



Weekly Report

Central African Republic

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- 1** UN: “ample evidence” both sides have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity
- 2** HRW accuses AU peacekeepers of abuses
- 3** SMS service suspended in effort to curb protests in Bangui

UN: “ample evidence” both sides have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity

- A preliminary report released by the International Commission of Inquiry appointed by Ban Ki-moon, suggested that there is ample evidence that both sides of the conflict have committed “serious breaches of international humanitarian law and crimes against humanity as well as war crimes”.
- The report stated it was premature to characterize the conflict as an international armed conflict, genocide, or ethnic cleansing.
- Amnesty International was critical of the report in failing to recognize the mass exodus of Muslims, not as a direct result of the violence, but as a plan to forcibly expel the Muslim population.
- Source: BBC

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-27727465>

HRW accuses AU peacekeepers of abuses

- Based on interviews with witnesses, residents and local officials, HRW is making allegations that African Union peacekeepers from the Republic of Congo have participated in torture, killings and detentions.
- Citing a particular incident on March 24 in Boali, HRW said that a group of Congolese troops surrounded a house belonging to an anti-balaka general and captured 11 people.
- MISCA has agreed to investigate the incident.
- Sources: Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/02/us-centralafrica-violence-idUSKBN0ED1HA20140602>

“If the international community does not react with speed and determination by sending more peace keeping forces to CAR, we may soon face a situation which will rapidly deteriorate and bring about genocide and ethnic cleansing.”

- Preliminary Report, International Commission of Inquiry, UN

SMS service suspended in effort to curb protests in Bangui

- The telecommunications ministry suspended SMS (text messaging) services, on account of days of protest in Bangui.
- The service was suspended because it posed a security threat - calls for protest were being circulated via SMS over the last several days.
- Source: Al Jazeera

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/06/car-suspends-sms-amid-security-threats-201464115449708212.html>