



**Summary of Latest Reports of Violations of the Permanent Ceasefire**  
**Investigated and verified by the IGAD Monitoring and Verification Mechanism in South Sudan**  
**As at 22 September 2015**

**Background:** The IGAD Monitoring & Verification Mechanism (MVM) was set up in February 2014 to monitor implementation of the COHA by the two Parties to the Agreement, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (GRSS) and the SPLM/A In Opposition, as well as any armed groups under their control or invited to support them. The MVM has 6 Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs) deployed to the states of Jonglei, Upper Nile and Unity, where hostilities have occurred. The Teams monitor violations through direct observation and investigation, including information-gathering from varied sources. There is an extensive process of fact-checking before each violation is verified and submitted to the Office of the IGAD Special Envoys for South Sudan, who carry out a further review. The following is a report of the most recent verified violations. Since The Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan was signed on 26 August 2015 the MVM reports violations of the Permanent Ceasefire which forms part of the Agreement and which includes all provisions of the COHA.

Reference	Date of Violation	Location	Nature of Violation	Responsible Party
V049	13 September 2015	Guit Unity State	<p><b>Incident:</b> SPLM/A(IO) Forces attacked Guit which was held by Government Forces causing both military and civilian casualties. They later withdrew taking a large number of cattle, and the town was re-occupied by Government Forces.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> Even after the signing of the Permanent Ceasefire on 26 August tensions within Unity State have remained. On 10 September the MVT based in Bentiu heard that a local SPLM/A-IO commander based in Biil was planning to attack Guit. They spoke to the commander who assured them he would not attack.</p>	SPLM/A (IO)

		<p><b>Incident:</b>  In the early hours of 13 September SPLM/A-IO Forces attacked Guit. At least 5 Government Forces soldiers were killed, and two civilians, both women. Government Forces were pushed out of the town and withdrew several kilometers and called for reinforcements. The SPLM/A-IO looted the town and then withdrew, taking a number of cattle with them. Following the arrival of reinforcements Government Forces reoccupied the town.</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b>  The MVT gathered information from a variety of sources, including Government Forces officers and officials, the UN and community sources. They visited Guit independently and interviewed witnesses. The MVT also spoke with the SPLM/A-IO commander involved who admitted going to Guit; he claimed that he was provoked and that Government Forces attacked his forces first, but all the evidence suggests it was the SPLM/A-IO forces who attacked. In any case he said that he had moved to Guit from Biil, and this move was in itself a provocative act and in contravention of the Permanent Ceasefire. The SPLM/A-IO Commander also admitted to the MVT that he knew of the Permanent Ceasefire had received instructions not to take any offensive action.</p> <p>It is the assessment of the JTC that the incident in Guit on 13 September constituted a clear violation of the Permanent Ceasefire by elements of the SPLM/A-IO.</p> <p><b>Articles of the Permanent Ceasefire violated:</b></p> <p>Article 1.2 The GRSS and SPLM/A-IO shall disseminate the provisions of this Agreement to all forces under their command or influence, and allies, <i>to ensure compliance immediately upon signing.</i></p> <p>Article 1.6 The GRSS and SPLM/A-IO shall refrain from prohibited actions under the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of 23 January 2015</p> <p>The articles of the COHA violated by the SPLM/A-IO were Articles 1 and 3, particularly:</p> <p>1.1 The Parties hereby agree to cease all military actions aimed at each other and any other action that may undermine the peace process.</p> <p>3.1 Parties will refrain from attacks on the civilian population....</p>	
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		<p><b>Recommendations and observations:</b></p> <p>This incident demonstrates a complete disregard of the recently-signed Permanent Ceasefire by a group of SPLM/A-IO Forces in Unity State. Even if there was provocation, this provides no reason or excuse to take this type of offensive action. The situation in Unity State remains volatile, and it is vital that both Parties respect the Permanent Ceasefire.</p> <p>The JTC regrets the loss of life, especially by the two civilians who should have been able to enjoy peace under the Permanent Ceasefire.</p> <p>The JTC recommends that the Special Envoys take all necessary steps to ensure that both Parties comply with the terms of the Permanent Ceasefire, and that in this instance the SPLM/A-IO accepts responsibility for this violation and take disciplinary action against the commander involved.</p>	
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<b><u>Attribution and Type of Violations for the entire period of 8 February 2014 to 22 September 2015</u></b>							
<p><b>As of 22 September 2015, in the past 19 months the MVM has reported a total of <u>49</u> incidents which resulted in violations of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (or after the 26 August the Permanent Ceasefire). This includes <u>24</u> violations by the GRSS and <u>29</u> violations by the SPLM/A (IO). Some incidents include violations by both Parties and of more than one article and in more than one state.</b></p> <p><b>Since the signing of the permanent Ceasefire, there has been 1 Violation by the GRSS (V048 on 2 September) and 1 Violation by the SPLM/A-IO (V049 on 13 September).</b></p> <p><b>A change to the way in which Violations are reported is anticipated as the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring Mechanism (CTSAMM) becomes operational.</b></p>							
Incidents including Violations	Attributed to Government Forces/GRSS	Attributed to SPLM/A (IO)	Article 1 Cessation of Hostilities	Article 2 Cessation of Hostile Propaganda	Article 3 Protection of Civilians	Article 4 Humanitarian Access	Article 7 Operations of the MVT

49	24	29	41	1	25	6	7
<b>Violation by Location</b>		UPPER NILE	UNITY	JONGLEI	JUBA		
		28	18	7	2		

**NOTE: Summaries of all verified IGAD MVM violations are on the website of the Office of the IGAD Special Envoys [www.southsudan.igad.int](http://www.southsudan.igad.int)**