

Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale

Bilagsnr.:	438
Land:	Somalia
Kilde:	Udlændingestyrelsen
Titel:	Notat Bullo Burto og vejen til Belet Weyne
Udgivet:	27. maj 2014
Optaget på baggrundsmaterialet:	25. september 2014



Notat om Bullo Burto og vejen til Belet Weyne

En international organisation med tilstedeværelse i det sydlige og centrale Somalia oplyste den 15. maj 2014, at hovedvejen (kaldet Main Supply Road (MSR) af kilden) mellem Bullo Burto (Buulo Barde, Bulla Burde, Buule Burde, Bulo Burde, Buulobarde, Bullo Burto) og Belet Weyne (Beled Weyne, Beledweyne, Beletweyne) i Hiran regionen ikke kontrolleres af nogen af de stridende parter i området.

Kilden forklarede videre, at al-Shabaab ikke har nogen permanent tilstedeværelse og ej heller har udstationeret styrker i landsbyerne langs hovedvejen, men militser med tilknytning til al-Shabaab har fri bevægelighed i området.

I forlængelse af ovenstående kan det oplyses at Bullo Burto blev befriet for al-Shabaab den 13. marts 2014¹ og siden da er mange af de indbyggere, der i sin tid flygtede fra al-Shabaab's regime² i området vendt tilbage til byen.³

Den 21. marts 2014 rapporterede FNs nyhedstjeneste IRIN, at en række byer i Hiran, Bay og Bakool var blevet befriet for al-Shabaab, herunder Bullo Burto i Hiran regionen:

Since the offensive began in early March, six towns in the regions of Hiraan, Bay and Bakool have been captured from the Al-Shabaab insurgency: Hudur, Rabdhure, Ted, Weel Dheyn, Burdhubow and Buule Burde.

“Buule Burde in Hiraan region was a strategic town for the Al-Shabaab. It was their supply nerve centre and home to hundreds of the Al-Qaeda-linked terrorists,” said AU envoy and AMISOM head Mahamat Saleh Annadif in a recent statement.

He added that the town's capture “provides a major boost to our efforts to bring peace and stability to Somalia”.⁴

¹ http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2014/03/14/newsbrief-01

² http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2013/12/26/feature-01

³ http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2014/03/26/feature-01

⁴ <http://www.irinnews.org/report/99817/short-term-costs-of-military-gains-in-somalia>



African Union mission in Somalia (AMISOM) soldier, belonging to the Djiboutian contingent of the AU mission, celebrating after capturing the Al Shabaab held town of Buule Burde on March 13, 2014 in the Hiraan region of Somalia
AFP PHOTO / AU-UN IST PHOTO / ILYAS A.ABUKAR

Det kan tilføjes, at United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) den 7. april 2014 rapporterede, at sikkerhedssituationen fortsat var flydende i flere af de områder, hvor AMISOM og Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) havde gennemført deres offensiver mod al-Shabaab:

One month after the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF) and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) military operation in southern and central Somalia began six regions have been directly impacted: Bakool, Galgaduud, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower and Middle Shabelle. The situation remains fluid with continued reports of temporary movements. [...]

Reports from humanitarian partners and local authorities indicate that people have returned to some towns, which they had left as a precautionary measure, for example in Bullo Burto and Maaxas in Hiraan region and Waajid in Bakool region. [...]

Al Shabaab continued to restrict movement of people and control of supply routes to most of the recovered areas, according to local authorities and humanitarian



partners. This has negatively impacted the availability of basic commodities in local markets in Bullo Burto, Buur Dhuubo, Rab Dhuure, Waajid and Xudur.⁵

I dets bestræbelser på at konsolidere fred og sikkerhed i Bullo Burto-området annoncerede AMISOM den 20. april 2014, at man sender forstærkninger til byen. Bullo Burto udgjorde en strategisk højborg for al-Shabaab:

In a bid to improve the security in Bulla Burde town, AMISOM forces from the Djiboutian contingent have deployed reinforcement troops to the town. [...]

“The additional troops will play a vital role in ensuring the security of the population” said Major Ismail adding that AMISOM objective in Bulla Burde is to flush out Al Shabaab and to hold on the recovered position as the joint forces extend their perimeters of control by operating and clearance missions to Aborey, Yasoman, Douhoul and Bereyabal.

Somali National Army supported by AMISOM troops have been conducting cordon and search operations to flush out any elements of al Shabaab that might be still hiding within the community. The Bulla Burde residents celebrated following the capture, which they say will save them from the diabolical regime of the al Shabaab group which terrorized them for many years.

Bulla Burde is isolated and it is therefore paramount for AMISOM to extend control of Jalalaqsi and Tieglo to prevent Al Shabaab insurgents any chance of making use of this window of opportunity which could give them motivation for existence.

Bulla Burde has been the nerve Centre of Al-Shabaab insurgents before its liberation on the 13th of March 2014. Its capture was a major victory for the troops fighting the insurgents.

The Al Shabaab fighters had fled the town without putting up much resistance but regrouped and launched attacks during nightfall. Although they were constantly repelled by SNA and AMISOM forces and suffered significant losses during the assaults.⁶

⁵ <http://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-ocha-flash-update-4-humanitarian-impact-military-operation-7-april-2014>

⁶ <http://amisom-au.org/2014/04/amisom-troops-reinforcement-to-bulla-burde/>



AMISOM troops destroy an Al-Shabab flag in Buule Burde. Photo: IRIN