



(Protesters angered by a change in municipal boundaries which they fear will leave them worse off for social services torched 13 schools in South Africa's northern Limpopo province on Thursday, police said, as tensions rise ahead of local elections in August.)

BURUNDI :

Burundi: La police a procédé à l'arrestation de plusieurs personnes dans les quartiers contestataires
le 05/05/2016/seneneews.com

SENENEWS.COM- Ce jeudi à Bujumbura, la police Burundaise a procédé à l'arrestation de plusieurs personnes vivant dans les quartiers contestataires de Musaga et de Kamesa.

Cependant la police l'a démenti par la voix du porte-parole, Pierre Nkurikiye qui soutient que personne n'a été arrêté ni interpellé à Musaga et que c'était juste de simples perquisitions. Tout a commencé par un meurtre dans la nuit de mercredi à jeudi. Un homme a été tué par balle à Musaga, au sud de la capitale burundaise, un crime de droit commun selon la police.

Mais selon certains la victime travaillait pour la police. Raison pour laquelle, des policiers lourdement armés ont alors investi ce quartier de Bujumbura et ont arrêté des dizaines de personnes.

Burundi : l'ancien président, le colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza est mort.
jeu, 5 Mai 2016/Par Guineenews

L'ancien Président Burundais le Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, qui avait dirigé son pays de 1976 à 1987, est décédé, hier Mercredi 4 mai, à l'âge de 69 ans, à l'hôpital Sainte-Elisabeth de Bruxelles, où il était soigné depuis une dizaine de jours, ont annoncé sa famille et la Présidence Burundaise (crédit photo : alvinet.com).

Un deuil national de trois jours a été décrété par le Gouvernement, qui a rendu un hommage à « un travailleur infatigable qui durant sa présidence a développé des infrastructures économiques (...) dont le peuple burundais se rappellera toujours ».

Le Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, un Tutsi né en 1946 à Rutovu, au sud du pays, était arrivé au pouvoir en 1976 à la suite d'un coup d'Etat militaire contre son prédécesseur, le Général Michel Micombero, lui aussi tutsi issu de la même Commune.

Il prend les rênes du pouvoir alors que le pays sort des « événements de 1972 », un massacre de milliers de Tutsi lors d'une insurrection hutu suivie d'une terrible répression qui va décimer plus de 100 000 Hutu, dont l'élite de cette ethnie, majoritaire au Burundi.

Avant de prendre le pouvoir, le Colonel Bagaza avait suivi des études universitaires et militaires à l'École Royale Militaire de Bruxelles (Belgique) et était un Officier d'état-major à Bujumbura.

« Un pilier » qui fait l'unanimité

Considéré comme le bâtisseur du pays (routes, centrales électriques, écoles, industries...), il est pourtant renversé lors d'un coup d'Etat qui porte à la Présidence de la République, le Major Pierre Buyoya, Tutsi également issu de la même Commune que ses deux prédécesseurs.

Le Colonel Bagaza, Sénateur à vie de par la Constitution du Burundi, est l'une des rares personnalités politiques burundaises à faire l'unanimité après sa mort.

Le Président de la République, le Hutu, Pierre Nkurunziza a exprimé sa « très grande tristesse ». Le CNARED, une plateforme qui regroupe la quasi-totalité de l'opposition à M. Nkurunziza, et dont M. Bagaza était membre, a assuré qu'il venait « de perdre un pilier de sa lutte pour un Burundi meilleur ».

Le Burundi traverse depuis plus d'un an une profonde crise politique, ponctuée de violences, qui ont déjà fait plus de 500 morts et poussé plus de 270 000 Burundais à fuir leur pays.

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

Uganda bans live TV coverage of opposition protests

May. 06, 2016/the-star.co.ke

The Ugandan government on Thursday banned all live television coverage of protests organised by the country's main opposition leader against the re-election of President Yoweri Museveni, who has

been in power for 30 years.

"Government has taken decision to stop live coverage of (Kizza) Besigye defiance campaign. The ban takes immediate effect," Uganda information minister Jim Muhwezi said.

"Any media which contravenes this directive issued in furtherance of a court order stopping Besigye from carrying out a defiance campaign risks losing its broadcast license." he added.

He accused Besigye of carrying out a campaign to disrupt Museveni's swearing-in ceremony "and to cause anarchy with an objective of using unconstitutional means to take over power and we can't allow that."

Besigye, who came in second in the February presidential poll, had called on his supporters to protest against Museveni's fifth term in office.

He has accused Museveni's camp of fraud during the vote which, according to international observers, was carried out in an "atmosphere of intimidation" by the regime.

Museveni is set to be sworn in on May 12 in Kampala.

The US embassy in Uganda said on Twitter that "the government of Uganda's decision to ban media coverage of FDC (Besigye's party) is truly disappointing just days after the World Press Freedom day (May 3)".

SOUTH AFRICA :

Could South African military turn on Jacob Zuma?

By Karen Allen Southern Africa correspondent, BBC News /06/05/2016

When Julius Malema recently warned South African president Jacob Zuma that soldiers were going to "turn their guns" against him, one might have been forgiven for dismissing this as vintage Malema hyperbole.

He may have received some military training in the past but the red-bereted "Commander in Chief" of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) as he is known, is a populist politician, not a Che Guerrera guerrilla leader.

During the launch of his party's manifesto a few days ago, Julius Malema similarly warned that South Africa's soldiers were among his supporters - a fact that is probably true given the pluralist nature of the South African National Defence Force. But how much should we read into Malema's military musings?

Malema may be a wannabe revolutionary who frequently alludes to Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe and Venezuela's former leader Hugo Chavez's revolutionary fervour. But he is smart, quick-witted and no fool.

He knows how to capture the public's imagination and press the buttons of the leader who he once said he would be prepared "to die for".

A few months ago, when the Constitutional Court ruled that Jacob Zuma had violated the country's basic law by failing to heed calls to "pay back the money" after security upgrades to his rural home, one of South Africa's defence unions responded in anger.

Sandu (The South African National Defence Union) accused both the President and parliament of having "constitutional dirt on their hands". They appeared to speak for many South Africans.

That sense of frustration also bubbled over in 2009 when more than 1,000 disgruntled soldiers went on the rampage in the administrative capital Pretoria, to protest against poor pay and conditions. But tear gas and rubber bullets quickly quelled their "rebellion" and no-one for one moment thought it was the start of a coup.

Some in the armed forces clearly align themselves with many ordinary South Africans concerned about the integrity of their president.

But Jakkie Cilliers from the Institute of Security Studies - himself a former South African soldier - believes it is unlikely that Malema "can tap into a deep vein of running discontent" even though the military is "underfunded and overstretched".

The new South African National Defence Force (SANDF) is home to a wide range of interests.

Among its members are former apartheid era soldiers, fighters from the MK (Umkhonto we sizwe) the former armed wing of the ANC, other freedom fighters such as the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and a new generation of "born free" South African soldiers, who were still children when the armoured vehicles of the old apartheid security state swept through the streets crushing everything in their path.

Central to today's South African military is the lack of a core political identity. And central to the South African state is the fact that it is a constitutional democracy and soldiers are given space to express their views, just like any other South African.

Unlike other countries where South African troops have been deployed as peacekeepers, including Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the South Africa military is credited with a sense of professionalism. That has meant it has kept out of politics.

Julius Malema:

- Born 3 March 1981 in Limpopo province
- Mother was domestic worker and single parent
- Joined African National Congress (ANC) aged nine
- Elected leader of its youth wing in April 2008
- Convicted of hate speech in March 2010 and September 2011
- Expelled from ANC in April 2012 for sowing divisions in party
- Launches Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) in July 2013

What about the Generals?

The top brass of the armed forces are largely made up of those loyal to the governing party.

And despite problems of resources, Cilliers argues that it is unlikely to be enough to provide political ammunition for Malema.

He said: "I think there is no possibility of senior military aligning themselves with anyone other than the ruling party. The values of constitutionalism are taught and understood at every level of the military, so we are unlikely to see anything like insubordination, let alone an attempted coup."

So when Malema talks about soldiers "turning their guns" against President Zuma is he perhaps speaking metaphorically, threatening more civil unrest rather than the potential for a military coup?

"There is no doubt," says Somadoda Fikeni, a political analyst, "that such language prepares people for discontent." But it is ambiguous, perhaps deliberately so.

He worries about ordinary South Africans, the millions of unemployed for whom Julius Malema clearly holds some appeal.

His talk of "revolution" may hold "tantalising appeal" but to Fikeni the danger is not with the EFF leadership, "but the people who take him literally".

The ANC did take Mr Malema literally when in a recent TV interview the "Commander in Chief" issued a chilling warning, that made headlines around the world - that the Zuma government would be removed "through the barrel of a gun". The ANC responded by threatening to sue him for treason.

President Zuma, as a former head of intelligence for the ANC and a member of MK, knows a thing or two about insurgency.

He also knows that the best counter-insurgency strategy is to win the propaganda war, erode your opponents' support base and offer a legitimate alternative that keeps your supporters onside.

Julius Malema may picture himself as a revolutionary making waves in the run-up to municipal elections - but he relies on questions over President Zuma's legitimacy to breathe oxygen into his campaign.

Until that is addressed, some would argue, Malema will draw a crowd.

Protesters Burn 13 Schools in South Africa as Elections Loom
telesurtv.net/06/05/2016

With elections scheduled for August 3, the demonstrations over services are starting to take on an increasingly political tone.

Protesters angered by a change in municipal boundaries which they fear will leave them worse off for social services torched 13 schools in South Africa's northern Limpopo province on Thursday, police said, as tensions rise ahead of local elections in August.

The latest protests were triggered by a high court ruling upholding a decision to shift some districts from one municipality's jurisdiction to another.

Many protesters said the change meant the quality of social services would change, leaving them worse off.

With elections scheduled for August 3, the demonstrations over services are starting to take on an

increasingly political tone, suggesting they could get worse in the next few months.

Police said residents in Vuwani district and nearby areas set alight a post office and other government buildings on Monday and Tuesday nights leaving smoldering structures behind.

Residents had also set up roadblocks to the area, Limpopo police spokesperson Colonel Malesela Ledwaba said.

The protests began after the High Court upheld the Demarcation Board's decision to include the districts, currently under Makhado municipality, into the Malamulele district after residents had filed a case to oppose the change.

"What we are requesting from the police is that they ... provide more manpower in the area and ensure that important public infrastructure is protected," said Limpopo Premier Stanley Mathabatha speaking on local TV news channel, eNCA.

The Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga said the actions of protesters undermined government efforts to improve education and infrastructure.

"It is not only a waste of taxpayers' money to lose valuable existing infrastructure but disrespects the hard work of every law abiding member of society," Motshekga said in a statement.

Opposition political parties are seizing on the anger as evidence of the failings of the ruling African National Congress (ANC), in providing services around the country. The ANC has said it is still best placed to lead the country having successfully campaigned against white minority rule under apartheid which ended in 1994.

TANZANIA :

KENYA :

4 people trapped under rubble for 6 days rescued in Kenya

Reuters/06/05/2016

The death toll from the disaster has reached 36, the leader of the operation Pius Masai told reporters.

NAIROBI – Rescue workers on Thursday freed four people who had survived under the rubble of a building in Kenya's capital for six days after it collapsed, the Kenya Red Cross said.

A woman was the first to be found, surviving in a cavity of broken masonry of the building that crumbled last Friday night. Doctors had given her oxygen and fed her by intravenous drip until workers using their hands and power tools to free her.

Later in the day, the Kenya Red Cross said three more people had been recovered alive from the debris in the poor Huruma district of Nairobi, where the building collapsed after days of heavy rain.

“Super news! Three more people have been rescued alive from the Huruma building collapse. One male and two female,” the Red Cross said on its Twitter feed.

Earlier, Reuters witnesses saw the first woman carried to an ambulance to cheers and applause from a crowd at the scene.

The death toll from the disaster has reached 36, the leader of the operation Pius Masai told reporters. About 140 people have now been rescued, based on the four freed on Thursday.

Dozens are still listed as missing, but Kenyan Red Cross officials say it is not clear whether those listed were caught in the collapse or escaped but have not been traced.

Earlier this week rescuers had said there was little chance of finding more survivors.

A baby was pulled out of the wreckage on Tuesday, dehydrated but otherwise apparently unharmed. The baby was reunited with her father, but Masai said her mother was among those killed.

The Interior Ministry said the building, built close to a river, had been earmarked for demolition, but local authorities had not acted on the order.

Two owners of the building and three local officials have been questioned by police and were released on bail on Wednesday.

The disaster was the latest of its kind in a rapidly-expanding city. Several other buildings in Nairobi have collapsed in recent years, with fewer deaths.

Businessman Jacob Juma shot dead

May. 06, 2016/the-star.co.ke

Controversial businessman Jacob Juma is dead. Juma was shot dead by unknown people while driving past Lenana School Thursday night.

Nairobi CID boss Ileri Kamwende said the businessman was driving from his bar at around 9.30pm when he was shot by gunmen who escaped on a motorbike.

His car had about 10 bullet holes.

The 42-year-old who ventured into business after studying at the University of Nairobi has been vocal on political issues and severally bashed the government.

He will be remembered for claiming his mining license was revoked after he allegedly declined to pay a bribe demanded by Former Mining Cabinet Secretary Najib Balala .

Balala termed the allegations as malicious.

The businessman also refused to apologise to Supreme Court judge Njoki Ndung’u for claiming she received money alongside Justice Philip Tunoi. Ndung’u refuted the claims.

Jacob Juma had also alleged Jubilee used over Sh250 billion of Eurobond money to refund all campaign cash allegedly used in the 2013 general election.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

Ensuring Africa's spot in the fourth revolution

06 May 2016/iol.co.za/By: Kingsley Makhubela

In a few days, Team SA will join other delegates from the continent at the African meeting of the World Economic Forum.

Our meeting in Davos earlier this year looked at the complex issue of the fourth industrial revolution. This is complex because less developed regions, like Africa, must harness the power of innovation and technology to move our economies beyond being factor driven towards being driven by efficiency and innovation. Yet we still have to find sustainable solutions to the more immediate challenges of ensuring the citizens of our continent are healthy, educated and skilled.

How can we catch up to ensure we are part of the fourth industrial revolution when we are still seized with providing the most basic needs of our people?

What is clear is that both options – to develop or to industrialise and move into the knowledge economy – cannot be mutually exclusive. Africa is in a very unique position with what is referred to by the World Economic Forum as the largest expected “demographic dividend”. Within 20 years, the number of sub-Saharan citizens reaching working age (15 to 64) will exceed that of the rest of the world combined. And by 2040, half of the world's youth will be African.

If leaders from all spheres institute mechanisms to leverage this demographic dividend, African citizens have the potential to become a motive force for change. A people-centred developmental agenda must, therefore, necessarily be at the heart of Africa's growth and development programmes. A skilled and healthy population will necessarily be able to drive efficiency- and innovation-based economies.

Industrialisation

We have recognised that we must achieve the twin priorities of development and industrialisation and Agenda 2063 – Africa's first long-term programme for socio-economic development – therefore has at its centre the “mobilisation of the people and their ownership of continental programmes at the core; the principle of self-reliance and Africa financing its own development; the importance of capable, inclusive and accountable states and institutions at all levels and in all spheres; the critical role of regional economic communities as building blocks for continental unity; and holding ourselves and our governments and institutions accountable for results”.

In adopting Agenda 2063 as a framework guiding the continent's growth and development programmes, leaders and citizens of the continent alike aspire to the reality that: “By 2063, Africa shall be a prosperous continent, with the means and resources to drive its own development and where: African people have a high standard of living, and quality of life, sound health and well-

being; well-educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation for a knowledge society is the norm and no child misses school due to poverty or any form of discrimination.”

In highlighting their aspirations for the continent, African citizens have also envisaged modern cities and economies, including the transformation of the agricultural sector “for increased production, productivity and value addition, (which) can contribute to national prosperity and Africa’s collective food security”. The building of the continent’s capacity for innovation through science and technology is at the heart of Agenda 2063 enabling “Africa’s accelerated integration and growth, technological transformation, trade and development. This will include high-speed railway networks, roads, shipping lines, sea and air transport, as well as well-developed ICT and digital economy.”

In addition to the central tenet of leveraging the continent’s human capital and building a solid foundation for highly skilled citizens who are able to build and sustain innovative economies, cities and countries, Africa’s vision rests on having the necessary financial resources to drive Agenda 2063. It is time that the continent stopped haemorrhaging its financial resources through the illicit flows of capital.

Africa has never before spelled out, in a long-term plan, its development aspirations. As citizens of the continent, we have a unique opportunity to be part of the transformation of our continent, to bring to life the vision of the Pan-Africanists and leaders who have come before us for a continent that is prosperous, developed and integrated. Will we play our part?

Barclays Africa stock flies off shelf

by Moyagabo Maake/bdlive.co.za/06 mai 2016

BARCLAYS plc’s sell-down of its African unit got off to a smooth start on Thursday in one of the largest accelerated book-build transactions in SA.

The British parent pocketed R13.1bn from a placing of shares in Barclays Africa Group, as institutional investors eagerly snapped up the stock.

Interest from existing and new investors overwhelmed bookrunners Barclays Investment Bank, Citigroup, JPMorgan and UBS for the 103.6-million shares, representing 12.2% of shareholding in Barclays Africa.

"I am pleased Barclays decided to follow the book-build process, as this gives all institutions a fair chance to participate," said Adrian Cloete, an analyst at PSG Wealth.

The shares were sold at a 6.5% discount on the overnight market price. The book-build process opened on Wednesday night and was completed by early on Thursday morning.

"The book was multiple times covered at the clearing price of R126, with very high-quality demand from institutions in SA and globally," said a Barclays Africa spokesperson.

"To get this quality of demand and discount in such a weak market tells you that there is a lot of positive focus on this asset globally, and reflects the strong operational performance and returns of this asset."

After the shares are settled with investors who participated, Barclays plc will hold 50.1% of

Barclays Africa. This still gives a consortium led by former Barclays plc CEO Bob Diamond a foot in the door.

Mr Diamond's Atlas Merchant Capital and the Mara Group, a pan-African investment company founded by Ashish Thakkar, are frontrunners in a consortium that last week confirmed its intentions to bid for Barclays plc's entire 62.3% stake in Barclays Africa.

Thursday's share sale means the entire stake will not be available to it.

And Mr Diamond's consortium would still have to contend with the Public Investment Corporation, which on Thursday raised its stake to 6.8%, after taking up 10.3-million shares as anchor investor. It is the second-largest shareholder.

But Business Day understands the consortium has already placed an offer for the remaining 50.1% after meeting Reserve Bank officials earlier this week.

"There have been some communications with Barclays," a source said on Thursday.

A representative for Atlas Mara, the pan-African financial services joint venture between Atlas Merchant Capital and the Mara Group, declined to confirm or deny this.

Songezo Zibi, head of communications at Barclays Africa, also declined to comment.

"We aren't commenting on any rumours.... When it becomes necessary, we will make the necessary announcements."

Although there was much enthusiasm for the book-build, Paul Theron, CEO at money manager Vestact, said Barclays plc should not have sold its stake. "Barclays plc had their reasons, but I think that they should have bought out the Barclays Africa minorities, not sold," he said, adding that the parent should have sold its transatlantic operations instead.

UN/AFRICA :

UN humanitarian chiefs in Middle East, North Africa call for bold actions to end bloodshed

May 06,2016/Xinhua

UNITED NATIONS, May 5 (Xinhua) -- The UN humanitarian coordinators in the Middle East and North Africa urged Thursday global leaders to attend the World Humanitarian Summit and take bold decision that will affect change.

In a statement issued ahead of the World Humanitarian Summit, which is to be held later this month in Turkey, the UN humanitarian chiefs said that world leaders must assume their responsibility to find political solutions to end bloodshed, and prevent further suffering, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters here.

The UN humanitarian coordinators for Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the occupied Palestinian territory, Syria and Yemen, said that "a staggering 55 million people" in the region need humanitarian assistance to ensure their basic survival, stressing that we all have a shared responsibility to end this tragedy and preserve people's basic dignity.

"Millions of people in the Middle East and North Africa are enduring intolerable human suffering," they said in a collective press release. "Widespread violence, conflict and extremism in Iraq, Libya, Palestine, Syria and Yemen are creating immense humanitarian needs, with the impact felt beyond these countries' borders."

"In other words, millions of girls, boys, women and men do not know where their next meal will come from," they said.

"They lack access to essential health care, whether to give birth safely, receive treatment for chronic illnesses or protect children from preventable diseases," they said. "They are unable to access safe water and ensure basic hygiene. Those displaced from their homes lack adequate shelter, sometimes forced to sleep out in the open."

Moreover, millions of families "do not sleep at night worrying about where the next bomb or mortar might fall and whether their loved ones will be caught in the cross-fire between warring parties or bear the brunt of extreme violence," they said.

"We have a shared responsibility to end this tragedy and preserve people's basic dignity. Our humanity demands no less," they said.

The UN officials said that in the lead-up to the World Humanitarian Summit, they consulted and listened to thousands of voices in the region.

"Their feelings and demands were clear: outrage at the staggering level of human casualties and suffering being witnessed and felt on a daily basis; disbelief in the lack of accountability for clear violations of international humanitarian and human rights law; disappointment in the humanitarian system for failing to support and strengthen local response capacity; and conviction that humanitarian aid cannot be a substitute for political action that addresses the root causes of people's suffering," the humanitarian coordinators said

Calling on global leaders to attend the World Humanitarian Summit and "make it a success," the coordinators said that actions should include listening to the voices of the region and taking the bold decisions that will affect change.

The first-ever World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) scheduled to be held on May 23-24 in Istanbul, Turkey, aims to help displaced people since World War II, the UN under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs, Stephen O'Brien, said here Monday.

The WHS is seen as a platform for heads of state and government, leaders from civil society, the private sector, crisis-affected communities and multilateral organizations, "to announce their commitments to progress, and also to launch new initiatives and partnerships, and showcase innovative practices and ideas," rather than attend just another conference for pledging funds, he said.

A "pledging conference" immediately following every major humanitarian crisis should be set as an example of change, he said, adding that he would like to see it changed into a more efficient way of being financially prepared to deliver aid through a mechanism permanently funded.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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