

## IGAD JTC MVM

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY  
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TO: Special Envoys to South Sudan  
FROM: Chairman, Joint Technical Committee, Monitoring and Verification Mechanism,  
Juba, South Sudan  
DATE: 19 January 2015

**SUBJECT: Report on Violations of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement**

Your Excellencies,

Please find attached the Joint Technical Committee (JTC) report on violations of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (23 January 2014) in Jamam, Upper Nile State.

Major General (Retired) Negash Dagnev Ayele  
Chairman, Joint Technical Committee



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**JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (JTC)**

**INVESTIGATIONS INTO VIOLATIONS OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN JAMAM, UPPER NILE STATE**

**(V023)**

**PRESENTED TO:**

**THE SPECIAL ENVOYS TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**19 January 2015**



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### Executive Summary

On 8 January 2015 forces loyal to the SPLM/A-IO attacked the village of Jamam. According to the agreements reached at the Cessation of Hostilities Implementation Workshop of 15-16 November 2014 Jamam was designated a 'Disputed Area' (DA 6) which had been verified by the MVM on 13 December 2014 as being under the control of the Government.

The attack was in clear violation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COH).



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### INVESTIGATIONS INTO VIOLATIONS OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN JAMAM, MABAN COUNTY, UPPER NILE STATE

#### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background: On 13 December 2014 the MVT based in the UNMISS camp in Nassir carried out a verification visit to Jamam (Disputed Area 6) and confirmed that it was under control of the Government.

1.2 Incident: On 9 January 2015 the MVT in Melut was made aware that control of Jamam had passed to the SPLM/A-IO following attacks on 8 January. They checked this information. Government forces were back in control of Jamam on 10 January

1.3 Aim: The aim of this report is to provide IGAD Special Envoys with a summary of the incident that took place in Jamam on 8-10 January 2015, and where relevant apportion responsibility for violations of the COHA.

#### 1.4 Methodology:

- Employing Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MVM) Standard Operating Procedures, the JTC initiated the investigation / verification sequence on 9 January 2015 following reports of the incident from the MVT based in Melut.
- The MVT conducted investigations in accordance with the orders, accessing as much information as possible from a variety of sources including UNMISS MLO's, Government Force commanders (1st Division in Renk and 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 6<sup>th</sup> Division in Palioch) and local people through MVM Community Liaison Officers (CLO's). They carried out a patrol to the Palioch on 12 January in order to meet with the relevant Government Forces HQ and further investigate the incident. A final Investigation and Verification Report was submitted by the MVT to JTC on 17 January 2015.

#### 2.0 Violations of COHA – Jamam

2.1 On the 8 January 2015 SPLM/A-IO forces attacked the village of Jamam, which is under the control of Government Forces. Reports about exactly when the attack started are contradictory, but most sources suggest it took place in the afternoon. There is a garrison of Government Forces troops from 1<sup>st</sup> Division in Jamam.



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2.2 Although initially overwhelmed, Government Forces re-grouped and reinforced the 1<sup>st</sup> Division troops with those from 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 6<sup>th</sup> Division in order to re-take Jamam. Reports indicate that Jamam was back under control of Government Forces by 10 January.

2.3 The MVT investigation resulted in the following observations and information:

- As soon as the MVT was informed about the fighting on 9 January they contacted Brigadier General Stephen Buoy in 1<sup>st</sup> Division Government Forces in Renk and he confirmed that Jamam was under the control of the SPLM/A-IO. The MVT also contacted Staff Officers at 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 6<sup>th</sup> Division at Palioch who also confirmed this information, as did the UNMISS SMLO and MVM CLO's. On 12 January the MVT was able to meet with the Commander of 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 6<sup>th</sup> Division Government Forces, Brigadier General Justin Nhial Boatoang, who gave them a full account of the incident from the Government point of view.
- There were civilian casualties in Jamam as a result of the fighting. Numbers are unconfirmed and unverified, but the local authorities claim that 5 civilians lost their lives, and other local sources reported to the MVT that 13 were killed.
- Following the incident local Government authorities claimed that SPLM/A-IO forces had abducted several women and girls during the attack. These claims were denied by the SPLM/A-IO. JTC has so far been unable to investigate these allegations.

2.4 **Assessment** There is no doubt that SPLM/A-IO Forces attacked Jamam in clear violation of the COHA.

### 3.0 Conclusion

3.1 As a result of investigations, and the weight of evidence collated it is the opinion of the JTC that SPLM/A-IO Forces violated the following articles of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA), 23 January 2014 in Jamam on 8 January 2015:

- 1.1 – 1.2 complete (cessation of hostilities).
- 3.1 Attacks on the civilian population.

3.2 Recommendations: It is recommended that the IGAD Special Envoys take the appropriate action in response to the violation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement.

