

[TC: The sequential order of this document is not the way they appear in the PDF. The proper order, according to their page numbers in the PDF is 1-7-3-4-5-6-2-8-9-10]

P. 1 & 7:

Pages 1 and 7 contain a news report dated 19960907 about an incident in which Ethiopian forces entered Somalia and conducted an offensive operation against Islamic Fundamentalists in the Gedo Region of the country. A news correspondent assigned to East Africa, Harun Khan Amin, provided the report.

The main reason for Ethiopia entering Somalia is the presence of al-Ittihad al-Islami [The Islamic Union], the Somali Fundamentalist Movement, which controlled the Gedo region. The correspondent says that the true on is that there are Ethiopian Fundamentalists from the Ogaden region present in this area of Somalia. These Ethiopian Fundamentalists went there Sanctuary and for Training Camps and as a place to launch their military operations inside Ethiopia. These fundamentalists are present in large force in the area [Gedo] and have training camps there. At the same time, large numbers of terrorists from all over the world are gathering in this region. The Ethiopian forces entered the region to “break the back” of these fundamentalists from Ogaden who are threatening to end the Ethiopians’ rule.

Two months before this incident a Saudi man was arrested in the southern Ogaden region, at the same time military operations near Addis Ababa [The capital of Ethiopia] increased. Two or three weeks before the attack there was an assassination attempt on the Ethiopian Minister of Transportation, ‘Abd-al-Majid, in which three guards wee killed and the terrorists escaped, also a bus carrying 40 Tigray [TC: the ruling tribe in Ethiopia] exploded, killing all aboard. Two days before the attacks, a bomb exploded at a hotel where several Tigray lived, the main bridge between Ogaden and Addis Ababa exploded, and there was an explosion on train tracks that provide the main source of goods to the capital from the sea.

The Beginning of the Problem:

The Ethiopians had a large opportunity when the Somali leader, Farrah Aideed, passed away and the Fundamentalists weren’t conducting any military movements, so the Ethiopians contacted Somali General Masali, who is the leader of the Secularist Front (SNF) in Gedo, and the leaders of the Marehan tribe. They met in Addis Ababa and convinced them that the problem was the presence of the Ogaden Fundamentalists. The attacks were conducted against three cities in the area Balad Huwa, Luuq, and Dulo. It was reported in the news that the attacks were carried out with heavy weapons, Cobra Helicopters, and tanks; members of the SNF were at the front of the attacks.

Results of the Attacks:

This paragraph mentions that all three cities fell and the numbers killed and injured it states that 12 foreigners were killed, among them Arabs, French, Turks, and Americans. The Ethiopians burned a large mosque in Balad Huwa, which was a gathering center for the fundamentalists, and handed over the city to the SNF.

The Fundamentalists position on the attacks:

The leader of the local [Somali] Fundamentalists is Muhammad Hajj Yusuf.

The attacks were a shock to most of the commanders of the local fundamentalists. The deputy officer Mu'alim Mahmud went to Mombassa, Kenya two days before, and after the attacks he moved to Nairobi where he met with the officers there. They wrote a letter to Humanitarian Organizations denouncing the attacks by the Ethiopians.

The Ogaden Fundamentalists vowed to continue their military operations inside Ethiopia and one Ogaden Fundamentalist sent a fax to the Ethiopian Embassy threatening to kill them.

The Somali Factions; the new leader of Somalia, Hussein Aideed; and the other leader of Somalia, 'Ali Mahdi, denounced the attacks.

The position of nearby countries:

Kenya denounced the attacks and claimed that some of the explosions affected lands within the Kenyan borders, killing one Kenyan soldier. Kenya began conducting surveillance on all Somalis living in Kenya. The Ethiopian embassy in Kenya issued a memo containing the names of 100 members of the Ittihad al-Islam and the telephones of all Islamic organizations in Kenya are under surveillance.

Djibouti did not issue any denouncement of the attacks and did not want to comment about them.

Conclusion:

The region remains in turmoil because the Ethiopians are still conducting attacks against the Ogaden Fundamentalists inside Somalia and the fundamentalists are still conducting operations within Ethiopian cities. Another major offensive is expected and the Ethiopians will probably use Somali tribes to help. They already distributed some 600 weapons to the Marihan tribe, but after distributing them, some of the people ran off with the weapons.

P. 3 & 4:

Pages 3 and 4 contain a news report about the incidences in the Lower Jubba region during the Ethiopian attacks on Gedo. Shu'ayb al-Salihi, the Monte Carlo Correspondent wrote this report on 19960907.

In Southern Somalia, in the Lower Jubba region, Marghin, the Somali Leader who lives in Kismayyo, moved with more than 50 men from his tribe. He took with him Ahmad Hashi, who is the second successor after Hussein Aideed, and who has influence in Dobra, and is from the al-Muqabil tribe, which is a sept of the Ogaden tribe and whose members live in Batatu [possibly Badhaadhe]. Marghin had announced his plans to move well in advance of the attacks. The first goal of this movement was to unify the largest tribe in Somalia, the Darud, who had controlled the previous government in Somalia. The Darud tribe is divided into three main sects; the Ogaden, the Marihan, and the Mujirtin. The tribe composes the majority of Somali Citizens and the most land. The second goal was to go to Kenya to retrieve some weapons that he had left there 3 or 4 years earlier when Aideed attacked Kismayyo.

One of the tribes along Marghin's way to Kenya was the 'Abdallah tribe who refused to

let him pass.

Names of persons and tribes mentioned in this section:

The Muqabil tribe in the city of Batatu [Possibly Badhaadhe], Somalia

The 'Abdallah tribe in the city of Kolbiyo, Kenya

The al-Akhwan tribe [al-Akhwan means the brothers and is possibly referring to the Ittihad al-Islam] in the city of Kaambooni, Somalia

General Mahmud, the former Kenyan Defense Minister and a member of the 'Abdallah tribe

Sheikh al-Tayyib, general officer of the Ogaden movement and from the 'Abdallah tribe

Sheikh 'Abd al-Salam, head of the Ogaden movement

Sheikh Hasan Turki, deputy general officer of the Ogaden movement

'Abd-al-Rahman Husayn [AKA Daybish], the military officer of the Ogaden movement and from the 'Abdallah tribe

Sheikh 'Abd-al-Salam 'Uthman, a former officer of the al-Akhwan in Ogaden and from the Muqabil tribe

Sheikh Hasan Ashqar, the officer for the Akhwan [Brothers] in the lower Jubba area of Somalia

Marghan mentioned that he received half a million dollars from the wife of David Morse [TC: possibly David Morris], the Jew who had been killed by the Akhwan.

P. 4 & 5:

The end of page 4 and page 5 contain a financial report, written by accountant Mukhtar Husayn Kazim on 19970116. The report is about the costs associated with a pond project. The project includes training agricultural workers and has a budget of \$10,000. The report identifies three training sessions of 60 workers each to take place between August 23 and November 15. It also lists costs for food, medicine, travel by the engineers, repairing a vehicle, seeds for the farm for two seasons, a boat, 50 sheep, and a house for the engineers on the farm.

P. 6 & 2:

Pages 6 and 2 contain reports written on 19970201.

The first is a news report about the situation in southern Somalia in the Lower Jubbah region; it is written by Shu'ayb al-Salihi. The report says that some of the engineers arrived from the Gulf with some donations and gathered information about the area including taking pictures. It talks about the food that is being delivered by humanitarian organizations and about the presence of al-Akhwan, who have gathered with their families in Kambooni. The fifth section of the report states that the technical director of the farm was appointed and they received approximately 1500 dirham, of which a large portion was designated for buying agricultural necessities (weapons) and some for repairing a vehicle; however, the workers are new and have not been trained. The end of the report states that the Ethiopians are still striking and that they gave approximately 70 tons of weapons to 'Ali Mahdi, but he turned around and sold them in the markets in the Somali capital city. The time from October 1996 to January 1997 was the worst time for fighting in Mogadishu between the factions of 'Ali Mahdi, Hussein Aideed and Muhammad 'Ali 'Atu.

The second report from this section is a report about the economic situation of the Fishing Project, written by Nur al-Din al-Bahar, the economic engineer. The report discusses the purchase of boats and refrigerators costing an amount of 82,000 Kenyan Shillings [Approx \$10,000] and not having enough money for a small transport vehicle or to buy material necessities for the engineers. The amount used for buying the necessities for the “plan” was approx \$61,000 and they spent \$2,000 for the capital, but the plan failed, so now they are trying to sell some of the boats and refrigerators to come up with new capital, for a second attempt at the plan.

The third report is written by all of the engineers about their material situation; It states that there are 4 engineers who were chosen to undertake the Fish Project, Khalid Mukhtar, Tawfiq al-Mumbasi, Nur al-Din al-Malindi, and Shu’ayb al-Malindi. The report states that the project cannot cover their financial needs; it can’t even pay for a house rental. The report describes the current living situation of each engineer, including two other engineers, ‘Abd-al-Sabur and Salih Harun, who work for the “organization”.

P. 8-10:

Pages 8 through 10 are a report from Salih ‘Abd-al-Wahid to Sheikh Abu-Hafs on 19931201. The report states that on 19931128, Salih met with Sheik ‘Abdallah Sahl who arranged for him to meet with Sheikh Hasan Tahir. In this meeting they spoke of cooperation between their two groups. Hasan Tahir, Salih ‘Abd-al-Wahid, ‘Uthman, and Sheikh ‘Abdallah Sahl attended the meeting in which they discussed the following points:

- 1- The need specifically to strike the American Forces in Somalia and in general strike the UN Forces in Somalia
- 2- Research a plan for a military operation with the military leaders of the Ittihad. If the Ittihad conducts an operation, “we” [the group that Salih belongs to] will try to gather the Mujahidin sects to work for the Ittihad
- 3- If the Ittihad does not conduct an operation “we” will continue to aid the secularist groups
- 4- “We” are prepared to finance all operations
- 5- The necessity of secrecy because of the poor security situation

Sheikh Hasan states that the time is not right to start conducting Jihad and that they must work against the Americans through political means until it is the right time. He says that right now they have to work on preparing a large force of Islamic fighters and train them to conduct guerilla warfare. Then they will go to the Shura Council to decide the appropriate time to begin.

Salih asks why the Sheikh hasn’t begun to have the men trained in the camps that have been open for almost 8 months. Sheikh Hasan replies that the camps are in open areas that are vulnerable to strikes from planes so it was agreed on by Abu-Hafs to close the camps. He says that the Shura council wants the training to be conducted inside houses in Mogadishu, instead of in the camps. The letter closes by discussing the fact that even though Sheikh Hasan has been separated from the Ittihad for two years, he still speaks on their behalf and the young men that Salih’s group will be training belong to the Ittihad al-

Islam.