

EARLY WARNING EARLY RESPONSE SITUATIONAL REPORT

A focus on the conflict incidents happening in Cameroon
following the Anglophone Conflict and Boko Haram insurgency.

1st June - 14th June 2021



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Situational Report

This is the first of the bi-monthly #defyhatenow Early Warning Early Response system reports. In these reports we will identify, monitor, analyze and report conflict activities on the ground. These collected data will be used to predict future conflict trends as an early warning and will be shared with partners and communities for the appropriate early responses. This report is based on the first two weeks of the month of June (1st - 14th).

Latest Events

Akwaja, 29th May 2021

The town of Akwaja, at Ako subdivision in the South West Region of Cameroon was surrounded by military forces. Ako subdivision is one of the divisions that borders Nigeria. According reports The military division that came to Akwaja was deployed from Nkambe. The military interrogated young people on separatist activities and at least 4 (number still contested) young people (mostly young men) were killed by the military for no apparent reason. Some reports say at least 8 civilians were killed by the military who entered the town in the morning, took the victims, tied them up, and shot them at a close range. The military action, as reports now say, was as a retaliation to attacks from supposed separatist fighters (use of explosive devices that left several military officers wounded) which the military convoy suffered on their way to Nkambe .

Bamenda, 2nd June 2021

Three persons were kidnapped in the Bamenda 3 municipality by separatist fighters. The victims of the kidnapping reportedly participated in a civilian protest against separatist fighters that happened on the 31st of May 2021. Most people in the same neighborhood also had to flee their houses for fear of retaliatory kidnapping from separatist fighters.

Banga Bakundu, 3rd June 2021

Separatist setup roadblocks and checkpoints bringing civilian traffic and circulation on the road to Kumba still. At these checkpoints, drivers were asked to pay heavy taxes and passengers were left stranded for hours waiting to be allowed to go through. Some reports suggest that the road blockage could be a deviation to set their explosives against the military while endangering the lives of civilians.

Mamfe, 06 June 2021

Gunmen attacked the Catholic Pastoral Center. The incident which happened in the evening at 8pm during a birthday party organized for one of the priests saw unknown gunmen storm the Francis Xavier Pastoral Centre Banquet Hall Mamfe and fire indiscriminately. One civilian was killed; many were injured including children.

Likomba, 06 June 2021

Two watchmen were reportedly shot and killed by Ambazonia fighters. Reports say the watchmen were killed for failing to abide by the warnings from the 'amba-boys' not to go to work.

Bamenda, 08 June 2021

Reports say the corpse of a man suspected to be a separatist was abandoned on the road. The body had reportedly been dumped in the middle of the road and was described to have gunshot wounds most likely from the previous night. Reports say the man was shot, killed and abandoned by the military to make an example for what will happen to other separatists fighters.

Bamenda, 09 June 2021

Family and friends of a civilian arrested by the military a few days prior raise questions on the disappearance of their loved one. The military had arrested the man following suspicions of his participation in the separatist activities. The man reportedly went missing while in military custody as relatives and friends have not been able to see any record of him in any of the police stations or military posts, and they fear he might have been murdered.

Yaounde, 10 June 2021

Paul Biya appoints independent conciliators for the North West and South West regions. These conciliators will help plan and facilitate peaceful dialogue. Reports and several influencers however fear the conciliators are biased as most of them are from the ruling party.

Nwa, 9th June 2021

A 60-year-old woman is reported shot and killed by military forces in Nwa subdivision in the North West region. Reports say the woman was shot because her daughter is married to a suspected 'Amba-boy'. The victim, identified as Nwang Lydia, was killed while cooking in her kitchen at Gom village.

Muea, 14th June 2021

Gun-wielding separatists entered Muea, a small village in Buea shooting indiscriminately and set cars and property ablaze. Two policemen were reportedly killed in the incident. The separatists set at least seven cars on fire next to the police station as reports have confirmed.

Nake Bakundu, 14th June 2021

During a shootout, a separatist fighter was shot dead by soldiers in Nake Bakundu, a village in the South West region of Cameroon. The said separatist fighter went by the alias of 'Imoh'. According to reports, Imoh and his group had set up an illegal checkpoint where they stopped vehicles to collect money from drivers and passengers. The shooting happened in the said checkpoint when a military convoy arrived and opened fire, killing one fighter as the others escaped.

Online, violence has over the course of the first two weeks of June been incited towards the 'Anglophone' elites. This group of people has been tagged as 'black legs', a word used to refer to a large and diverse group of people with political and economic influence, owing to the allegations about their collaboration with the government to kill civilians and separatist fighters and to see the Anglophone regions marginalized for their political and economic gain. Ambazonia fighters are reportedly now targeting these 'Anglophone elites' and their relatives. According to the separatists, the elites are the cause of the problems faced by the two Anglophone regions, such as bad roads, marginalization, and the killing of citizens.

Early Warning

From the events of the last weeks and months and the analysis of the situation report, a predictive estimate of the likelihood of some divisions and towns experiencing one or more of the following incident types:

1. Violence against Civilians;
2. Military Action;
3. Civilian Protests or Riots;
4. Separatist Attack;
5. IED use.

The probability threshold forecasts most of the municipalities and divisions of Bui, Mezam, Ngoketunjia, Kupe Maninguba and Fako can be expected to experience one or more of these types of incidents over the next week.

Incidents Recorded In the Month of June

