

Beat: News

UPC Rebels Attack Central African Republic Soldiers Position, Killing 6

Report by Chief Bisong Etahoben

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ARAC International Global Partner - "Multiple sources revealed that the rebels attacked the positions of the FACA soldiers, killing six of them with five others wounded.

Soldiers of the Central African Republic national army, FACA, that were stationed in Digui situated 42 km from Bambari near Ngakobo to the centre-south of the country on Sunday, May 22, fled in disarray as their positions came under attack by rebels of the Unite pour la Paix en Centrafrique (UPC) who are affiliated to the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC).

Six soldiers were killed during the clashes including two gendarmes.

According to local military sources, the clashes took place at 4 o'clock in the morning at checkpoints manned by FACA soldiers within the Digui junction situated 20 kilometres from the locality of Ngakobo.

"They came early this morning and attacked soldiers of the national army at the checkpoints at the entrance and exit of Digui junction. Some soldiers were killed and others wounded," one local security source revealed, adding that "the number of soldiers killed is four but this is a provisional figure".

Another source said there were six deaths among the defence and security forces including two gendarmes and four FACA soldiers. Five FACA soldiers were also seriously wounded.

"Some hours after the attack, inhabitants of Ngakobo started leaving the town and the FACA soldiers in the town were constrained to take refuge in the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) base," military sources said.

This region of the Central African Republic is the theatre of regular clashes between FACA soldiers supported by Russian mercenaries and the Touadera faction of the Anti-Balaka militia and rebels of the Coalition of Patriots for Change (CPC)."

Source: ARAC International global media partner HumAngle

About the author:

Chief Bisong Etahoben is a Cameroonian investigative journalist and traditional ruler. He writes for international media and has participated in several transnational investigations. Etahoben won the first-ever Cameroon Investigative Journalist Award in 1992. He serves as a member of a number of international investigative journalism professional bodies including the Forum for African Investigative Reporters (FAIR). He is HumAngle's Francophone and Central Africa editor.

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