

SITUATION REPORT - HORN OF AFRICA

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Situation in Ethiopia (per 2 October)

- Eritrean forces have shelled Rama in Tigray, located 7 km from the border with Eritrea, unconfirmed reports state.
- Eritrean forces are also reported to have taken the towns of Gursenay and Zalambessa. Tigrayan troops have raised the alarm levels in response.
- Movement of Eritrean troops has been reported in the Afar region of Ethiopia.
- Eritrea has started to transfer trained Fano troops and ammunition through eastern Sudan to West Gondar in the Amhara region in Ethiopia, sources state.
- This may be related to improved relations between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) commander Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and Eritrean President Isaias Afewerki.
- Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed recently stated in a training meeting of 2000 Prosperity Party members that he will annex Eritrea and control the Red Sea, and has finalised preparations to do so. Observers note that this may be rhetoric serving to distract from the war in Amhara.
- The Oromo special forces may be drawn more openly into the conflict in Amhara, observers fear. This could lead to the conflict between the Federal Government of Ethiopia and Fano escalating into an Oromo-Amhara conflict, with possible mass violence.

Situation in Tigray (per 2 October)

- The African Union high level panel of the peace process in Ethiopia has stopped being active on the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement, states Amanuel Aseffa, chief cabinet secretary of the Tigray Interim Administration.
- "Many terms remain unfulfilled as dialogue with the federal government did not commence", states Aseffa.
- Days of mourning are organised in Tigray as more lists of soldiers killed in the Tigray war have been made public. Symbolic burials are taking place, with many bodies still missing.
- The Tigray Interim Administration and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) issued a joint statement promising to tackle corruption in the region, enhance accountability and reform both the interim administration and the TPLF.

Situation in Sudan (per 2 October)

- Heavy fighting was reported from Khartoum over the weekend. Shelling in Khartoum on Saturday came within less than 200 metres from the Bashair training hospital, killing at least one person.
 - The United Arab Emirates is accused of supporting the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) from a covert operation using an airfield and a hospital in a remote town in Chad near the border with Sudan, states the New York Times.
 - Cargo planes from the UAE have been landing in Amdjarass in Chad on a near-daily basis, supplying weapons and treating injured fighters, according to current and former officials from the United States, Europe and several African countries.
 - The operation is disguised as an aid operation.
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- From Amdjarass, the weapons are transported overland for 150 miles to Zurug in Sudan, which is the main RSF base.
- The movement of UAE planes began in June after President of Chad Mahamat Idriss Déby met with Emirati leader, Sheikh Mohammed. Mohammed gave Chad a USD 1.5 billion loan and military vehicles.
- Relatives have been receiving ransom demands for abductees in Sudan from the RSF; kidnappers are demanding large sums of money.

Regional Situation (per 2 October)

- A suicide attack on a tea shop in Somalia's capital Mogadishu killed at least seven people on Friday. The attack was claimed by al-Shabaab.
- Five people were killed in a car bomb attack in central Somalia on Thursday.

International Situation (per 2 October)

- An Eritrean man was killed in Netanya, Israel, on Saturday. Eight others were injured, including one in serious condition.
- It is reported that the attackers were supporters of the Eritrean regime, while those they attacked (including the person who was killed) were opponents of the regime.
- Israeli police arrested ten people who were armed with clubs and stones in preparation to attack more opponents of the government.
- Another Eritrean was killed in Tel Aviv last week, and two Eritreans were hospitalised on Friday in separate but similar incidents.
- A video from Denver, US, appeared to show a supporter of the Eritrean regime drawing a gun on protesters demonstrating against an Eritrean festival. Pictures appear to show others affiliated with the festival carrying guns.
- Sources state that young Eritrean regime supporters are invited to travel to Eritrea for 3-6 months for military training.
- The former German ambassador to Eritrea, Gerald Wolf, was declared "persona non grata" by Eritrea in June 2022, the Foreign Office confirmed this weekend. The post has since been empty.
- Russian President Putin met with Salva Kiir, South Sudan's President, on Thursday in Moscow. They discussed cooperation on oil, energy and trade.
- The United States, Britain, Norway and Germany are planning to submit a motion to the UN Human Rights Council to set up an investigation into atrocities committed in Sudan.
- The US imposed further sanctions on Islamists and former regime officials in relation to their role in undermining Sudan's democratic transition. This includes sanctions against Ali Karti, Secretary General of the Sudanese Islamic Movement.
- SAF commander al-Burhan denied allegations that he met with Ali Karti recently.
- US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke over the phone with Ethiopian PM Abiy Ahmed about the situations in the Amhara and Oromia regions.

Links of interest

[Tigray accuses AU of walking away from Ethiopia peace deal implementation](#)

[News: Tigray Interim Admin. TPLF vow to investigate corruption, bring comprehensive reform and ensure release of detained Tigrayans](#)

[Talking Peace in Sudan, the U.A.E. Secretly Fuels the Fight](#)

[Suicide attack on tea shop in Somalia capital kills at least seven](#)

[Eritrean man stabbed to death in Netanya, in latest brawl between migrants](#)

[Eritrean migrant stabbed to death, at least 10 wounded in brawls throughout Israel](#)

[Eritrea hat im Jahr 2022 den deutschen Botschafter rausgeworfen](#)

[New allies for Russia? Putin meets South Sudan's leader to discuss closer ties](#)

[Secretary Blinken's Call with Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy](#)

[Designating Actors Undermining the Peace, Security, and Stability of Sudan](#)

[Sudanese army chief denies meeting with Islamist leaders](#)

[US-led Western group to ask UN body to investigate Sudan atrocities](#)

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