

## IGAD JTC MVM

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TO: Special Envoys to South Sudan

FROM: Chairman, Joint Technical Committee, Monitoring and Verification Mechanism,  
Juba, South Sudan

DATE: 24 March 2015

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

Your Excellences,

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

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



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**JOINT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (JTC)**

**INVESTIGATIONS INTO VIOLATIONS OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN MANYO & RENK COUNTIES, UPPER NILE STATE**

**(V033)**

**PRESENTED TO:**

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



## IGAD JTC MVM

### Executive Summary

Over the past few months there have been several indirect fire attacks by SPLM/A-IO Forces against Duk Duk and Renk. These have been investigated by MVM and reported accordingly (JTC Reports V026 and V030)

On 5 to 7 March there were further instances of shelling by the SPLM/A-IO against Duk Duk and the area of Renk, which constituted a clear violation of the COHA.



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### INVESTIGATIONS INTO VIOLATIONS OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT IN MANYO AND RENK COUNTIES, UPPER NILE STATE

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Background: Northern Upper Nile State had seen much tension between the Parties, especially since late January 2015 with clashes reported in Duk Duk and also the shelling of Renk by the SPLM/A-IO from the western side of the Nile.
- 1.2 Incidents: Shelling by SPLM/A-IO Forces was reported against Duk Duk, Renk County on 5 March, against Renk on 6 March and against Abukhadra near Renk on 7 March.
- 1.3 Aim: The aim of this report is to provide IGAD Special Envoys with a summary of the incidents that took place in northern Upper Nile State from 5 to 7 March 2015, and where possible apportion responsibility for violations of the COHA.
- 1.4 Methodology:
- Reports were received from the MVT based in the UNMISS CSB in Melut on 5 March about an incident at Duk Duk, and then again on 6 and 7 March further reports came through about shelling in the Renk area.
  - The MVM continued to monitor the situation in northern Upper Nile as it developed, and on 20 March the MVT in Melut was tasked by the JTC to write a report summarising all events and violations since 5 March.

#### 2.0 Violations of COHA – MANYO AND RENK COUNTIES, UPPER NILE STATE

- 2.1 SPLM/A-IO shelling and attack: Due to an established relationship built up over several visits, the MVT in Melut has a close relationship with the UNMISS MLO team in Renk, who have proved to provide reliable and accurate information. From speaking to this team and having access to their reports the confirmed that:
- 5 March: SPLM/A-IO Forces shelled Duk Duk at 0100 Hrs on 5 March, then carried out a limited ground attack at about 0500 Hrs. Several casualties were reported on both sides, but these were unconfirmed. Duk Duk was designated a Disputed Area (DA) but verified by the MVM to be under the control of Government Forces.
  - 6 March: At 0500 Hrs SPLM/A-IO Forces from the western side of the Nile (in Manyo County) initiated an exchange of indirect fire with Government Forces in Renk. It was confirmed that the first rounds were fired by SPLM/A-IO Forces. No casualties were reported.



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- 7 March: In the morning SPLM/A-IO Forces from the western side of the Nile fired some shells at Abukadra, which is about 3 Km north of the UNMISS base at Renk. There were no casualties reported.

2.2 **Assessment:** There is no doubt that the attacks by the SPLM/A-IO described in this report took place and constitute a further 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 Manyo and Renk Counties on 5-7 March 2015:

- 1.1 The Parties hereby agree to cease all military actions aimed at each other

3.2 Recommendations:

- The JTC recommends that the Special Envoys put pressure on SPLM/A-IO Forces to refrain from any further offensive operations in Upper Nile State.

