. Armed clashes broke out Tuesday between rival militias loyal to warlord Khalifa Haftar in the coastal city of Sirte, according to military sources. **(AA-Article Link)**

UGANDA – 02/03/2021 : Ugandan opposition say 3 000 of their supporters seized since November : Ugandan opposition leader Bobi Wine and his party said on Tuesday that around 3 000 of his supporters had been detained or abducted by state agents since November, when protests flared over his arrest during a presidential election campaign. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

TUNISIA – 02/03/2021 : Explosion kills 4 soldiers in western Tunisia : Audio : Landmine exploded as military patrol was passing by in Mghila region in western Tunisia. **(AA-Article Link)**

HORN OF AFRICA – 02/03/2021 : A month on, Atalanta commander reflects on new mandate : A command insight into Operation Atalanta, the EU naval tasking off the Horn of Africa, comes from Commodore Diogo Arroteia. **(Defence Web-Article Link)**

MALI – 02/03/2021 : At least 9 soldiers killed in latest central Mali attack : Six other troops wounded in ambush near the village of Boni in violence-plagued region of Mopti. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 02/03/2021 : Somalia leaders in emergency talks over election crisis : Mogadishu has convened an urgent 3-day meeting with federal state leaders in a bid to break an election deadlock and avoid a constitutional crisis. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

ETHIOPIA – 02/03/2021 : Ethiopia arrests 15 over UAE embassy attack plot : Reports : The country's intelligence and security service said suspects were working on direction of foreigners, local media report. **(Al Jazeera-Article Link)**

SOUTH AFRICA – 02/03/2021 : South African Cops in 'Armed Stand-Off' With Troops in Bid to Seize Cuban COVID-19 Drugs : South African medical regulators have not approved Heberon Interferon-Alpha-2 or similar drugs for use in coronavirus patients, and have so far only licensed one brand of vaccine against the deadly disease — with supplies yet to reach the country. **(Sputnik-Article Link)**

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ETHIOPIA – 02/03/2021 : Urgent steps needed to alleviate suffering in Ethiopia's Tigray region: Guterres : The United Nations Secretary-General, on Tuesday, voiced grave concerns over the crisis in Ethiopia's Tigray region and underscored the need for urgent efforts to protect populations at risk.
(UN News-Article Link)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 02/03/2021 : 'UN not collaborating with Russian forces in CAR' : UN peacekeeping mission in Central African Republic operates independently, says spokesman. **(AA-Article Link)**

UGANDA – 02/04/2021 : FROM THE FIELD : Ugandan forced to commit 'horrendous acts' as 9-year-old child soldier : A young man in northern Uganda has been talking about how he was abducted as a nine-year old and forced to commit horrendous acts as a child soldier for the self-styled rebel group the Lord's Resistance Army, or LRA. **(UN News-Article Link)**

ALGERIA – 02/04/2021 : Trial for murder of Frenchman Hervé Gourdel postponed to Feb 18. : The trial in the murder case of Frenchman Hervé Gourdel, has been postponed to February 18.
(Africa News-Article Link)

UGANDA – 02/04/2021 : Former Uganda LRA commander faces trial : The International Criminal Court (ICC) is set to deliver its verdict in the trial of Dominic Ongwen, a former child soldier turned rebel commander; he is accused on 70 counts of crimes against humanity and war crimes.
(Africa News-Article Link)

CAMEROON – 02/04/2021 : Cameroon Army Killed 9 Civilians in Anglophone West : HRW : The army denied killing any civilians at Mautu, saying it had carried out a "preventive" raid on "terrorist groups' positions".
(The Defense Post-Article Link)

ANGOLA – 02/05/2021 : Angola marks 60th anniversary of armed struggle amid protests : Angola marked the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle with official acts and demonstrations.
(Africa News-Article Link)

NIGERIA – 02/05/2021 : Nigeria Troops Overrun ISWAP Jihadist Camps in Northeast : On Wednesday, soldiers aided by fighter jets overran Dole camp, the last jihadist stronghold in the so-called "Timbuktu triangle". **(The Defense Post-Article Link)**

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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC – 02/05/2021 : The displaced find refuge in a school as violence escalates in CAR : Some 2,000 displaced people in the Central African Republic are seeking refuge at a school in the capital Bangui as violence rips through the country following the presidential elections. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

SUDAN – 02/05/2021 : Darfur survivors recount horror of recent ethnic clashes : A Violent Clash Between Two Ethnic Groups - Violence erupted on January 18 in the village of Twail Saadoun in South Darfur, Sudan when members of the Rizeigat Arab tribe attacked the Fallata in an inter-ethnic clash. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

LIBYA – 02/06/2021 : 'Historic milestone' but 'war on horizon,' say Libyans on interim govt : After UN-sponsored talks produced a new interim government in Libya on Friday that would hold elections in December, many have hailed the move as a massive step towards peace between the warring sides. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

CHAD – 02/06/2021 : Protests after Chad's President Deby nominated for sixth term : Chad's President Idriss Deby Itno has been in power for 30 years, he may now stay for even longer after Chad's ruling party on Saturday endorsed him for a sixth term in the April 11 election. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

SOMALIA – 02/07/2021 : Somalia vote under threat as leaders in deadlock : Somalia's deadline to pick a new president is on Monday but that's now unlikely after negotiations between the central government and federal states collapsed over the weekend. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

LIBYA – 02/07/2021 : Libya's new interim PM Dbeibah urges reconstruction of war-torn country : Libya's new interim Prime Minister, 61-year-old engineer Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, promised to be "ready to listen to and work with all Libyans" and called for the "reconstruction of the country" during his first televised address on Saturday. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

BENIN – 02/08/2021 : Benin probes gun attack on opposition presidential candidate : A Benin presidential candidate was wounded after shots were fired at his car soon after he filed his papers for the April presidential election, family members and the government said on Saturday. **(Africa News-Article Link)**

D.R. CONGO – 02/08/2021 : DR Congo Militia Kills at Least 12 in New Attack : The attack took place overnight Friday-Saturday after weeks of relative calm.
(The Defense Post-Article Link)

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