



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit
Communications & Public Information Office

PRESS RELEASE

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UNMISS strongly condemns the attacks in Twic East

The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) strongly condemns the deadly attacks that were perpetrated against civilians on Sunday, 20 October, in Twic East County, Jonglei State. The attacks resulted in high numbers of killed and wounded. One attack was on Paliau cattle camp in Ajong Payam, and the other was in Maar cattle camp, Pakeer Payam, with subsequent attacks in a couple of other locations.

As soon as the fighting had stopped yesterday, the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) flew health partners to the attacked areas to evacuate casualties. By the end of the day, UNHAS had evacuated a total of 31 seriously wounded civilians to Bor and Juba. They also reported more wounded civilians remaining in the area and this morning UNHAS dispatched a helicopter to continue the medical evacuations.

In addition, UNMISS yesterday launched an aerial recce to determine the scale of the attacks and check on the movement of the attackers. UNMISS today flew in a team of investigators from its UN police, human rights, civil affairs and human rights component, along with SSNPS counterparts to investigate the attacks, ascertain the identity of the attackers, and determine the accurate number of casualties.

This Mission will also work closely with the South Sudanese authorities to have the perpetrators held to account, and work with the SPLA and SSNPS to find ways of enhancing arrangements by SPLA, SSNPS and UNMISS to provide effective protection to vulnerable communities.

UNMISS wishes to convey its deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of those who lost their lives during the attacks.

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