

The Aid Security Monthly News Brief

January
2015

Security Incidents

Africa

Central African Republic

The number of kidnappings has increased in recent months and several government officials have been taken. Until now, the sectarian violence has not affected foreigners, except those affiliated with the French army or African peacekeeping troops. The two incidents in January appear related to the arrest of the senior anti-Balaka militia leader, known as General Andjilo. According to the reports, the rebels demanded their commander's release in exchange for the hostages.

[19 January](#) - Two staff members of CODIS were abducted in an area controlled by anti-Balaka militia in Bangui. More information: [Voa News](#), [BBC](#), [AFP](#), [IBTimes](#), and [ABC News](#). They were released a few days later. Read more: [ABC News](#), [Voa News](#), [NY Times](#) and [AFP](#).

[20 January 2015](#) - A woman working for MINUSCA was kidnapped by unidentified armed men who stopped the vehicle in which she was travelling. She was released later in the day. Her Ugandan co-worker, who was with her in the car, managed to escape when the attackers stopped the car. A similar style of kidnap attempt had occurred earlier in the day but had not been successful. [More information](#).

Libya

[6 January](#) - An Italian doctor, who was working in a hospital in Dar Al Wafa in Suq Talat in Libya's capital Tripoli, went missing.

South Sudan/Sudan

7 January 2015 - An INGO driver was assaulted by two SPLA soldiers after having been stopped at a roundabout in Agok, Abyei region. UNISFA soldiers intervened. No further information available.

Sudan

[14 January](#) - An INGO national staff member was abducted from his own car when he dropped off a colleague at home in Nyala, South Darfur. [More information](#).

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is prepared by **Insecurity Insight** from information available in **open sources**.

We welcome your [feedback](#). The questionnaire can be completed in 3 minutes, and it will help us understand what kind of monthly information you would be looking for in a database-centered project.

All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

Editorial team

Christina Wille
Director, Insecurity Insight

Larissa Fast
Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame

Raquel Vazquez Llorente
Researcher, European Interagency Security Forum (EISF)

Research team

James Naudi
Insecurity Insight

Jessica MacLean
European Interagency Security Forum (EISF)

[20 January](#) - An MSF staff member and a patient were injured when bombs dropped by the Sudanese Air Force hit the hospital in the Nuba Mountains village of Frandala in South Kordofan. MSF suspended its activities. [More information](#).

[26 January](#) - The SPLM-N, a Sudanese rebel group, took six Bulgarians UNWFP workers captive after they forced their helicopter to land in wartorn South Kordofan province in southern Sudan. They were released on 31 January. More information: [Reuters \(1\)](#), [Reuters \(2\)](#) and [Sudan Tribune](#).

Asia

Afghanistan

[10 January](#) - Eight staff members of the HELLO Trust, a demining NGO, were kidnapped, but released the day after.

Pakistan

[15 January](#) - An anti-polio worker was injured when he was attacked while travelling to Chamarkand area of the Mohmand tribal region in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The attackers operated a remote-controlled improvised explosive device which was planted on the roadside.

[19 January](#) - A policeman escorting polio vaccinators was injured after gunmen shot him in the Pakistani city of Karachi.

	Total of new incidents reported (from open sources)	Country	Staff affected
Kidnappings	12	Afghanistan, CAR and Sudan	International and National
Missing	1	Libya	International
Deaths	0	--	--
Injured	3	Pakistan and Sudan	National
Assaults	1	Sudan	National

Security-related access restraints

Africa

Nigeria

[13 January](#) - Aid agencies have not been able to verify the number of internally displaced people within the country following the Boko Haram attacks due to a lack of independent access to the affected areas.

Sudan

[29 January](#) - The Belgian branch of [MSF](#) withdrew its activities from the states of Blue Nile and areas of

South and East Darfur due to a [lack of cooperation](#) from the part of the Government to grant them access to [people in conflict areas](#). The [French section](#) also suspended work in South Kordofan (see incident above).

Asia

Pakistan

[14 January](#) - The Interior Ministry issued directives to [close down the offices](#) of the US NGO IMap in the country for its anti-Pakistan activities. The police had, two months ago, raided the office and arrested seven staff members.

Europe

Russian Federation

[5 January](#) - An NGO in the Russian city of Volgograd was added to the list of 'foreign agents' on the Justice Ministry's request. It is said that this decision was motivated by the fact that the leader heads the Georgian-Russian Forum of non-profit organisations.

Ukraine

[30 January](#) - Seven people were killed and at least three were wounded in mortar attacks on the city's west side. One mortar hit a crowd of people waiting in line to receive humanitarian aid distributed for children and the elderly by the Rinat Akhmetov Charity Fund. The charity suspended its activities for the day.

Middle East

Occupied Palestinian Territories

[28 January](#) - Around 200 people demonstrated outside the UN compound in Gaza City, burning tyres and throwing stones, following UNRWA's announcement that it cannot afford to repair tens of thousands of homes damaged during the July-August war between Israel and Hamas due to a lack of funding.

Syria

[8 January](#) - The WHO has been unable to get a medical aid convoy through to civilians in the rebel-held part of Aleppo despite government's promise in December to grant access.

[16 January](#) - Food delivery to tens of thousands of people trapped in a besieged district of Homs started following negotiations between UN aid workers and warring parties.

