

RECENT SELECTED INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE COMMITTED BY ELEMENTS OF THE DEFENCE AND SECURITY FORCES & NON-STATE ARMED GROUPS

In recent weeks, the human rights situation in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon has continued to deteriorate, with the intensification in violence directly affecting the civilian population.

The first days of June alone have witnessed multiple attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including the massacre of at least nine unarmed civilians in Fungom by the Defence and Security Forces (DSF) and the burning of Mamfe District Hospital by non-state armed group (NSAG) fighters.

In early June, armed separatist fighters also attacked a military post in Njitapon in West Region. This attack is particularly worrisome as it occurred in the Francophone part of Cameroon and could cause a spillover in violence. An ongoing military operation in Boyo Division is witnessing killing of young men, burning of houses, and looting of stores.

In reaction to continued attacks from armed separatist fighters, populations of some villages have retaliated and even chased separatists out of their villages. In response, separatist fighters have harmed the population. This is the case in Oku in Bui Division, where protests were violently suppressed by armed separatists in April 2022, and in Obonyi in Manyu Division, where separatists killed at least 10 civilians and injured at least 18 more.

In April, DSF arbitrarily arrested 40 bike riders accompanying a corpse to Oku. News outlets report that 24 of those arrested have been brought to trial before the Military Tribunal in Bamenda, while the other 16 have disappeared.

CHRDA condemns this renewed violence perpetrated against the civilian population and calls on the state to thoroughly investigate these incidents and bring the perpetrators to justice.

We equally call on all parties to the conflict to cease using all violence against the civilian population and to instead seek a lasting solution to the crisis through peaceful means.

I. INCIDENTS IMPLICATING THE DEFENSE AND SECURITY FORCES

a. Military operations in Belo, including killing, burning and looting

On the night of June 9, 2022, the DSF in a rebel search began an offensive operation in Belo in Boyo Division of the Northwest Region.¹ In the operation, at least two persons have been executed by the military, houses burned and property looted. Eyewitnesses talking to CHRDA by phone said they were at a wake keeping in Belo. At about 3:00am, a group of boys left the funeral compound and was returning home, when the boys were picked up by soldiers who had already began a silent operation in the night. They picked up three boys, one of whom is identified as Gideon Alahfuchi,² a former separatist fighter who was previously shot in the waist and was just recovering from his wounds after spending over six months in the hospital. The soldiers asked him to put in his password to unlock his phone but he refused, and they slit his throat with a knife and dumped his corpse by the roadside. The other boys with whom they arrested him were asked to leave, and as they walked away, the military opened fire at them. One ran away but sustained bullet wounds while the other one was unhurt.

The military left Belo in about 10 trucks, as recounted by witnesses, and moved to Njinkfui, heading towards the separatist camp situated in the village of Aboh. While at Njinkfui, they removed a man in his 50s known as “Bo Luh” from bed and executed him. They accused him of making charms (odeshi) for separatist fighters.³ They also burned his houses and ransacked the only health clinic available in that community. They broke into store sheds along the road selling electronic devices as well as provisions and foodstuffs, and looted everything in the stores which they carried away on their trucks. Only one store was spared, allegedly because it belongs to a lady with physical impairment and there was a flyer for persons with disability posted on her door.

After the operation at Njinkfui, the military continued on their journey towards Aboh. At Aboh, no separatist was found in the camp, and the military proceeded to burn houses around the separatist camp as recounted by the witnesses.

¹<https://www.facebook.com/KatikaNzui/posts/pfbid02MjUNgM9saCbKBrCC9vG2Vn2wMGmjDv7ycweZTM5keyK48HAKh2uS2ZzELKsFHMwj1>

²<https://www.facebook.com/100023025945238/posts/1177954599648727/?app=fbl>

³<https://www.facebook.com/100023025945238/posts/1178023489641838/?app=fbl>

At the time of this report, the operation is still ongoing in Belo, and CHRDA cannot independently assess or confirm the current rate of damage and casualties recorded in Belo. The burning of houses has allegedly continued in the locality of Sho on Saturday, June 11, 2022.⁴ A family has declared their son to be missing. He was present at the wake keeping at the time the military invaded the village on June 9, and even his close friends have no idea where he is.

b. Massacre of nine civilians in Fungom

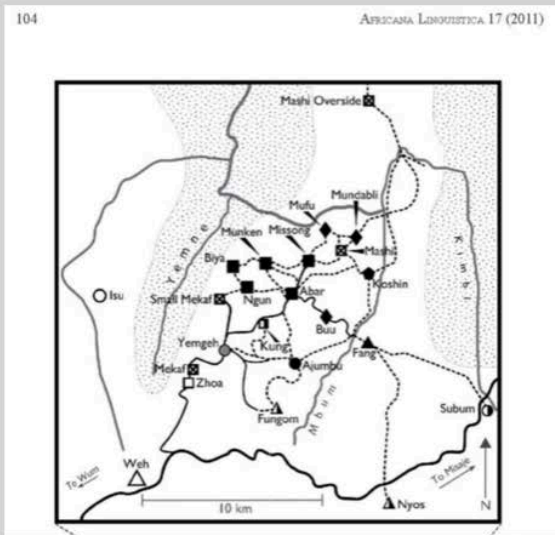
On June 1, 2022, nine unarmed civilians were arbitrary executed by elements of the DSF in the village of Missong, situated in Fungom Subdivision in Menchum Division of the Northwest Region. The victims include, among others: four women, four men, and a one-year-old baby girl. Another one-year-old baby girl was injured and rushed to the hospital. This attack was acknowledged by the DSF through a press statement in which Captain Cyrille Serge Atonfack Guemo, Head of their Communications Division, admitted that the four soldiers opened fire and killed the nine unarmed civilians and have been arrested and detained in Bamenda. CHRDA has not been able to obtain further information regarding this case. The village of Missong is remote and lacks internet, making it challenging to find corroborative information.

⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/100023025945238/posts/1178699649574222/?app=fbl>

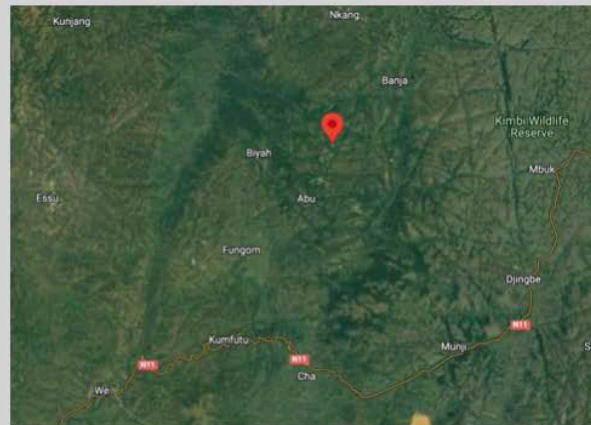
GEOLOCATION: Killings in Missong Village, Fungom

The Cameroon Anglophone Crisis Database of Atrocities used OSINT methods and media sources to investigate the killings in Missong Village. The location of the village appears to be $6^{\circ} 35' 50.424''$ N, $10^{\circ} 14' 52.2954''$ E.

Although Missong is not listed on Google Earth or Planet Labs, researchers found an academic paper from 2011 showing the location of Missong on a map. Comparing the map and satellite imagery, it was possible to identify a village at that location.



Map showing Missong



Suspected location of Missong Village (red pin)

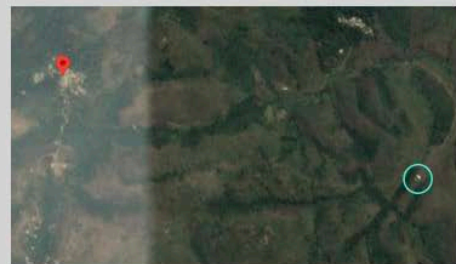
There is only one video that surfaced from the attack in Missong that has the potential to be geolocated. The video shows the bodies of those killed under a sheet, and when it pans around, it depicts a long building in the foreground with a smaller slightly lower on a hill. A possible site for this video may be $6^{\circ} 35' 26.6994''$ N, $10^{\circ} 16' 15.2394''$ E. Google Earth 3D shows a ridge line and slope similar to those in the video, with a larger and smaller building visible. This site is 2.6km away from Missong Village.



Screenshot from the video



Possible site



Location of Missong (red pin) and the possible site (turquoise circle)

c. Disappearance of bike riders arrested in Oku

On April 24, 2022, a video surfaced online of several young persons forced to sit on the ground by the elite Rapid Intervention Battalion (BIR) in Oku in Bui Division of the Northwest Region. According to information gathered, the young men arrested were bike riders who left Bamenda on Friday, April 22, accompanying a corpse to Oku. On their way there, they met with a BIR escort at Mile 25 Ndop as the elite force was on its way to Sabga. The government forces immediately halted the convoy and asked everyone to present their ID cards, even though they were mourners. CHRDA also gathered that during the checkup, everyone was asked to sit on the ground, and all young men with dreadlocks were isolated from the others and tortured by the military. The military used hammers to beat the young men, who were about 40 in number, on their shoulders. About 40 of the arrested mourners were taken away to an undisclosed location.

On May 18, 2022, online media organ *Mimi Mefo Info* reported that 24 of the 40 arrested bike riders in Oku were brought to trial before the Military Tribunal in Bamenda.⁵ This first trial took place on May 17, 2022. *Mimi Mefo Info* further adds that the judge ordered their detention at the Bamenda Central Prison, and that the other 16 of the 40 arrested bike riders were missing. The whereabouts of these bike riders remain unknown to this day.

d. Indiscriminate shooting in Bali, killing three civilians

On Thursday, April 21, 2022, three men were killed by the DSF in Njenka Bali in Mezam Division of the Northwest Region. A resident speaking to CHRDA stated that on Thursday evening, the DSF were returning to their base at Njenka Hausa when they started shooting randomly, seemingly to scare away any form of potential attack. It was in the course of the random shooting that stray bullets struck three men who died on the spot. The identities of the men, according to residents, are: a man popularly known as “Bafoussam,” who owns a drinking spot called Bafoussam Bar, a man named Ndeko and a young motorcycle repairman.

Mimi Mefo Info also reported that the military raided Bali on April 21, 2022, alleging that the raid was in retaliation for a series of attacks by separatist fighters.⁶

⁵ <https://mimimefoinfos.com/16-of-40-bikers-arrested-in-oku-missing-as-others-appear-before-judge/>

⁶ <https://mimimefoinfos.com/three-civilians-killed-as-military-raids-bali/?fbclid=IwAR0mQw267MG6tUsreS06JXZLburLXz1hCu2RasJby3tVrrFSsPBoAyrDIik>

e. Burning of houses and bikes in Matondo II Village

On Thursday, April 21, 2022, the DSF set houses and bikes on fire in Konye Subdivision in Meme Division of the Southwest Region on an offensive mission. The raid took place in Matondo II Village, popularly known as “Number 19.” The soldiers pursued bike riders whom they suspected to be separatist fighters into the heart of the village, where they proceeded to burn down houses and motorbikes. Residents report that the entire population was frightened by the sounds of gunshots fired by the officers, and they ran into the bush for safety. Residents complain of huge material losses as a result of the setting ablaze of their houses.⁷

f. Storming of store/bar in Mbengwi

On Sunday, April 17, 2022, the military stormed a store and bar in Mbengwi, allegedly beating some men and burning down eight unidentified bikes. According to the news platform *Mbengwi Online*: “military elements left their base in G.R.A and stormed Facebook, a popular provision store/bar situated in between Hilltop (Gunenung) and Tonzang in search of non-state armed fighters.”⁸ The Basic Union of Motor Taxi Transporters (BUMT) confirmed the destruction of the bikes and said that the owners of the bikes are members of BUMT Mbengwi.⁹

II. INCIDENTS IMPLICATING NON-STATE ARMED GROUPS

a. Arson of the Mamfe District Hospital

On the night of June 8, 2022, the Mamfe District Hospital, situated in Manyu Division in the Southwest Region, was burned down. The entire structure was razed into ashes, including all hospital equipment and materials. It is alleged that this arson attack was perpetrated by unknown gunmen; however, to document this case, CHRDA spoke to several survivors and eyewitnesses, all of whom gave corroborative testimony naming armed separatist fighters as the perpetrators responsible.

Mimi Mefo Info was the first to report that armed separatist fighters in Manyu Division had attacked and burned down the hospital.¹⁰ News outlet *CRTVweb*, on its Twitter page, also reported that the hospital was set ablaze after an exchange of gunfire between the military and

⁷ <https://mimimefoinfos.com/military-sets-houses-bikes-ablaze-during-raid-in-Konye-sub-division/>

⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10228771511131748&set=pcb.1868343416690779>

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/1927380740639827/posts/548252555125310/?app=fbl>

separatist fighters.¹¹ The CRTV report is consistent with a statement posted on Twitter by Ndong Emmanuel, also known as Capo Daniel, the Deputy Defense Chief of the Ambazonia Defense Forces (ADF), alleging that there was an exchange of gunfire between armed separatist fighters and the Cameroonian military in Bisongabang in Manyu Division, where the hospital is situated. The statement reads: “our forces (ADF) are battling the Cameroon occupation Forces in Bisongabang-Mamfe, four Cameroon forces are down...”¹² Several other credible sources, including *The Guardian Post* newspaper and *Municipal Updates*, reported that the hospital was burned down by armed separatist fighters.

A survivor of the incident, a nurse working at the institution, recounted her story to CHRDA. She stated that at about 9:45pm, “Amba Boys” invaded the hospital and opened fire in the air, saying that everyone should vacate the building, and that they will burn down the hospital. “...We told the government that we will show them...tell them that we are here and we shall burn down the place...where are those government nurses here, you all should come out,” said one of the gunmen. Fearing for their lives, the nurses removed their jackets and hid in the wards, as they did not know if the fighters were shooting and killing people outside or not. The gunmen then took hold of the security man at the hospital, while firing continuously in air. The witness further stated that she could see and hear the gunmen, numbering about 20, arguing among themselves. Some were saying that they should just threaten the people and leave without burning the hospital while the others said that they had already agreed on burning it before coming.

Another eyewitness recounted being asleep at about 9:00pm in a private ward when gunmen entered and collected all their phones and money, then asked them to move outside. They did not know what was happening outside. Upon stepping out, they were met with fire which had already consumed the other part of the hospital.

According to another source, a patient at the hospital, the gunmen brought small gas cylinders which they used to burn down the hospital. They lit all the departments of the hospital and asked the patients to evacuate from all the rooms. Phones were confiscated and money taken from the victims. No life was lost in the incident, but a man of about 62 years sustained injuries on his

¹¹ https://twitter.com/CRTV_web/status/1534859903487119361

¹² <https://twitter.com/Capo4Daniel/status/1534663713583939584?s=20&t=l3l0RZ6Srh34XQm4reYjJA>

legs. Another victim of the incident was a motorcycle rider who came to drop off a patient, not knowing that gunmen had invaded the premises. The gunmen opened fire at him.

After burning the hospital, the gunmen allegedly moved to a private residence close to the hospital and burned it down. They also abducted a businessman called Adolf Lumunga and left with him, demanding a sum of 10 million FCFA for his release.

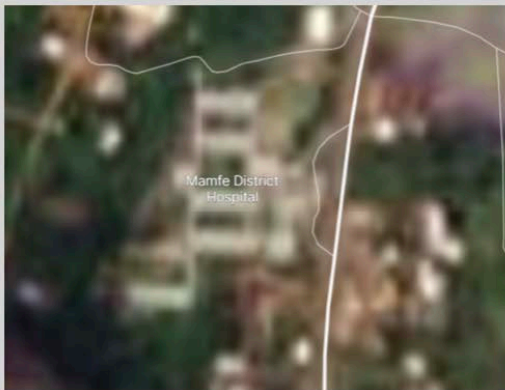
The military arrived at the scene just after the NSAG members had left, and they helped evacuate patients and carry them to the nearby hospitals and health facilities, including the military hospital, for them to take shelter and continue receiving treatment.

The destruction of the Mamfe District Hospital is the latest attack on hospitals in the Southwest Region after other hospitals, including the Kumba District Hospital and the Muyuka District Hospital, were burned in 2019 by unidentified gunmen. The Mamfe District Hospital was the largest health facility in Manyu Division, serving a population of over 85,000 people living in the area. Its destruction will deprive the population of urgently needed healthcare and further weaken the local health system.

GEOLOCATION: Burning of Mamfe District Hospital

The Cameroon Anglophone Crisis Database of Atrocities used OSINT methods and media sources to confirm the geolocation of the burned Mamfe District Hospital to **5° 43' 51.2754" N, 9° 18' 39.708" E**.

Planet Labs satellite imagery of this area from dates before and after the reported burning show evidence of burnings.



Planet Labs imagery from May 18, 2022



Planet Labs imagery from June 10, 2022

On the day of the hospital burning, the Ambazonia Defence Forces (ADF) were reportedly involved in combat to the south of the hospital, as claimed by Deputy Defence Chief of the ADF “Capo Daniel” on his social media page:



Besongabang is located at $5^{\circ} 42' 41.0754''$ N, $9^{\circ} 18' 8.28''$ E, and its relation to Mamfe is visible on the map below.

This is noteworthy; however, it does not identify the ADF as perpetrators of the hospital burning. Other non-state armed groups are also known to operate in the Mamfe and Manyu area.



Location of Besongabang (turquoise), the hospital (red pin), and Mamfe (yellow)

b. Killing of five soldiers in the West Region

On the night of Tuesday, June 7, 2022, armed separatist fighters led by “General No Pity” conducted an operation in the community of Njitapon, situated in Kouoptamo in Noun Division of the West Region. The West Region borders the Northwest Region. This attack in Njitapon is particularly worrisome as it was conducted in the Francophone part of Cameroon, outside of the usual conflict area of the Anglophone Northwest and Southwest Regions. This raises concerns that such attacks could cause a spillover of the conflict to the French-speaking zone, with the potential of plunging the entire country into a civil war. This is not the first time armed separatist fighters from Ngoketunja Division in the Northwest Region have crossed over boundaries and carried out attacks in the West Region.

In this attack, credible sources have confirmed that the armed men invaded Njitapon and attacked the military base hosting elements of Groupement Polyvalent d’Intervention de la

Gendarmerie (GPIGN), killing five gendarme officers, including the lieutenant commander of the base. Two others were injured and narrowly escaped from the scene of the incident. The armed men proceeded to burn down the building, including the bodies of the deceased and a military Hilux parked in front of the building.

GEOLOCATION: Attack on Gendarmerie post in Njitapon

The Cameroon Anglophone Crisis Database of Atrocities confirmed the geolocation of the Gendarmerie post attacked in Njitapon to **5° 46' 6.9234" N, 10° 35' 53.808" E**.

The Database matched this structure on satellite image with that depicted in photos and videos of the attack based on roof shape and building size, along with nearby trees and the position of the post relative to a grey structure nearby visible in a video from the attack.

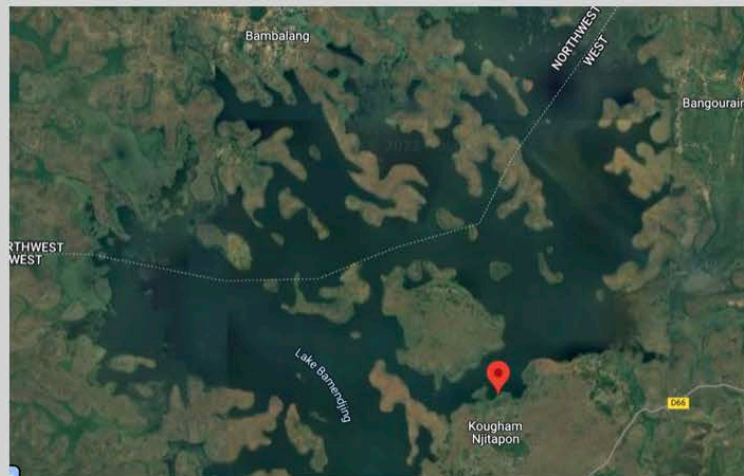


Photo of Gendarmerie post attacked



Google Maps satellite image of 5° 46' 6.9234" N, 10° 35' 53.808" E

It is suspected that fighters under “General No Pity” used a Pirogue canoe to cross Lake Bamendjing from their base in Bambalang, which is on the opposite bank to Njitapon.



Google Maps satellite image of Lake Bamendjing, with red icon showing possible landing point at 5° 46' 42.024" N, 10° 36' 2.952" E

c. Massacre of civilians in Obonyi

For some time now, armed separatist fighters in the villages of Kajifu and Obonyi II, situated in Akwaya Subdivision in Manyu Division of the Southwest Region, have been having conflicts with the population regarding their activities and excesses in these two communities. Since May 14, 2022, armed separatists led by “General Eta” have come to one of the churches in Kadjifu and threatened the Christians. CHRDA spoke to the clergyman leading the church, who recounted that separatist armed men came to him and said they want to stop the white man’s religion in Akwaya, whether Christianity or Islam, and that each religious group must register with them as a business and obtain license to operate.

The armed men also said each Christian needed to obtain a permit from them through payment of a registration fee and obtain a receipt before attending any church activities in Kadjifu. The Christians and the clergyman refused to pay. On Sunday May 22, 2022, the armed men came back with guns and threatened to shoot the pastor if he would not immediately stop any church activity in the community since the church members had refused to pay the registration fee. The pastor asked his Christians to pray at home for the coming Sundays and call him for prayers on the phone in case of urgency, and he left Akwaya for another town. On Sunday, May 29, church service did not hold in his church as worshippers stayed home to monitor the security situation.

Among other excesses was the destruction of identification documents of residents in the community bearing the Cameroonian flag, destruction of number plates on vehicles, harassment of inhabitants and collection of money, where each community is required to contribute money via the quarter head or community leaders.

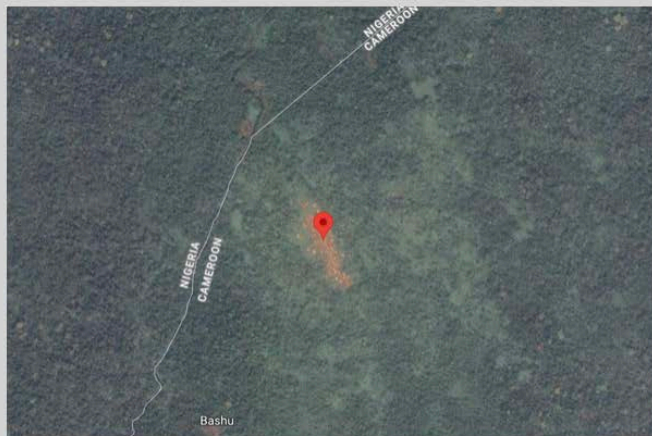
In the village of Obonyi II, abuses and harassment meted on the community resulted in clashes between the youths and the armed men, resulting in the confiscation of the separatists’ motorbikes and the eventual chasing out of the men from the community. The armed men escaped promising to exact revenge on the population. Sources say the issue was resolved, however, in a meeting mediated by the Anyang Clan Council, who invited the armed separatists to Bakem and handed over their motorbikes and guns, leading to relative peace. Yet, the separatists still maintained that they would attack anyone in Obonyi who opposes their activities.

Sources speaking to CHRDA said that on Sunday, May 29, 2022, the armed separatist fighters raided the village of Obonyi II, catching the village unawares. They invaded the Apostolic

Church and opened and fire at worshippers, saying that the attack was in reaction to the non-respect of their injunction banning church activities in the area. The shooting began after youths of the community tried to resist the gunmen when they invaded the church. An initial report from credible sources holds that at least 10 unarmed civilians were killed in the attack and at least 18 others injured. Also, about five houses were razed. These events sparked a new wave of displacement. The population fled to Bashu Village in Nigeria, where the injured have been attended to by the Nigerian Red Cross (International Committee of the Red Cross). On June 8, *The Premium Times Nigeria* reported that the Red Cross had appealed for assistance to support the new refugees.¹³

GEOLOCATION: Attack on Obonyi II Village, Akwaya

The Cameroon Anglophone Crisis Database of Atrocities compared multiple sources to confirm the geolocation of Obonyi II Village, Akwaya, to **6° 7' 36.6234" N, 9° 10' 21.4674" E**.

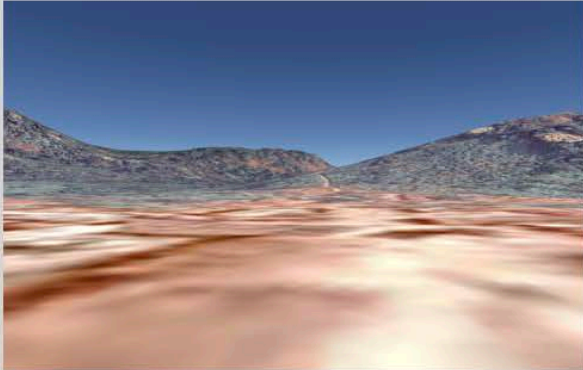


Google Maps satellite image of 6° 7' 36.6234" N, 9° 10' 21.4674" E

¹³ <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/more-news/535587-red-cross-appeals-for-aid-to-support-fleeing-cameroonian-refugees.html>

A video that surfaced from this attack shows villagers fleeing, purportedly to escape the violence. The Database geolocated this video to Okum, Nigeria: 6° 6' 29.9514" N, 9° 8' 5.2074" E.

The video shows a hill with a trail leading off into the distance (see screenshot). It appears that the trees to the left of the path are farther away than those on the right. Researchers used Google Earth to examine ridges in the area and found this location in Okum, with a path leading toward a ridge, and trees to the left of the path farther away than the trees to the right.



Ridge on Google Earth



Screenshot from the video

At one point in the video, the camera pans around and shows a junction, which appears to match an area visible on satellite imagery from Okum.



Screenshot from the video



Junction in Okum

The location of the main shot of the video, showing people fleeing along the path, is thus:



d. Killing of a schoolchild in Kumbo

On Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at about 7:15am, Dora Fonyuy, a pupil St Theresa's Nursery and Primary School, was killed and her classmate Kellisha Formonyuy injured. They were harmed by an explosive device allegedly detonated by armed separatist fighters under the command of "General Talk and Do." The attack was launched against the military at their base at "Company" in Dzenmvem, a neighborhood in Mbve in Kumbo in Bui Division of the Northwest Region.

Witnesses say the two pupils were heading to Jem, where it is reported they were going to collect Dora's handwork for the Common Entrance Practical Examination which she forgot at home.

An eyewitness to the incident stated that at the time of his arrival, Kellisha was still talking and one could hear her say Dora was lying down there. In tears after seeing the lifeless body of Dora, he could only struggle to carry Kellisha as fast as possible to the hospital where she is currently responding to treatment. Dora was lifted up in an ambulance and taken to St Elizabeth Mortuary.

Worth nothing is the fact that the separatist fighters who initially claimed responsibility for the attack later shied away as they realized children were killed and instead accused the military of using grenades on the children.

e. Abduction of Senator Regina Mundi

On April 30, 2022, Senator Regina Mundi was abducted in Bamenda by armed separatist fighters, affiliated with the ADF.¹⁴ While in captivity, her abductors recorded and shared a video of her on social media, which was received and analyzed by CHRDA. On May 7, 2022, the "War Council" of the Ambazonian Governing Council (AGovC) pronounced a death sentence on Senator Mundi, although the sentence was never executed.¹⁵ On May 30, 2022, Captain Cyrille Serge Atonfack Guemo confirmed in a press statement that the military had rescued the senator from separatist captivity.¹⁶

The statement said that starting on Sunday, May 29, 2022, a detachment made up of elements of the DSF engaged in an operation at a separatist camp in Ashong, Batibo, situated in Momo Division of the Northwest Region. The operation saw a shootout between the DSF and the separatist fighters on the evening of Monday, May 30, 2022, and while some of the separatists

¹⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ke3JAq3OG3c>

¹⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XnuSrRMQNGk>

¹⁶ https://www.linkedin.com/posts/cyrille-serge-atonfack-guemo-94314939-cameroun-la-sénatrice-elizabeth-regina-activity-6937192855199215616-DBff?utm_source=linkedin_share&utm_medium=android_app

tried to escape with the hostages they were holding captive, the hostages were rescued by the DSF. The statement held that several hostages, including Senator Mundi, were released in the operation; that the DSF killed a dozen separatists, captured three, injured several, and sent others on the run; that the DSF seized several assault rifles, ammunition of various calibers, and 14 improvised explosive devices, which they defused; and that the DSF seized an all-terrain pick-up vehicle used by the separatists and recovered Senator Mundi's vehicle.

The separatists, on the other hand, confirmed that there was a military operation at their camp in Ashong and that Senator Mundi was freed. ADF Deputy Defence Chief Ndong Emmanuel, also known as Capo Daniel, acknowledged the attack but stated that none of their forces died and only three others sustained injuries.¹⁷

f. Violent suppression of protests in Oku Subdivision between March and April 2022

In the month of March, the women of Oku led a protest calling on the “Amba Boys” to leave their land. They cried out that the separatists are beating their mothers, shooting and killing their fathers with guns, and said the time has come for them to be chased away. The protest started in the village of Ngemsiba after a woman was kidnapped by armed separatist fighters. The population was angry, and they came out in protest, following the calls of “Mfu,” “Manjong” and “Febien” (all of which are secret societies in Oku) to denounce the kidnap of the woman. Both men and women marched to the separatist camp and freed seven persons who were being held in captivity. On Saturday, March 19, 2022, the population of Ngemsiba called a meeting with the separatist fighters and laid down the following rules, among others, for them to maintain a peaceful coexistence:

1. Stop the kidnapping of people of Ngemsiba and demanding for ransom.
2. Stop harassing the population, especially young girls.
3. Stop seizing bikes from their owners. In case they want to use a bike, they should beg it from the owner.
4. Stop entering bars and shops and gatherings with guns.

These rules were accepted by the separatists who attended the meeting, although their main leader, “General Bush Rambo,” was absent in the meeting.

¹⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EoLENMFYYzs>

Then, on Tuesday, March 22, a commercial motorbike rider (name withheld) from Bamenda was stopped by separatists at their Ibal checkpoint. He “settled his control” (paid money), but one of the separatist fighters insisted on taking his bike by force. The boy resisted and unfortunately was shot in his left leg. This angered the population of Ibal, who came out and said they do not want the separatist fighters in Ibal anymore and that they could destroy the shed they constructed for their checkpoint.

On March 23, General Bush Rambo arrived in Ngemsiba, and upon hearing what happened in his absence, he fired shots in the air to frighten the population, saying “the population can’t do anything.” This angered the population, and the villages of Ibal, Ngemsiba and Kevu immediately mobilized and captured nine separatists, including General Bush Rambo, beat them, and seized their guns. They ordered the fighters to leave the village of Ngemsiba immediately and never come back again.

On March 29, the separatists kidnapped the appointed deacon of Jikijem Baptist Church in his residence and took him to Ichim. The populations of Jikijem, Mboh and Kesoten marched to Ichim but were unable to catch the separatists as they escaped just before they arrived. At Ichim, they left a message to the separatists through the population that by the end of the day, if the appointed deacon was not back, they would come after them. In the evening, the appointed deacon returned home. He was not beaten nor was ransom demanded for him.

On the night of April 4, separatists kidnapped Ngum Ebenezer, popularly called “Ngee,” who works with the Elak Council in Oku. He was taken towards Mbam Oku to Gargi, a quarter in Noni Subdivision. This angered the population of Elak, Manchok, and Keyon and they came out on April 5 and 6 to march in protest against separatist atrocities in Oku.

On April 5, the populations of Elak, Manchok, Keyon started the protest march which was joined by the villages of Fekeng, Jikijem, Nkwi, Mbam and Mbamcham. During the protest, they chased away the separatists from their base at Mbamcham Village, destroying their belongings and recovering two bikes that belonged to the people of Jikijem which the separatists had forcefully taken.

In the evening when the people had returned home, the separatist fighters started kidnapping people who participated in the protest. Yofende Jerome and Nkainen Ephraim, popularly called “Agaba,” were the first victims. Yofende Jerome paid a ransom of 50,000 FCFA.

On April 6, since the population was unable to bring back Ngum Ebenezer who was kidnapped in Elak, the protest march continued. This time, the populations of Elak, Keyon and Manchok came out again and headed in the direction of Simonkoh, a village of Oku sharing borders with Kumbo. After reaching Simonkoh and seeing no separatists, some of the protesters continued down to the village of Ntuwil and the quarter of Mgissi in Djottin, situated in Noni Subdivision. There, separatist fighters of Djottin and Buh opened fire at the protesters, killing two persons on the spot and injuring nine others injured. Another 25 persons were kidnapped and taken to unknown destinations.

Names of persons wounded during the protest march by the population against separatists in Oku				
s/n	INITIALS	Village	Sex	Remarks
01	W B N	Manchok	M	20 years old, shot in the fingers
02	H N	Manchok	F	52 years old, shot in the foot
03	T T N	Keyon	M	32 years old, shot in the leg
04	T K N	Keyon	M	34 years old, shot in 3 spots from the waist down
05	N E M	Elak	M	38 years old, shot in the arm
06	N G	Keyon	M	35 years old, shot in the leg
07	B C Y	Elak	F	35 years old, shot in the head
08	M Y	Ngvuinkei 2	F	35 years old, cut in 3 places
09	N C Y	Ngvuinkei 2	F	60 years old, shot in the shoulder
Names of those killed				
01	Chung Eric Mawoh	Keyon	M	About 55 years old
02	Prudencia Kefeyin (Lucky Way)	Manchok	F	About 60 years old
Names of those whose locations are undetermined				
01	Albertine Limnyuy	Elak	F	About 35 years old
02	Ndifon Mary Kah (Manyi)	Elak	F	About 50 years old

At the time of this report, 25 persons are still in separatist custody in Kumbo and Buh, and the separatists are demanding a ransom payment of 1 million FCFA each before releasing them.

Since the protest, the populations of villages that participated in the march have been targeted by the separatists. In Mbam Village alone, more than 10 persons have been picked up and beaten for participating in the protest. This includes Nsakse Eric, a businessman presently in the hospital after being beaten and cut on his foot, Tatah Norbert Ndong, a traditional notable, and Ngek Walters Chimtom, manager of Manchok Credit Union. All were beaten and released later.

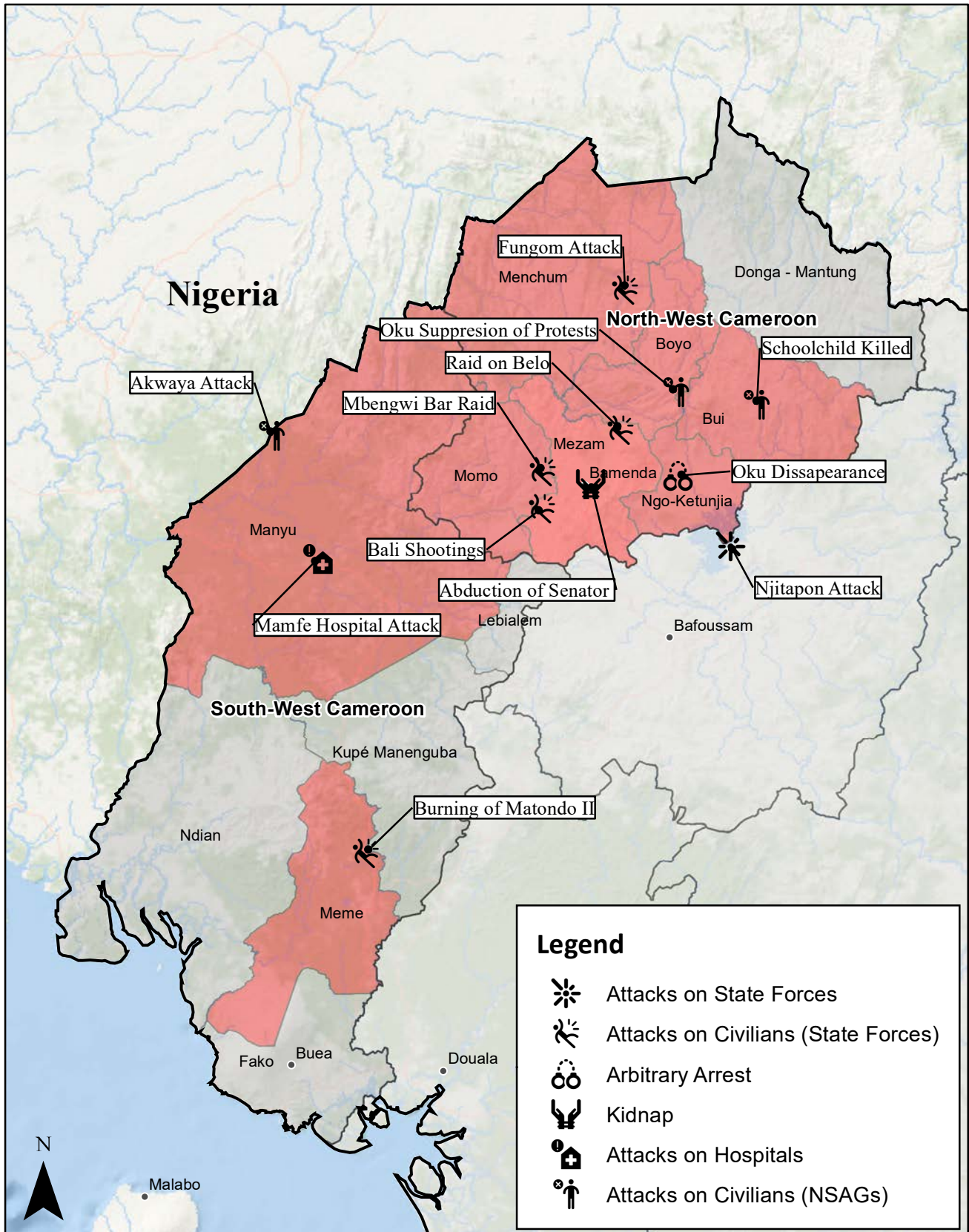
CHRDA visited the Elak District Hospital and spoke with one of the victims of the shooting who explained that when they were marching, armed separatist fighters emerged from the hedges where they were hiding and opened fire at them. The population started running helter-skelter and the unfortunate ones, including himself, got hit by the bullets.

Ngum Ebenezer, whose abduction provoked the protest, was later released from separatist captivity. But the mother of the separatist fighter who kidnapped him was arrested by the military and is presently being held at the Gendarmerie cell in Elak-Oku, while the village head of Ngvenkei 2, who refused to participate in the protest, was also arrested by the military with the pretext that he is a traditional doctor who gives charms (odeshi) to the separatists.

In response to the protest action in Oku, the leader of the AGovC (whose armed wing is the ADF), Ayaba Cho Lucas said: “This is war. You enable the enemy at a very high cost. Cameroun is our enemy for life and all those who fight for it, enable its genocide and connive with it against Ambazonia should leave our country or our forces will find you and the consequences will be high. If you have grievances against our forces report those grievances to the AGovC Deputy Defence Chief, Capo Daniel and we will investigate and provide remedy. This fight shall not be left in the hands of Ambazonia forces alone. It’s a collective fight and we expect our population to provide the first layer of security for our country and not a window for the enemy.”¹⁸

¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/100074237693344/videos/674816097098707/> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQZq6Ew5AYI>

Anglophone Crisis Incidents of Note



Date: 6/13/2022

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Centre for Human Rights
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Cameroon Anglophone Crisis
Database of Atrocities