



# Weekly Report

## Mali

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**MAY 16–22, 2014**

### ***Mali at war after Tuareg separatists abduct 30 civilians on Saturday***

- 1** Mali at war after Tuareg separatists abduct 30 civilians on Saturday
  - 2** Hostages released Monday
  - 3** Tuareg separatists claim control over Kidal on Wednesday
  - 4** President Keita calls for ceasefire
- Prime Minister Mara was visiting the northern city of Kidal when Tuareg separatists killed 8 soldiers and abducted 30 civil servants.
  - Prime Minister Mara criticised both the French and U.N. missions in Mali for permitting the attack, stating: “The very least we’d expected...was that they’d ensure the governor’s office wasn’t attacked.”
  - A Tuareg spokesperson claimed control over Kidal in a statement made Sunday.
  - Government estimates indicate that a total of 36 people were killed and 87 wounded.
  - Source: Reuters  
<http://in.reuters.com/article/2014/05/18/uk-mali-fighting-idINKBN0DY0CI20140518>

### ***Hostages released Monday***

- The 30 hostages abducted Saturday were released Monday.
- U.N. reports the hostages are in good condition.
- Source: Al Jazeera  
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/05/un-tuareg-rebels-release-hostages-mali-201451919153602176.html>

### ***Tuareg separatists claim control over Kidal on Wednesday***

- After Tuareg separatists, who belong to the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), captured the governor’s compound in Kidal on Saturday, renewed fighting broke out Wednesday with the MNLA claiming victory.
- The fighting began when the Malian army targeted the governor’s compound, firing rockets at the compound.
- The Malian army was forced to retreat.
- Source: BBC News  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-27511448>

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*“In light of this declaration of war, the Republic of Mali is henceforth at war.”*

– Prime Minister  
Moussa Mara

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### ***President Keita calls for ceasefire***

- After the increased fighting this week, President Keita called for a ceasefire Thursday.
- The United Nations Secretary General echoed the President’s plea for an end to the fighting.
- Source: Al Jazeera  
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/05/mali-leader-calls-ceasefire-with-tuaregs-20145226403360795.html>