



(L'ONU a annoncé qu'une "zone de sécurité" serait établie mardi sur un périmètre de 20 kilomètres autour de Kidal afin de protéger les civils des violences qui ont éclaté entre un groupe armé progouvernemental et la rébellion à dominante touareg.)

BURUNDI :

**Burundi: «ce sont des assassinats ciblés mais surtout très symboliques»**

Par Florence Morice/rfi.fr/lundi 17 août 2015

Les assassinats à deux semaines d'intervalle de deux figures de l'histoire de la guerre civile burundaise, l'un Tutsi l'autre Hutu font craindre une escalade de la violence, et une résurgence des tensions ethniques dans le pays. Cette crainte est-elle justifiée ? Assiste-t-on véritablement à un retour en arrière ? L'héritage des accords de paix d'Arusha signés en 2000 est-il menacé ? Pour en parler, Florence Morice reçoit Christian Thibon, professeur d'histoire contemporaine à l'Université de Pau, spécialiste de l'Afrique des Grands Lacs.

« S'attaquer à des militaires hauts placés représentant les différentes composantes, c'est remettre en cause cet équilibre... »

RWANDA :

**Why does Europe hound Rwanda?**

By JONATHAN FOREMAN/politico.eu/8/18/15

A self-reliant, tough, no-nonsense country is hard to patronize, perhaps.

Travelers queuing at London's Heathrow airport two months ago witnessed something peculiar: the very public arrest of Rwanda's intelligence chief, Lt. Gen. Karenzi Karake, as he was leaving the country. It is extremely rare for government officials of such high rank to be taken into custody while traveling abroad, especially in the U.K..

Ministers from the most reviled rogue regimes routinely travel through London and other European capitals. What made this detention particularly bizarre is that Rwanda is a close

British ally. Karake is a frequent visitor to the U.K. who had come to London specifically to meet with his counterparts in British Intelligence.

It was the Metropolitan Police that took him into custody. They did so on the basis of a European Arrest Warrant. That in itself was odd, as European Arrest Warrants are controversial in the U.K., where European standards of criminal justice are regarded as lower than those in Britain. Their execution is relatively rare. During the many times that Karake had visited London since the warrant was issued in 2008, there had never been any indication that U.K. authorities were inclined to take it seriously.

Rwanda under Kagame, probably the greatest development success story of Africa, has become a particular object of suspicion and dislike

Quite apart from the substance of the warrant, Rwanda and the U.K. have very close relations — Rwanda is a major recipient of British foreign aid, and its capital Kigali has been a regular destination for British prime ministers and cabinet members for more than a decade.

President Paul Kagame's Rwanda is probably the greatest development success story of modern Africa, widely praised for its good roads, rapid economic growth, high literacy and minimal corruption. To U.K. politicians, and especially Prime Minister David Cameron, it has provided comforting evidence for the claim that the huge sums the U.K. spends on development aid can make a difference to African poverty.

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The charge against Karake is a serious one: war crimes. The general is one of 40 Rwandan officials indicted in 2008 by Fernando Andreu Merelles, a Spanish judge, causing considerable controversy at the time. The indicted Rwandans were not former members of the infamous Hutu Power regime or its Interahamwe militia that carried out the horrific 1994 genocide in that country. On the contrary, they were Tutsis, members of the ethnic group who were the victims of six weeks of slaughter that took almost a million lives. All were members of the predominantly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), the rebel force that overthrew the genocidaire regime and formed the subsequent government.

Andreu's mass indictment had nothing to do with the genocide itself. It related to the revenge massacres of Hutus allegedly carried out by the Tutsi RPF during the war to overthrow the genocidaire regime, and cited later war crimes said to have been carried out by the Rwandan army when it sent troops into Congo to attack former Hutu regime elements based there.

Much of the information on which Andreu's indictment relies came from left-leaning "humanitarian" NGOs with links to the FDLR, a Hutu organization founded by former genocidaires whose militia is based in Congo and has been labeled a terrorist organization by the U.S. government.

The organization is said to have had discreet support from France, which was a key ally and defender of the Hutu Power regime even after the genocide (Paris actually sent troops to set up a sanctuary for the Hutu fighters who were the agents of that genocide — the notorious Operation Turquoise).

A contemporary U.S. diplomatic cable published by Wikileaks quoted the U.S. ambassador to Rwanda saying the indictment was “outrageous and inaccurate,” and politically motivated.

The similar arrest in Germany in 2008 of a Rwandan official named Rose Kabuye — who was subsequently transferred to France for trial — resulted in embarrassment after a court held that there were no charges to answer.

None of this is to say that Kareke is innocent of all charges, still less that he is a good man, just that there is something fishy about his indictment.

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The fact that British police arrested Karake out of the blue baffled observers and enraged Rwanda. Some have even wondered if his arrest has to do with rivalry between the MI5 and MI6 intelligence agencies: Karake was in London to meet the latter but his arrest is likely to have been overseen by the former.

All too likely it has much to do with the way Rwanda under Kagame has become a particular object of suspicion and dislike for that part of the British establishment that takes its opinions from the Guardian.

Rwanda’s recovery after the horrors of the mid-1990s has been astonishing.

The Rwandan government’s undoubted restrictions on press freedom and authoritarian approach to political dissidence get considerably more attention than countries with much nastier, brutal kleptocratic dictatorships: Kagame’s push to change the Rwandan constitution to secure a third term in office has prompted rather more condemnation than similar efforts in Venezuela, Turkey, and Cuba; Rwanda’s intelligence agency is blamed for all kinds of dark and improbable achievements, in the manner of the CIA and Mossad; and the country gets far more than its fair share of blame for the chaos in neighboring Congo, violence that has resulted in at least a million deaths over the last decade.

So why do many activists, humanitarian NGOs and left-wing groups hate Paul Kagame and pay him so much more attention than, say, Equatorial Guinea’s monstrous kleptocrat Teodoro Obiang, Burkina Faso’s Blaise Compaoré or Cameroon’s Paul Biya?

As Central Africa researcher and writer Andrew Wallis puts it, “Paul Kagame is a love-hate figure — for many in the West there seems to be no way they can hold a neutral line on him or Rwanda. He’s the African leader of the moment, and he’s become an international figure of note.”

By most accounts Rwanda’s recovery after the horrors of the mid-1990s has been astonishing. As the New York Times’ Jeffrey Gettleman has written: Under Kagame, this small country “has made enormous strides fighting poverty, corruption and AIDS. The streets are safe. The street lights even work. It all adds up to a small miracle, especially remarkable because of Rwanda’s recent genocide, its overpopulation and its notable lack of resources.”

Gettleman characterized Rwanda as a “tough, suspicious, post-genocide Israel-like [country] whose national ethos, simply stated, was Never Again.”

These are not qualities that necessarily touch the hearts of people in the NGO world. You often hear people imply that the Rwandans ought by now to have abandoned their hostility to the international community, given that it's been two decades since the genocide. To them, fact that Kagame and his regime have been so effective at re-building and maintaining ethnic peace all but implies that the bloodletting of the mid-1990s can't really have been that bad.

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It is possible that if Rwanda were a failed or failing state like many other African autocracies and semi-democracies, rather than a thriving, remarkably efficient one, it might receive less hostile press, subject only to the limited scrutiny accorded countries like Guinea and Cameroon.

It may not have helped that while Kagame has welcomed and made good use of foreign aid, he persistently denounces Western paternalism and African dependency. His stated desire to make Rwanda into the Singapore of Africa and his admiration for the late Lee Kwan Yew's benign dictatorship were never likely to make him popular with Western liberals.

But the turning point seems to have been Goma.

Goma, in what was then Zaire, was the center of a vast international humanitarian operation established to house and feed the Hutu Interahamwe militias and their families who fled Rwanda after the genocide-government was overthrown by the Tutsi RPF. The giant, chaotic refugee camps set up by hundreds of competing aid agencies quickly became a base for more murderous attacks. Neither the Mobutu government in Kinshasa nor the international community did anything to stop the raids. After two years, Kagame sent his army across the border, together with a force from Uganda, and stormed the camps. Ever since, Kagame's regime has been an object of increasing loathing for Western liberals and much of the NGO world.

The French hand in Rwanda's persecution

Goma was bad enough. But once Rwanda joined the various African nations routinely intervening in and ruthlessly exploiting the chaos in Congo, it started to be portrayed as a uniquely malign player.

Five days after his arrest Karake was released on £1 million bail, thanks to the efforts of his lawyers — who include Cherie Booth, wife of former Prime Minister Tony Blair — but forbidden to leave the U.K. He was told he would be tried in September. Before any action could be taken by the Justice Ministry, the Westminster Magistrates Court dismissed his case.

According to press reports, the offenses specified in the warrant are not extraditable under U.K. law: In Spain you can be tried for war crimes committed abroad; in the U.K. you may not. And for a European Arrest Warrant to lead to extradition, the offense has to be triable in both the country where the indictment was made and the country of arrest. This should have been obvious right from the start. One murky and mysterious action by U.K. authorities has been followed by another.

You could be forgiven for thinking that something about Rwanda and its travails brings out the secretive, dishonest, hypocritical worst in European governments and officialdom, and not only in Paris, Brussels and Madrid.

Jonathan Foreman, the author of “Aiding And Abetting: Foreign Aid Failures And The 0.7% Deception” (Civitas, 2013), is a commentator in London.

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

### Ugandan troops in S/Sudan given pullout deadline

Posted by: APA/en.starafrika.com/date : August 17, 2015

Ugandan interventionist forces present in neighbouring South Sudan have been given a 90-day deadline to withdraw from the strife-torn country. The ultimatum is contained in a conclusive deal reached in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa on Monday drawn up by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) for the warring sides in South Sudan where a civil war has been raging in the aftermath of a failed coup in December 2013.

The Uganda People’s Defence Forces (UPDF) had intervened in the conflict on the side of the South Sudanese government led by President Salva Kiir against rebels under former vice-president Riek Machar.

In February Kampala and Juba renewed an agreement for the continued presence of Uganda’s over 3000 troops in South Sudan, a move vehemently opposed by rebels out to oust Mr. Kiir.

Several months ago opposition members of the Ugandan parliament had demanded their immediate withdrawal from the world’s newest country, arguing that their presence there was not sustainable in budgetary terms.

The head of the UPDF had rejected such a demand as unreasonable.

The South Sudan peace deal in Ethiopia guarantees that the rebels will control the oil rich Upper Nile State and will hold the position of Vice President with executive powers and an army under their command.

Despite pressure from an IGAD imposed August 17 deadline, President Kiir had refrained from signing up to the latest agreement, saying his government needed at least 15 days to review the terms of the accord.

Machar on the other hand signed up to the deal after four hours of closed door negotiations, which saw Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and his Sudanese counterpart Omar-El-Bashir storm out of the meeting in Addis Ababa.

Machar expressed disappointment about Kiir’s reluctance to sign the agreement which is drafted by IGAD to bring a definitive end to 19 months of violent conflict in South Sudan which left tens of thousands of civilians dead and over one million more displaced in and out of the country.

Signature : APA

## Mr President, your sugar deal with Uganda is sour

BY Patrick Opondi and Faith Onuonga/standardmedia.co.ke/Tuesday, August 18th 2015

President Uhuru Kenyatta, as a farmer, I feel obliged to write to you regarding allegations that you betrayed us, by signing an agreement with Uganda, to flood our market with their sugar.

Whereas this may sound sweet to the likes of Majority Leader Aden Duale, a pastoralist who doesn't understand the science of farming, please take note that sugar cane farmers like me have been hit below the belt. The political heat generated by your visit will eventually taste sour for your administration.

Initially, we thought you and your administration meant well, when you bailed out Sony Sugar and Mumias. Farmers had started warming up to you politically, for they thought you were for them. How do we explain your gesture of attempting to bail them out while allowing sugar from elsewhere to flood our market, in the name of filling a deficit? Which deficit? A deficit only exist in the eyes of hawks, who want to make a quick killing by dumping sugar in our market while suffocating a poor farmer like me.

Mr President, you have stabbed sugar cane farmers in the back. Since when did we last queue in the supermarket looking for sugar? Visit any store in town and you will see our local sugar stacked in the shelf, waiting for buyers.

Where I come from, you are likely to see canes rotting in the farm because millers cannot take more from the farmers. Why? They say the market is flooded with cheap sugar.

It is therefore, the responsibility of your Government to ensure that as you to attempt to appease the taste of consumers, you also protect farmers, who are also your subjects. It must not all be about pleasing Uganda at the expense of your people.

Uganda can export electricity to Kenya at lower rates so that our sugar factories can crush optimally and cheaper. This will lower the cost of sugar from our millers, a benefit which will directly be passed to consumers.

I hear people say competition is healthy and bringing cheap sugar here is healthy. Why is our sugar expensive? The cost of doing business in Kenya is not cheap. From fertilisers to fuel and tax, farmers and business people are the most exploited lot by their own government.

Our roads are in deplorable state, greatly affecting transportation of farm produce. And because of the high cost of machinery maintenance, this cost is indirectly shared by consumers.

These are symptoms of an ailing economy which needs to be fixed by your Government, rather than addressing the gaps through damping of goods from other markets.

The decision by MPs and leaders from Western Kenya to snub Uhuru for talks on sugar importation from Uganda was wrong and ill-advised.

The move threatens to jeopardise Kenya's relationships with Uganda which is key trading partner.

The Opposition, at this juncture, should be seen fighting for better packages for crop farmers, affordable sugar to all buyers and improved infrastructure in the sugar belts.

Under the free markets, all the 47 countries should be accorded green light to sell or buy sugar from anywhere in the world provided it is affordable and of the highest quality.

Meanwhile, I concur with the tenet that let's buy from Kenya and build Kenya. However, we should have more to make choices from.

Findings show that sugar sub-sector is run at a loss. Neither farmers nor the Government is benefiting, forcing the prices for local produce to shoot up.

SOUTH AFRICA :

**Pistorius Prosecutors File Appeal at S. Africa Supreme Court**

Associated Press/August 17, 2015

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA—

Prosecutors pushing for a murder conviction against Oscar Pistorius filed papers at South Africa's Supreme Court of Appeal on Monday, four days before the Olympic runner is expected to be released from prison and moved to house arrest.

Court registrar Paul Myburgh confirmed the prosecution's papers had been filed. Lawyers for the double-amputee runner have until Sept. 17 to file their response ahead of a hearing in November.

Prosecutors want a panel of judges at the Supreme Court to overrule a decision by another judge to acquit Pistorius of murder for killing girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp in 2013. Pistorius was instead found guilty of culpable homicide, or manslaughter, for shooting Steenkamp through a toilet cubicle door in his home.

He was sentenced to five years in jail, but is expected to be released from the Kgosi Mampuru II prison in the South African capital Pretoria on Friday after serving 10 months of that culpable homicide sentence.

Because of his good behavior, the 28-year-old Pistorius can be released on probation to serve the remainder under house arrest.

Prosecutors announced their intention to appeal Judge Thokozile Masipa's decision shortly after Pistorius' months-long trial last year. They said Masipa made an error in interpreting the law when she cleared Pistorius of murder and found him guilty instead of an unintentional but still unlawful killing.

Quoting a section of South African law known as "dolus eventualis," prosecutors argue in their appeal papers that the former track star should be convicted of murder because he shot through the toilet door in the pre-dawn hours of Valentine's Day two years ago, knowing that whoever was behind the door would likely be killed without just cause.

It's possible to be convicted of murder in South Africa if it's shown that the person foresaw the possibility of someone's death because of their actions and went ahead anyway.

Pistorius testified that he shot Steenkamp after mistaking her for a dangerous intruder hiding in his

bathroom.

If his conviction is upgraded from manslaughter to murder, he would be sentenced to at least 15 years in prison, the minimum sentence for a murder conviction in South Africa, which doesn't have the death penalty.

The prosecution's appeal will be heard by a panel of either three or five judges at the Supreme Court in the central city of Bloemfontein. They could convict Pistorius of murder with a simple 2-1 or 3-2 majority.

TANZANIA :

**Elephant poaching in Tanzania: Is the government playing the role of a playboy?**

[eturbonews.com/18/08/2015](http://eturbonews.com/18/08/2015)

TANZANIA (eTN) - The recent seizure of elephant tusks at Zurich Airport in Switzerland whose origin was Tanzania, raised a concern with several media houses in Tanzania questioning the authenticity of the outgoing government over its seriousness on conservation and protection of wildlife for tourism gains and heritage for future generations.

The seizure of 262 kilograms of ivory worth US\$413,000 was smuggled out through Dar es Salaam airport last month, indicating that little effort is carried out to protect the African jumbos in Tanzania.

Wildlife conservationists are bitter over the widespread elephant killing, citing the past 10 years as the worst, during which time 99,000 elephants were gunned down by poachers.

This number of elephant killings has made Tanzania be known as "Africa's elephant slaughter house," and has been attributed to rampant corruption in government authorities and poverty among local communities where elephants roam.

Through a message issued by the Tanzania Country Office to the government of Tanzania, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), also known as the World Wildlife Fund in the US and Canada, the global wildlife watchdog, warned over the looming threat to elephants in this African country.

The WWF Tanzania Country Office message that was issued last weekend with a message "Conserve and protect the elephant from the numerous threats it faces," the global wildlife and nature protection and conservation body said the world is presently witnessing brutality and annihilation of the African elephant at a shocking rate in all of human history.

The WWF further said in its message to the Tanzanian government that poaching, habitat loss, and other cruelty are alarming.

"Tanzania being a treasure of elephants in Africa has recently revealed its catastrophe. The recent elephant census conducted in the main elephant ecosystems for seven months consecutively from May to November 2014, indicates a significant decline of [the] current elephant population in Tanzania from 2009 to 2014 survey by 60 percent," the message said.



During independence from Britain in 1961, there were 350,000 elephants, and in 2009 there were 110,000; by 2014, the number dwindled to about 43,521, the WWF message said.

“The increase in elephant poaching is highly linked to an increase of ivory prices and illegal markets in the Far East and Southeast Asia,” said Dr. Amani Ngusuru, WWF Tanzania Country Director, on marking World Elephant Day, August 12, 2015, in Tanzania’s capital city of Dar es Salaam.

Elephant poaching and trafficking of wildlife has increased dramatically in recent years, threatening the three pillars of life on Earth: sustainable development, peace, and human rights, he said.

“It is now more urgent and important to come up with interventions that address the root causes of elephant poaching through more and improved international cooperation in source, transit, and consumer countries, as well as to identify and address any gaps in the current anti-poaching strategies for better protection of wild elephants,” Dr. Ngusuru added.

The WWF Tanzania Country Office said there is also a need for improving enforcement policies to prevent the illegal poaching and trade of ivory, conserving elephant habitats, better treatment for captive elephants, and when appropriate, reintroducing captive elephants into natural and protected sanctuaries. These are the goals that elephant conservation organizations are focusing on around the world.

Due to poaching between the 1970s and 1980s, the elephant population in Tanzania declined to 55,000 but then the international ban on the sale of ivory and other elephant products, together with highly-effective, anti-poaching operations through Operation Uhai in Tanzania, resulted in the elephant population recovering from 55,000 in 1989 to an estimated 130,000 in 2005 and 110,000 in 2009, according to past censuses.

However, by 2011 there was an increase in commercial poaching targeting elephants, because the price of ivory went up tremendously in the Far East and Southeast Asian market.

“WWF is backing the government of Tanzania[‘s] efforts and contribut[ing] to combating poaching at the grass root[s] level while working with local communities in implementing government-inclusive management policies,” said the message.

The relevant policy approaches include Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) through the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), Community Based Forest Management (CBFM), Participatory Forest Management (PFM), and Joint Forest Management (JFM). In some areas, even Beach Management Units (BMUs) as well as the Water Users Associations (WUAs) are useful in dealing with anti-poaching activities.

WWF Tanzania’s focus at local levels provides an important opportunity for engaging in protection of elephants and other natural resources by integrating conventional anti-poaching methods (boots on the ground) and community participation in the fight against all forms of illegal natural resources utilization including elephant poaching.

“In commemoration of the elephant day, WWF Tanzania calls the nation to wake up and deal effectively with this shame! Elephant poaching and trafficking should now be dealt [with] as a ‘serious crime’ that needs special national attention,” the message added.

“It needs to be addressed through applying the full extent of the criminal laws in conjunction with the Wildlife Act and other laws pertaining to Tanzania Revenue Authority (customs and excise)

money - laundering - and to categorize illegal wildlife trade as a predicate offense to be investigated with related financial crimes,” the WWF warned.

The message further said it is equally important to strengthen the judiciary sector to ensure that prosecutions for wildlife crimes are conducted effectively and transparently, with the full extent of the law and using the strongest penalties available. Tanzania should also use the available legislative instruments to seize the assets used to commit poaching and illegal wildlife trade and other profit acquired through this trade.

It is also important to take urgent measures to ensure that the frontline staffs in fighting against poaching are professionally trained and equipped, have access to adequate welfare and support systems, and are legally supported to respond to threats to wildlife and themselves.

It is of urgency to support the development of Tanzania and implementation of the transportation sector protocols and/or guidelines to strengthen due diligence and other measures to eliminate illegal trade in wildlife.

“WWF Tanzania calls for government-led national campaigns that are well researched, aimed at behavior change, and demand reduction. It is important also to consider increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable and alternative livelihoods as well as enhancing local communities’ rights and capacity to manage and benefit from wildlife, and enable them to live in more equitable socio-economic conditions,” the message emphasized.

If successfully conducted, the integrated approach will provide a network of sympathizers at the grass roots level that would feed into the national anti-poaching intelligence network more efficiently and with less investment costs, it said.

Reacting to the WWF message, a section of wildlife experts said the government of Tanzania has been playing the role of a playboy on wildlife conservation and protection tasks, while taking politics as a tool for conservation.

KENYA :

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

**Toujours aucun accord de paix signé au Soudan du Sud**  
rts.ch/17/08/2015

Les belligérants de la guerre civile qui ravage le Soudan du Sud ne sont pas parvenus à un accord de paix lundi, le gouvernement refusant de signer le document négocié, au contraire des rebelles.

Malgré l'ultimatum de la communauté internationale, le gouvernement du Soudan du Sud n'a pas signé le document, selon la médiation.

Pagan Amum, secrétaire-général du SPLM, parti au pouvoir au Soudan du Sud, et l'ancien vice-président Riek Machar, chef des rebelles, ont signé lundi soir un document qualifié par la médiation d'"accord de paix", en présence du président Salva Kiir, qui lui n'a pas apposé sa signature.  
Signature espérée dans 15 jours

Les autorités "ont certaines réserves et ont décidé de repartir dans leur pays et mener des consultations", mais "le président Kiir reviendra d'ici 15 jours à Addis Abeba pour parachever l'accord de paix", a assuré le chef de la médiation.

Les négociations entre les camps Kiir et Machar n'ont jusqu'ici abouti qu'à la signature d'une série de cessez-le-feu jamais respectés.

Plusieurs commandants rebelles ont par ailleurs récemment fait défection et rejeté à l'avance tout accord de paix, accusant Riek Machar de briguer des postes.

ats/grin

200'000 réfugiés dans les bases onusiennes

Le nombre de civils ayant trouvé refuge dans les bases onusiennes au Soudan du Sud approche les 200'000, a annoncé l'ONU lundi. Il s'agit d'un nombre jamais atteint en 20 mois de guerre civile.

Quelques 2,2 millions de personnes ont été chassées de chez elles par les combats, accompagnés de massacres ethniques et d'atrocités contre les civils.

L'ONU estime que plus de 70% des 12 millions d'habitants ont besoin d'aide pour survivre et met en garde contre les risques de famine.

UN/AFRICA :

**L'ONU instaure une "zone de sécurité" autour de Kidal après de violents combats**  
18/08/2015/france24.com

L'ONU a annoncé qu'une "zone de sécurité" serait établie mardi sur un périmètre de 20 kilomètres autour de Kidal afin de protéger les civils des violences qui ont éclaté entre un groupe armé progouvernemental et la rébellion à dominante touareg.

À partir du mardi 18 août, Kidal et une zone de 20 kilomètres à la ronde seront protégés par une "zone de sécurité" instaurée par l'ONU. Lundi, des combats entre un groupe armé progouvernemental et la rébellion à dominante touareg ont fait plusieurs morts.

La Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad (CMA, rébellion) et le Groupe d'auto-défense touareg Imghad et alliés (Gatia, pro-Bamako) étaient impliqués pour le troisième jour consécutif dans des violences autour de la ville de Kidal, fief de la CMA à plus de 1 500 km au nord de Bamako, la capitale.

Le Gatia et la CMA font partie des signataires de l'accord de paix conclu à Alger, signé le 15 mai par le gouvernement malien et ses groupes alliés, puis le 20 juin par la rébellion.

## Le contrôle des territoires au cœur des conflits

Selon Serge Daniel, le correspondant de France 24 à Bamako, "c'est le contrôle de territoires du nord du Mali qui a déclenché les combats". "Actuellement nous sommes en saison pluvieuses [...] les routes sont impraticables et [elles] sont essentielles pour pouvoir circuler, porter des marchandises, transporter de l'armement. La deuxième chose, c'est que qui contrôle le plus grand territoire, contrôle le nord du Mali et est important dans les négociations. Ensuite, il y a des problèmes entre tribus : ce n'est pas parce qu'on est touaregs qu'on est frères. Il y a de l'animosité entre ces tribus", détaille le journaliste.

Les affrontements de lundi, les plus violents, se sont déroulés à Anéfis (environ 120 km de Kidal) et ont fait "au moins 10 morts et de nombreux blessés", selon une source sécurité au sein de la Minusma.

Un responsable du Gatia, Fahad Ag Almahmoud, a assuré que son mouvement a fait "15 morts dont des chefs militaires" et "une dizaine de prisonniers" dans le camp adverse. Il a ajouté que le Gatia a saisi sept pick-up, deux véhicules blindés et d'importantes quantités d'armes et de munitions, et pris le contrôle d'Anéfis, ce qui a été confirmé à l'AFP par un élu local et une source internationale.

## Protéger les populations civiles

"En violant le cessez-le-feu, les groupes armés pro-gouvernement malien [Gatia, NDLR] ont pris le contrôle d'Anéfis, qui est à une centaine de kilomètres de Kidal, donc il faut éviter que ces groupes montent vers Kidal, alors qu'il y a des populations civiles. Il faut les protéger. C'est pour cette raison que la mission de l'ONU a décidé d'instaurer cette zone", explique Serge Daniel, ajoutant que "tout homme qui rentrera [dans la zone] avec une arme sera considéré comme un ennemi".

La Minusma a également annoncé qu'elle mènera des enquêtes "pour déterminer les responsabilités en matière de violation du cessez-le-feu" dont les conclusions seront transmises au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU.

Les États-Unis ont de leur côté appelé dans un communiqué les belligérants "à relâcher les prisonniers et à se conformer" à l'accord de paix conclu à l'issue de plusieurs mois de médiation internationale conduite par l'Algérie.

Cet accord vise à établir une paix durable dans le nord du Mali, ex-colonie française qui a connu une série de rébellions touareg depuis les premières années de son indépendance, en 1960.

Les rebelles touareg ont d'abord été alliés aux islamistes qui, les ayant ensuite évincés, ont contrôlé le nord du Mali de fin mars-début avril 2012, jusqu'au déclenchement en janvier 2013 d'une intervention militaire internationale.

Cette opération a en grande partie chassé et dispersé les jihadistes de cette région mais plusieurs zones du pays échappent encore au contrôle des forces nationales et internationales.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

### South Africa's Mr Price Joins Australia's Retail Invasion

By Dana Sanchez/afkinsider.com/August 17, 2015

Retailers such as Target, Kmart and BIG W are likely to feel the heat from South African value retailer Mr Price, which plans to open its first Australian stores in October, Financial Review reports.

Mr Price decided to open brick-and-mortar stores in Australia after enjoying strong online sales there over the last few years. Despite its relatively small population, Australia is now one of Mr Price's top five markets. Online sales give overseas retailers immediate scale and help them understand the local market, according to FinancialReview.

Mr Price faces heightened competition as global retailers enter South Africa and peers such as Woolworths look to add scale through apparel buyouts, BusinessDayLive reported in 2014.

Mr Price CEO Stuart Bird said the performance of new channels and markets was "very encouraging" and provided "early support for our intentions of taking our proven business concepts to new territories, rather than looking for acquisitive growth."

Australia's population is on track to hit 24 million this year, ABC reports. The country has about 150,000 South Africans living and working there, according to RainbowNation.

With more than 1062 stores, Mr Price sells mainly private label apparel, footwear, sleepwear, home wares and sporting goods.

Mr Price is expediting plans to open shops in Australia and now plans to open its first two stores under the mrp brand in October.

It made this announcement less than two weeks after U.S.-based TJ Maxx — largest U.S. off-price apparel and home wares retailer — bought Gazal Corp's 35-store Trade Secret business for \$80 million US, according to Financial Review.

Like its up-market South African rival, Woolworths — which paid \$2.1 billion for upscale Australian department store chain David Jones in 2014 — Mr Price believes it is in a better position than northern hemisphere retailers to supply seasonally-relevant clothing and footwear, according to FinancialReview.

"As a business based in the southern hemisphere, we're able to offer Australians a relevant, seasonal trend-led assortment," Bird said.

Analysts say Mr Price and TJ Maxx will take business away from discount department stores such as Kmart, Target and BIG W, Harris Scarfe and Best & Less as well as value-based retailers including Reject Shop, Fantastic Furniture, Cotton On Group and Specialty Fashion Group's Rivers

chain.

TJX's acquisition of Trade Secrets gives the U.S. retailer a significant foothold in the discount apparel and home wares sector dominated by outlets such as DFO and chains such as Kmart, Target, BIG W and The Reject Shop, FinancialReview reports. TJX plans to open as many as 10 stores a year in Australia in the next 10 years for a total of more than 100 stores. Trade Secrets sells national and international brands at big discounts.

Mr Price started its online offering in 2012 and now ships to more than 130 countries, according to BusinessDayLive in a 2014 report. The company at the time said it was planning to open stores in Nigeria and Ghana, and was looking at Angola.

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

**Yuan devaluation rattles African economies**

Aug 18, 2015/ejinsight.com

African economies are reeling from China's surprise yuan devaluation amid fears the continent's biggest trading partner might slash imports from oil to wine.

China's demand for Angolan oil, Zambian copper and South African gold has fueled a steep increase in trade, helping fuel rapid growth but leaving economies exposed to policy shifts in Beijing, according to the Wall Street Journal.

In 2013, Africa's trade with China was worth US\$211 billion, more than twice that with the US.

By contrast, 15 years ago, the US traded three times as much with Africa as China did.

But now, a weaker yuan is stoking fears in some African markets that China's buying power will be eroded and that the world's second biggest economy may be slowing even more than official statistics suggest.

Razia Khan, chief Africa economist of Standard Chartered, said China's move was happening at a difficult time for many African economies which have been buffeted by volatility that has sent many regional currencies lower this year as oil prices dropped and the dollar surged.

"Countries... with narrow export bases will be substantially disadvantaged," she said.

Angola is battling a grinding foreign-exchange shortage, as falling oil prices and slack demand from China slash revenue from the crude exports that generate nearly all of its export earnings and public revenue.

In Zambia, copper mines are laying off workers or closing because local power shortages have made it too costly to keep production up as long as China's waning demand holds global prices near

six-year lows.

And South African producers of gold, wine and other goods say lower demand from China means less hope of lifting their country's battered economy out of a four-year slump. South Africa's finance ministry is forecasting economic growth of just 1.9 percent this year.

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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