



A Bridge to FAR! Going after the FDLR

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Scope

- **Introduction**
- **Nairobi talks**
- **Goma Declaration**
- **Rwanda in DRC**
- **FARDC re-deploy**
- **MONUC 's position**
- **Possible FDLR reaction**
- **Political impact**
- **Possible scenarios**



Introduction

- **Geo-political environment has changed in DRC**
- **Nkunda-Bosco split**
- **Nairobi talks**
- **Goma declaration**
- **Rwanda back in DRC**



Nairobi talks

- Process supported by UN, AU and the GLI
- UN Special Representative to GL, Former Nigerian President Obasanjo played a big role (Supported by former Pres Mkapa)
- Obasanjo/Kabila/Nkunda
- Process is proceeding slow
- Possible split in CNDP resulting in GoDRC not willing to sign any agreement
- Meeting to brief GLI at the end of January 2009
- Meeting over, CNDP/GoDRC agreement



Goma Declaration

- The meeting did take place in Goma at the Ihusi hotel between CNDP, PARECO, Government of DRC and Rwanda.
- The following people were present:
- Jean Bosco Ntaganda, COS of CNDP
- Colonel Sultan Makenga, CNDP Nkunda
- General Mugabo, PARECO
- Mr. Celestin Mbuyu Kabungu, DRC Minister of Interior and Security
- National Police Inspector John Numbi, DRC
- General James Kaberebe, RDF Chief of Staff



Cont

A declaration was signed and the signatures did undertake to:

- CNDP and PARECO will put their forces under operational command of FARDC
- CNDP ready for integration into the FARDC under the supervision of a Joint Commission
- Commitment of CNDP to peace in DRC
- Readiness of CNDP to fight FDLR
- FARDC to build confidence in Eastern DRC and ensure the return of peace to the region
- CNDP will immediately dismantle all roadblocks in North Kivus.
- Government of DRC to accelerate the implementation of the Goma Agreement and the implementation of the Amani process.

- During a separate meeting the following CNDP commanders signed the declaration and gave their full support:
 - General Bosco Ntaganda, Chef d'Etat Major,
 - Colonel Makenga, Chef d'Etat Major adjoint,
 - Colonel Muhindo Faustin G3
 - Colonel Ruhorimbere
 - Colonel Claude Mucho
 - Colonel Munyakazi
 - Colonel Baudoin
 - Lt Colonel Mulomba
 - Lt Colonel Wilson



Rwanda back in DRC

- Rwanda has undertaken to give Logistical and Intelligence support to the FARDC/CNDP/PARECO force.
- This also quickly changed when four thousands RDF troops with heavy military weaponry enter into DRC on 20 January 2009 to go after FDLR.



Rwanda back in DRC



- RDF official announced that they only deployed observers with protection elements.
- On the ground infantry battalions with heavy equipment supported by FARDC T55 tanks were seen on the routes Goma-Masisi and Goma-Rutsururu

CONT



FARDC re-deploy

- Equipment redeploy from SAKE to GOMA:
 - T 55 tanks
 - BMP' s
 - Anti-aircraft guns
- FARDC Future Deployment



FARDC re-deploy



- **FARDC Future Deployment**
 - 18, 15, 4 FARDC Bde at **KIWANJA**
 - 9, 7, 2 FARDC Bde along the **KIBRIZI- NYANZALE- KITCHANGA** axis
 - 6 FARDC Bde at **BENI**
 - 82 Bde will move to **KITCHANGA** via **SAKE**
 - 83 Bde will move **Kibumba**





MONUC's position

- **MONUC have been kept out of the loop**
- **MONUC has in the interim but in place contingency plans to deal with the possible consequences. This includes the following:**
 - **Early identification of possible flash points**
 - **Likely reaction of FDLR**
 - **Impact on civilians**
 - **Possible attacks on IDP camps by FDLR**
 - **Possible tasks in support of FARDC**
 - **Protection of civilians.**

CONT



- It is important to notice that the MONUC mandate only make provision for MONUC to support FARDC and not rebel groups or the Rwandan Defence Force
- Biggest challenge for MONUC will be the protection of civilians
- Remarks by Ambassador Doss of concern, protection of civilians is firstly the responsibility of the GoDRC.



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- Hopefully by the end of the week we will know what MONUC will do in this
- context ... (but) in order to protect the population, maybe we will have to
- relocate them," MONUC FC.
- "We will not participate in any action against the FLDR," Dietrich said.



FDLR reaction

- FDLR regrouping in preparations for attacks
- Possible brake-up into smaller groups
- Attack population
- Repeat of 2007 Mixage process
- Same role players
- Mass displacement expected
- Human rights violation
- FDLR will still be their



Political impact

- RDF will be observers
- 10 to 15 days
- Congolese people not happy
- RDF in DRC with 20, 000 troops, why did they not defeat the FDLR
- Vital Kamerhe, speaker of the lower house of parliament, said the government's decision to invite Rwandan troops into Congo in a joint bid to hunt down Rwandan Hutu rebels was "grave".
- Parliament had last October recommended a plan to repatriate FDLR using soldiers provided by the regional Southern African Development Community bloc, and with diplomatic and political oversight, no such oversight existed in the current plan.



Possible Scenarios

- **Nkunda rebel (Nkunda arrested)**
 - Is the split real,
 - How much support for Bosco
- **Numbi, Amisi in Goma, Genl Gaye also in Goma, do MONUC approve?**
- **Bukavu, Uvira, Kalemie, Kisangani and Kinshasa, could react strongly when they learn about Rwandan troops entering DR Congo.**
- **The FDLR's expected move to the west and to South Kivu, may start immediately. They are likely to take the population along or the population in certain areas might just decide to run, for fear of the offensives.**
- **FDLR to react violently against the population if attacked or disappears into the population**