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## EDITORIAL

This is the last edition of 2020. A difficult year for everyone, in which society was put to the test in the face of a global pandemic that has not yet subsided but that, despite enormous difficulties, is being contained. In this colossal battle, we can only thank the personnel of the health services, without whose valuable assistance the number of victims would be even greater, as well as the security forces, thanks to whom order and stability have been maintained in midst of this crisis. A sincere thank you to all of them.

We also want to thank our analysts, who, despite the personal, work and family difficulties they have surely gone through in this year of the pandemic, continued to contribute to TRIARIUS. Special recognition to Guadi Calvo, who in an incredible and fortunate way never diminished his intellectual production, constantly feeding this publication with his interesting analyses. Precisely, this edition was possible thanks to their invaluable contributions. It is worth noting that this number is published extemporaneously, so it includes analyzes of events subsequent to the formal date of the edition. It basically records events from the months of November and December 2020.

The first article of this edition transports us to Western Sahara, to give us an introduction to the armed conflict that has just broken out in that area. From there we go to Ethiopia, where we also receive a briefing on the current conflict situation in the rebel region of Tigray, to then go on to an update on the latest developments in said conflict.

Next, we have a brief overview of the smart bombs used by the Colombian Air Force, in its perennial fight against terrorism and drug trafficking.

We continue with Guadi and we are going to Somalia, another of the hot spots on the African continent, through this article we will be able to know the current situation and what is coming, in view of the withdrawal of US troops from that theater. We then return to Ethiopia, to receive an update on the conflict. In the following article, we review the complicated situation facing the Egyptian government domestically and internationally, and how disappointing the current president's performance has been.

Then, from Argentina, Alberto Carracedo reflects on mediocrity, and the impact that mediocre people have on their environment. It is a very curious text, almost philosophical, applicable with equal forcefulness in different scenarios and countries.

We close this edition with an update on the situation in Western Sahara, and an important and interesting analysis of the causes and consequences - expected and unexpected- of the so-called Arab Spring.

Know to win!

*Douglas Hernández*

Editor



This newsletter has a Spanish version.

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## TRIARIUS

This is the last edition of the year 2020. This has been a very complex year, where geopolitical issues became more acute, conflicts proliferated, social unrest increased, and terrorist actions of different etiologies continued. All mainstreamed by the issue of the COVID-19 pandemic.

From this specialized magazine, we offer our readers thematic articles and analysis of some of the most relevant events worldwide, obviously what we do is just a contribution to the debate, and just an approximation to the different events, we do not intend anything other than it is to be an alternative to the hegemonic media that serve big capital and strive to create opinion matrices related to their political and economic interests.

Triarius is distributed free of charge, does not pay its collaborators, nor does it receive economic contributions that compromise its independence. This is an international project, where a group of professionals exchange their knowledge in an effort to grow intellectually and contribute to collective security. Everyone can submit their articles, if they wish.

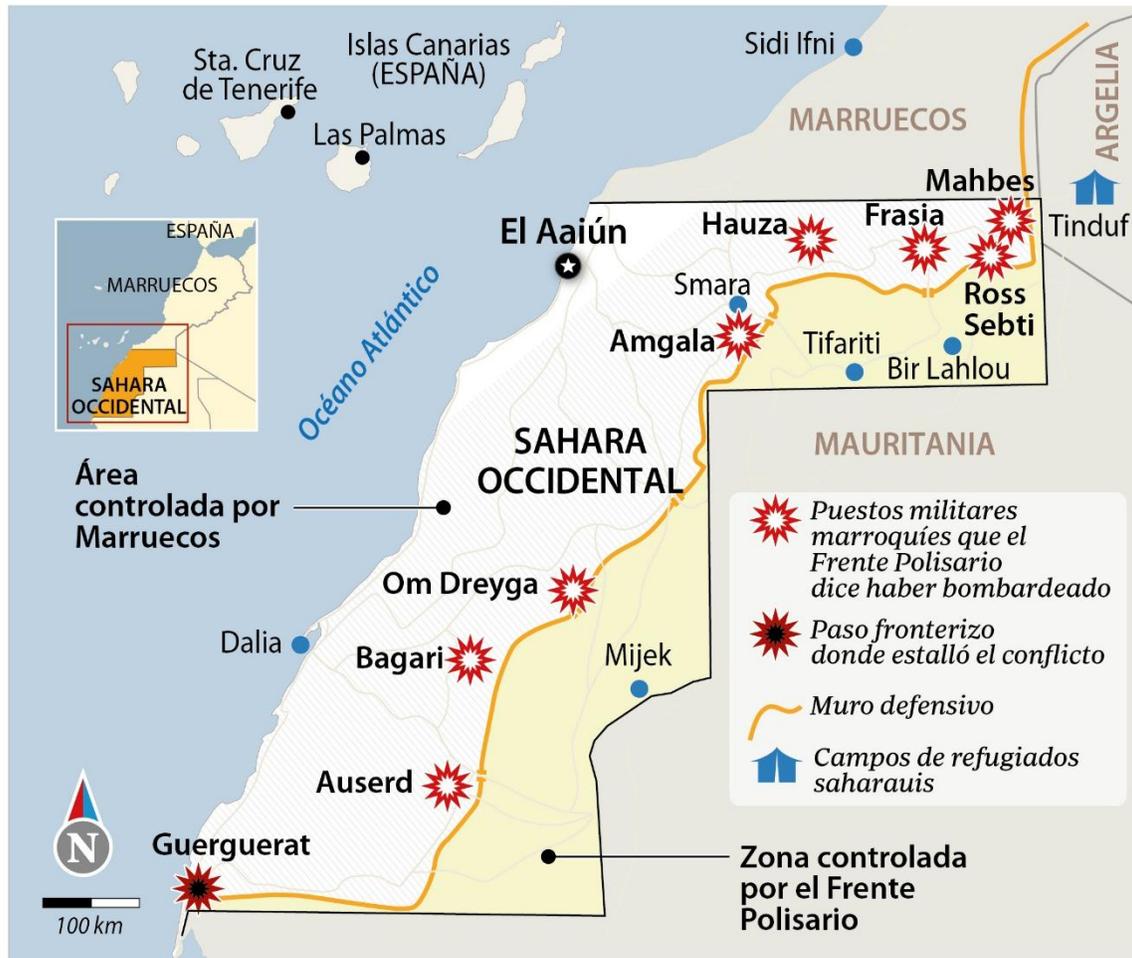
On the cover, ***Soldiers of Paraguay.***  
See more information at the end of the magazine.

TRIARIUS privileges freedom of expression, however, the responsibility for what is said in the articles is exclusive to their authors.

Very special thanks to the international analysts who have sent us their articles for this issue free of charge.

# Western Sahara: The most ignored war in the world

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



On November 13, after thirty years of ceasefire, the *Polisario* Front (Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguía el Hamra and Río de Oro) announced through its secretary general and president of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), Bahim Ghali, who considered the agreement signed with Morocco in 1991 broken, after fifteen years of struggle, under the auspices of the United Nations, which provided for a self-determination referendum, which has never been carried out. In his message, Ghali announced that "the Saharawi armed forces assume full control of national security and decree a state of war", given that the royal Moroccan army penetrated the "buffer" zone

of Guerguerat, in the extreme south of the Sahara Occidental, next to the border between the SADR and Mauritania, with the excuse of restoring traffic after the blockade that *Saharawi militants* established last October 21, carrying out acts of vandalism, and harassing the military observers of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), in addition to the fact that they have retained some 200 trucks for which the free movement of people and goods must be "guaranteed".

Mohammed VI, King of Morocco, declared on Monday the 16th, his "respect for the ceasefire" and warned that he remained determined to respond harshly,

and within the framework of legitimate defense, against any threat "to the security of his country, which includes the Saharan sectors controlled by Rabat.

The new controversy is installed after the completion of the sand walls that Morocco built unilaterally, on the margins of a vital route for commercial traffic between Rabat, Nouakchott and the rest of the West African countries. Road, illegal, so it is not recognized as such by the Saharawis like Algeria and for what Mohamed Salem Ould Salek, the SADR foreign minister, has declared, only serves for the permanent looting of the wealth of his country.

The General Staff of the Moroccan Armed Forces announced that after the blockade carried out by some sixty people and the restrictions they have imposed on movement, a "security cordon" was established. The operation, which according to the Army "is not offensive nor does it have warlike intent" and the one that aims to "avoid all contact with civilians and not resort to weapons except in the case of legitimate defense", was resolved with the invasion of several military units Moroccans, who wanted to break the blockade and create a security step. The extemporaneous action of Morocco provoked the immediate reaction of the *Polisario militiamen*, who responded with shots and later with several actions of rocket attacks against four Moroccan military bases and two checkpoints, installed along the security wall, which they continued at least until last Monday the 16th, according to *Saharawi sources*, which would have caused several deaths. Given that the territory is difficult to access and the Moroccan authorities have blocked the arrival of journalists, the confirmation or not of the war actions of both parties becomes more complex.

Like the Palestinians, the Kurds, the Baluchis, the Tuaregs, the Rohingyas and so many others, the *Saharawi people* have been looted, their territories stolen and their destinies in chains, forcing them to live in a state of permanent resistance. Without representation in the big international organizations, where they can make their voices heard, ignored for more than five decades, they have only one option left: the armed struggle, against the usurper of their lands and destinies, the autocratic kingdom of Morocco, which, with the a wink from the western powers, the monarchies of the Persian Gulf, and the complicity of Spain, the main person responsible for the current situation of the SADR, which once again has to face one of the best-armed armies in Africa with minimal resources, and which

since 2018, is undergoing an important process of modernizing its all-powerful arms with the purchase of combat aircraft, including 25 new *F-16 C/D fighters*, as well as attack helicopters, air defense systems based on 3D radars, short, medium and long range, ground-to-air, air-to-ground, air-to-air, against armor and ships, battle tanks, rocket launchers, large amounts of ammunition and radio equipment and vision systems of last generation. Purchase with which he fundamentally achieves two objectives, ingratiating himself even more with the Western powers, the suppliers of all kinds, the United States alone has sold him weapons for 12 billion dollars during the Trump era, with which he pays the diplomatic escort with that Morocco moves in the great international forums, but also manages to gain muscle against its Algerian neighbors, the main hypothesis of conflict of the Alawite kingdom, with whom they have an intricate conflict, not only for border claims, but also for large areas, extremely rich in minerals, which at the time of the French withdrawal remained in the possession of Algiers, so that in 1963, an armed conflict broke out that became known as the War of the Sands.

#### **Forty-five years of oblivion**

The Greater Morocco project, which since the 1940s raised the Istiqlal (Independence Party) and which Hasan II would revive after his accession to the throne in 1961, not only included the territories of western Algeria, but also parts of Mali, Mauritania and the entire of the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara, the current SADR.

Although neither Hassan II, nor his son Mohamed VI, have been able to advance in their expansionist claims against the first three nations, Morocco together with Spain have permanently tarnished *Saharawi rights and freedoms*. Despite the fact that the genocidal Francisco Franco had decided to leave his colony in 1975, a mandate with

which his dauphin and now fugitive emeritus Juan Carlos I assumed, and needless to say, he never complied.

This last Monday, one of the members of the Saharawi negotiating team warned that the war will continue if the United Nations does not assume its responsibility and force Rabat to accept the international legality that emerges from the truce agreement.

While the Alawite kingdom, which illegitimately controls nearly three-quarters of Western Sahara, a vast strip of desert on the Atlantic coast, including its phosphate deposits and its very rich fishing grounds on the Atlantic, it seems in this opportunity willing to exterminate the RSAD, seeking to extend the conflict, since it has been known that it has secretly infiltrated numerous troops dressed as "civilians" in the areas of the current dispute, to generate false flag attacks. Already in 2019, Rabat unilaterally decided to suspend the talks it had established with the *Polisario*, Algeria and Mauritania.

On Sunday the 15th, the *Polisario* reported that thousands of volunteers were mobilizing to join its ranks and that "intense fighting was taking place along the Moroccan defense wall" (2,700 kilometers that crosses Western Sahara and where it is estimated that Rabat has planted between seven and ten million antipersonnel mines, making it the largest minefield in the world).

Since the staging of what became known as the *Green March* in November 1975, designed by the government of Hassan II, with which he was able to mobilize almost 300,000 poor Moroccans "escorted" by the army, and with the wink of Washington, to make a territory slightly larger than the size of Ecuador. Among the great benefits that the United States has obtained, it has ceded the military base in Tan-Tan, where in 2008, the Americans installed the *Africom* (African Command of the United States) very close to El Aaiún, capital of the SADR,

Canary Islands and Tindouf, Algeria, very close to the current conflict zone, where once again the *Saharawi people* are trying to change their fate.

Image Source:

[https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-guerra-frente-polisario-quiere-reabrir-sahara-y-marruecos-y-argelia-rechazan-202011211840\\_noticia.html](https://www.abc.es/internacional/abci-guerra-frente-polisario-quiere-reabrir-sahara-y-marruecos-y-argelia-rechazan-202011211840_noticia.html)

**Guadi Calvo**

(Argentina) Argentine writer and journalist. International Analyst specialized in Africa, Middle East and Central Asia.



# Ethiopia, another African tragedy

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



*Abiy Ahmed receiving the Nobel Prize.*

Two weeks after the conflict began in the Tigray region, in northern Ethiopia, (See: Ethiopia: From an ethnic war to a regional conflict), Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, gave the rebels, on Sunday 22, a period of 72 hours to surrender. Warning, that the federal forces are already "in the third and final phase" of their military operation in the separatist region. That since the beginning of the month different areas, including its capital, Mekelle and surroundings or woreda, which add up to a population of nearly half a million inhabitants, have received air attacks, without even an approximate number of casualties being known, although it is estimated it easily exceeds a thousand, given the strict information control established by the commanders of the Ethiopian army that operates in the region, added to the cut off of all communication services, particularly cell phones and the Internet. Although if it is estimated more accurately that between 40 and 50 thousand citizens of Tigrinios have managed to take

refuge in Sudan, while the United Nations authorities believe that the number of displaced persons will rapidly increase to 200 thousand and has already warned of the possibility of a "full-scale humanitarian crisis".

Officials of the *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (FLPT), last week assured that their people "will never kneel before the actions of the aggressors", and accused the central government forces of having murdered innocent civilians by attacking churches, private residences and other civilian buildings.

On Sunday, Abiy had called on the people of Mekelle to "play a key role in defeating the TPLF, staying true to national defense."

Abiy knows that the condition of having been the Nobel Peace Prize winner last year for his peace agreement with Eritrea and his efforts "to achieve peace, international cooperation and reconciliation" means that he still focuses on him more attention than with any other protagonist of a similar conflict in any country in the world, although other Nobel

laureates, as or more discussed as he, have not had major inconveniences so that in different forums they have already begun to discuss about the filters to award such an award, since this has not been the first failure of the Committee that grants it, which has granted it to figures that have undoubtedly overshadowed it, such as the Burmese Aung San Suu Kyi, who received it in 1991, today is the main person responsible for the genocide against the Muslim minority in his country, the Rohingyas, almost all of whom, close to a million of them, have had to seek refuge in Bangladesh. Or former US President Barack Obama, who received them in 2009 and who, throughout his eight years in the Casablanca, not only did not resolve any conflicts, but also deepened those in Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq, in addition to generating others. new ones such as in Libya, Syria and Yemen, as the icing on the cake in 2020, none other than Donald Trump was nominated for his "contribution to peace" in the Palestinian question and the

Zionist enclave, which has not changed one iota.

In what appears to be yet another *bluff* by the Nobel experts, Abiy seems to have chosen his political career over that of a "humanist" and continues to try to overthrow Tigray's ruling party, the TFLP, without even listening to international opinions such as the United Nations or the African Union that have called on the parties to stop the escalation. The prime minister, who took office in 2018, has repeatedly declared since then that he does not hold a grudge against the Tigrīños, but rather that his discomfort is directed at their leaders whom he has called "criminals" and in special to their leader Debretsion Gebremichael.

Some analysts consider that Sunday's ultimatum is only a measure of psychological pressure on the civilian population, with which they try to provoke an uprising against the provincial government since launching a real offensive against the city would inevitably lead to a shocking number of civilian casualties, that they would take away from Addis Ababa, any kind of international sustenance. In any case, it has been known this Monday the 23rd, that official forces have established a strong siege around the provincial capital, so that a simple human error or the misinterpretation of an order would be enough to start the assault on the city and the consequent slaughter.

Until now, the Ethiopian army would have tried to reach the suburbs of Mekelle, avoiding many population centers, trying to avoid clashes with the population, although, on the other hand, Abiy's forces cannot show weakness, so accessing Mekelle, in addition to a question of military strategy, it also

has a lot of political reasons. A protracted war will no doubt become not only unpopular, but exhausting once the rebels can inflict casualties on the national army and those corpses start arriving in their villages.

Some not entirely confirmed reports refer that after the first waves of federal troops that managed to break through Tigray's defenses, they did not finish achieving these achievements, given the strong resistance of the local militias, so it still seems that everything is yet to be resolved.

### **More wars**

The Ethiopian conflict adds more drama to an already troubled region, where Sudan has not yet recovered from the coup d'état and the consequent massacres in April of last year; Somalia with its chronic war against the fundamentalist group al-Shabbab, where for that reason there is still a contingent of 3,000 Ethiopian soldiers, of the 10,000 that came to be, who collaborate with the Mogadishu government and now could be called to their country to join the state forces fighting in Tigray, which will produce a serious imbalance in the Somali conflict, and Yemen, in a war that has already lasted more than five years, hundreds of thousands of civilians killed, millions injured and displaced, where Saudi Arabia, the main ally in the region of the United States, has entered alone and cannot find a way out, so this area has attracted the attention of Western powers for years. They don't know how to put out so much fire, which they themselves helped light.

A prolonged war in Ethiopia could cause the disintegration of the country, in the style of Libya or the Balkans, since that nation

brings together some eighty ethnic groups, whose two main ones are the Oromo, of which Prime Minister Abiy is a part, and the Amhara, together they represent little more than sixty percent of the country's population, while the Tigrays, who are carrying out this conflict, barely represent six percent of the total population, but have managed to dominate national politics since the fall of the Marxist government of Mengistu Haile Mariam in 1991, until they began to be swept from important positions just with the arrival of Abiy, an issue that obviously they have not forgiven him.

The current Prime Minister, who arrived in 2018, with a speech with which he tried to establish "a shared national identity and a common citizenship", to overcome the always exposed ethnic tensions, which, according to his supporters, have impeded the growth of the country, although in this new context and given his refusal to comply with international orders to stop the conflict, it raises fears that Abiy is rushing into authoritarian ways.

It is also understood that Abiy, with the invasion of Tigray, has entered into a strange paradox, he must quickly extinguish the rebels' pro-independence pretensions, which some analysts do not believe possible, in part because the national forces are made up of a significant number of Tigrīños and other minorities that could follow the example of the FLPT and detonate the army, which could cause a state of general instability in the nation, which, for many, could even extend beyond their own borders, given the intricate system of ethnic groups and tribes, as has been repeated in other nations of the continent that still exudes from the wound of colonialism.

Image Source:

<https://www.france24.com/en/20191210-the-prime-minister-of-etiop%C3%ADa-abiy-ahmed-received%C3%B3-the-nobel-peace-prize>

# Tigray, the final assault or the first?

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



On Saturday, November 28, it was the day for the Ethiopian army to storm the city of Mekelle, capital of the rebel province of Tigray, with nearly 500,000 inhabitants and where the separatists had entrenched themselves, who had said they would resist until the end. last man. (See: Ethiopia: From an ethnic war to a regional conflict.)

Although the consequences of said assault in terms of numbers of deaths and levels of destruction are

not known, the central government announced that the city had been completely taken over and that the army was securing different areas, while around Mekelle, raids were being carried out. beaten to stop the members of the *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF), who managed to escape from the siege imposed by troops loyal to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, who had referred to the conflict that began at the beginning of the month as "a

matter of internal public order", for which he had rejected the different international offers to mediate between the federal government and the rebels while treating the members of the TPLF as "criminals" and that it would be the mission of the police to arrest them and bring them to justice.

Given the tight information fence, it has not been possible to specify the number of deaths after the intense fighting that took place

on Saturday, although it is speculated that there are thousands, while the Sudanese authorities, a country bordering west of Ethiopia, Between 50,000 and 60,000 refugees are estimated to have arrived in the Um Raquba camps, in the eastern province of Gedaref, some 80 kilometers from the border, since the beginning of the military actions in the first days of November. Therefore, Khartoum has asked the *United Nations* for 150 million dollars to be able to assist the refugees. (See: Ethiopia, another African tragedy.)

Ethiopian police authorities, on the same day Saturday, ordered the arrest of seventeen soldiers accused of different crimes that include treason and embezzlement of public property, in addition to another 120 arrest warrants already issued against senior army officers, accused of being connected to the TPLF, since November 4, the date on which the military actions ordered from Addis Ababa began.

Sources linked to the US embassy in Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, reported, without mentioning the cause or the place of the explosions, of a half dozen explosions produced in the city, late on Saturday, nor did it clarify whether said actions were linked to the events in Tigray, a province bordering Eritrea, although it is to be understood that since the TPLF, on the fourteenth day, had used rockets against Asmara, given the strong indications that the Eritrean government is collaborating with the Ethiopian army, with men and resources, while allowing the Ethiopian aviation to use its airports for its actions against Mekelle, which is currently subjected to intense bombardment. For many years, Eritrea and the TPLF were allies in their common struggle against the *Marxist government* of General Mengistu Haile Mariam, finally overthrown in 1991, when

the great rise of the *Tigray ethnic group took place*, who until the arrival of Abiy Ahmed to the government in 2018, occupied the most important estates of the state in all its representations, including fundamentally the army, when its members only represent six percent of the 110 million Ethiopians. Without respecting the law of "ethnic federalism", which was promoted in the early nineties, which stipulated that all racial groups, about eighty, should have the same representation.

### **Trouble beyond victory**

Despite the quick takeover of Mekelle, Abiy Ahmed, who had to postpone the parliamentary elections scheduled for October 5, given the impossibility of holding them, in the context of the pandemic, is still very far from solutions, not only the Tigray crisis, but issues that go beyond the borders of the country.

Diplomats and regional experts have agreed that a quick military victory may not mean the end of the conflict. To begin with, as the leader of the rebel Debretsion Gebremichael has said, that after referring to the "brutality" of the repression, that he would not have differentiated the positions in which the civilian population found themselves from the military objectives, which will add more virulence to the *Tigrinian resistance*, a resistance with significant military experience hardened in its guerrilla war against General Mengistu, in the rugged territory of Tigray, close to the borders of Sudan and Eritrea. The TPLF would manage to mobilize some 200,000 men, many with heavy equipment, mostly looted, lately, from the arsenals of the Ethiopian army.

This situation of a civil war, developing or latent, does not even

matter, weakens the position of Addis Ababa, in the intense and tense negotiations with Cairo and Khartoum, on the *Great Renaissance Dam of Ethiopia* (GERD). (See: Egypt-Ethiopia: The waters go down murky.), which, although it is the only issue on which all Ethiopians agree, It should take into account the claims of the other two parties, particularly the Egyptians, since it would be in that sector where the Nile would lose more of its channel, with the consequent deterioration of essential agricultural production for the country. At the request of Sudan, the negotiating table has been closed since October 22.

For what is believed, that the intelligence services of General al-Sisi, could have been working together with the Tigray rebels, to weaken the position of the Prime Minister, which he used from the beginning of his mandate, 2018, and fundamentally after having been awarded the 2019 *Nobel Peace Prize*, to negotiate from a "moral" point of view, with the Egyptian *raís*, still highly discussed, for the massacres with which he came to power and the repressive policies with which he is not only persecuting the terrorists of the *Wilāyat Sinai* (al-Qaeda), but to many opposition civilian sectors, which made Donald Trump call him: "my favorite dictator".

The future change of government in the United States also opens a hopeful waiting period for Abiy, since Trump had blocked some one billion dollars to finish the dam, pending an agreement with the other two countries involved, an issue of which Joe Biden, has not yet been defined.

According to other analysts, the situation regarding the war in Tigray could lead Abiy to even more intransigent positions and not only continue negotiating with force regarding GERD, strengthening his

motto “It is our water. It is our prey”, but also to repress with more violence the militants of *the Tigray People's Liberation Front* , or any ethnic group that tries to challenge it, such as the Oromo themselves, the majority ethnic group in the country, to which the Prime Minister belongs, or the *Amharas* , the second most important, or the *Sidama* , *Gumuz* and *Somalis* , who have collided with each other on several occasions and since 2015, have caused the displacement of almost three million people.

In the coming days, reality will define whether Saturday's assault on Mekelle was the last or simply the first in a long chain of war that has all the conditions to last for years.

Image Source:  
<https://english.iswnews.com/tag/mekelle/>

# Smart Bombs in the Colombian Air Force

By Douglas Hernandez (Colombia)



*FAC IAI Kfir C.10 fighter-bombers carrying air-to-air missiles and laser-guided bombs.*

Free-fall bombs are “dumb” because they can only be oriented ballistically, and once dropped, their trajectory cannot be changed. In contrast, “smart” bombs allow many options and have better features. However, it should not be forgotten that -in general- the smart bomb is nothing more than a dumb bomb with a special guide and maneuver kit attached to its ends.

## **Laser Guided Bombs (LGB)**

Israeli Griffin model laser-guided bombs (LGB) arrived in Colombia with the Kfir fighter-bombers. These bombs are oriented towards their target with a cockpit laser designator system (CLDS), which has the peculiarity of being compatible with the Nimrod anti-tank missile system, in use by the Colombian National Army. This provides quite interesting employment possibilities, for example, the National Army artillery forward observers could have a high-value target pinpointed by laser, and an LGB Griffin bomb or a Nimrod missile could be launched against it indistinctly. Similarly, in a joint operation, the second crew member of a two-seater Kfir could have a surface target signaled and receive the support of an Army Nimrod Missile Battery.

Subsequently, the Colombian Air Force acquired a batch of GBU-12 “Paveway II” laser-guided bombs, which came to complement the inventories of aerial weapons, when the cluster bombs that the FAC destroyed in compliance with international agreements came out of service. signed by the national government.

In 2015, within the framework of the F-Air Colombia International Aviation Fair, the Brazilian company *Friuli Aerospace* was *presented*, offering its kits for LGB bombs to the Colombian Air Force. It is not known if an agreement was reached. The truth is that the Colombian state company Indumil is developing its own LGB kits, with the support of the private company, but to date it has not transpired which company is collaborating in these developments.

FAC weapons	griffin	GBU-12 "Paveway II"
Type	Laser Guided Bomb	Laser Guided Bomb*
Country of origin	Israel	U.S
IOCs	1990	1976
Scope	12km	14.8 km.
Precision	5m.	1.1m
kit compatibility	Mk-82/83/84GP Indumil Xué 500 Lb BEL.	Mk-82 500 Lb. gp Indumil Xué 500 Lb BEL.

\* There is a version of the Paveway II with GPS guidance, it is unknown if Colombia has it.

### Stand-off pumps

The Kfir aircraft fleet of the Colombian Air Force was initially 11 aircraft. As the veteran Mirage 5 aircraft were scheduled to leave service, the High Command decided to acquire more Kfirs to replace them - bringing the Kfir fleet to 24 aircraft -, and also modernize them from the C.7/TC.7 standard, to the most modern C.10/C.12/TC.12, in this way it was considered that the country would maintain its dissuasive capacity against possible external threats, in addition to being able to continue strategic attacks against high-value targets in the context of the internal conflict.

This business to increase the number of Kfir planes, and their technological update, also included new generation weapons, such as the modern Stand-off bomb of Israeli origin Rafael Spice 1000.

A Stand-off weapon is one that can be accurately launched at a great distance from the target. Allowing in this way to increase the security of the aircraft and the crews keeping them out of the reach of the defensive weapons that the enemy could have there. The acronym Spice stands for: *Smart Precise Impact and Cost-Effective guidance kit*.

The Spice 1000 kit can be applied to the Mk-80 series bombs and also to the Indumil Xué 500 Lb. PG, has a range of 60 kilometers and a precision (CEP) of 3 meters. Its guidance system is redundant, has Global Positioning Satellite / Inertial Navigation System (GPS/INS), navigation by reference, and a dual CCD/IIR system that provides pinpoint accuracy and positive target identification. The Spice 1000 It has been on the market since 2005. It was first seen in the hands of the FAC in 2016.

### New Marker

Within the package of new equipment acquired for the Kfir C.10/C12/TC.12, there is the Rafael Litening III pod, which allows laser-guided bombs to be pinpointed targets with total precision, in addition to integrating a set of additional capabilities.

The Colombian aircraft capable of dropping aviation bombs are: The Kfir, the A-37 Dragoonfly, the A-29 Super Tucano, and the AT-27 Tucano. The first three are capable of launching LGB bombs. Today there is no evidence that the helicopters in use by the FAC have the ability to drop bombs, although it is known that in the past Huey helicopters could drop small cluster bombs.

Image Source:  
Colombian Air Force

### Douglas Hernandez

(Colombia) Founder and director of the website [www. Fuerzasmilitares.org](http://www.Fuerzasmilitares.org), he works as a journalist specializing in security and defense. He is a contributor to the Air and Space Power Journal -USAF's institutional magazine-, and to the Brazilian magazine Segurança & Defesa. He is a Sociologist and Master in Education from the University of Antioquia (Medellín, Colombia), a PhD student. He has a Diploma in International Relations.

# Somalia: A red carpet for Biden

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



*African Union troops on patrol in Somalia.*

As part of his troop withdrawal strategy from the different conflicts in which the United States is involved, such as Afghanistan and Iraq, US President Donald Trump also announced the withdrawal of the amount assigned to Somalia, between 700 and 850 *Special Operations soldiers*, which are distributed in small groups at different bases throughout the country and whose "official" function is to advise the Somali army on counterterrorism. Fundamentally, the elite Somali special forces known as the *Danab* (Lightning) Brigade, made up of about a thousand men who, since 2014, have operated in four of the five Somali states and to which the United States also provides intelligence and air support. Having carried out 80 percent of the

operations, for the quarter ending in September, against *al-Shabbab*. The Somali army also has the support of the nearly 20,000 men of the *African Union Mission in Somalia* (AMISOM), which has begun a process of withdrawal, since they consider themselves unprepared for "such" a challenge. So units from Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia will soon give up the fight in Somalia, particularly Ethiopian troops who have just been called up from Addis Ababa, to take part in the crackdown on separatist forces in the northern province of Tigray, which since the beginning of November has the entire nation on edge (See: Ethiopia: From an ethnic war to a regional conflict).

Although the order has not yet been made official, US troops have

already left the Somali cities of Bossaso and Galkayo weeks ago. Although they continue in the port of Kismayo, in the south of the country, in the capital, Mogadishu, and in the special forces air base in Baledogle.

It is also known of the presence of a significant CIA crew, which operates from a bunker at the Mogadishu airport, although it is unknown what Trump's final decision on the *Agency's men will be*. The withdrawal plan from Somalia does not include the missions established in Kenya or Djibouti.

The moment chosen by Trump for this withdrawal, like everything else of his, is the most inopportune, since Somalia is starting a new electoral process that will culminate at the end of the month with the

members of parliament and next February the president will be elected, where the current, Mohamed "Farmajo" Abdullahi, will try his re-election. This time with the "one person, one vote" method, abandoning the convoluted, almost feudal system, which passed more through tribal decisions than personal ones, always generating conflicts between regional and central powers. Complicating the possibilities of carrying out electoral campaigns, political rallies, and the voting itself, for fear of more attacks than those that usually occur. Trump's statement on Somalia has invigorated the *Wahhabi group*, which is the country's main stumbling block to enter a "certain" normalcy lost more than thirty years ago.

It is believed that *I-Shabbab* has between 5 and 10 thousand militants financed in one way or another by the Gulf monarchies, in addition to what is obtained in extortion, kidnappings and robberies throughout the country and also in Kenya, a country where they have carried out terrorist actions that have left dozens of dead.

In this new Somali context, *al-Shabbab* has not stopped carrying out operations, seeming to be immune to the hunts they are subjected to by the North American drones that are constantly attacking their positions, camps and columns. Redoubling the bet and seem to challenge President Trump until the last day.

The US withdrawal could pave the way not only for the fundamentalists to once again aspire to control the country, but also for the Somali government to be forced to receive help from China, already with a strong military presence in Djibouti, as well as Russia, which seeks to expand its influence in the Horn of Africa, while the presence of Turkey could be

greatly increased, which has already installed a police school, from which some 1,500 men have already graduated.

#### **A very revealing death**

The fundamentalists of *al-Shabbab*, faced with the very possible withdrawal of the United States, hastened to continue striking. On the night of Monday, November 23, six men from the *Danab Brigade* died when the unit that was transporting them stepped on an *improvised explosive device* (IED) while an unspecified number sustained injuries of varying magnitude. According to the communique of the takfiristas, the dead soldiers would have been twelve. The affected unit came from the Belligodle airfield located in the Leego area, in the Lower Shabelle region, about a hundred kilometers northwest of Mogadishu.

It was also known that last Wednesday two *al-Shabaab mujahideen* attacked a police base in Garissa, (Kenya) where they would have destroyed an arsenal and wounded an officer. The attackers dispersed when attacked by a *Border Patrol Unit* (UPF).

The most recent explosive attack by *al-Shabaab* killed at least seven people, with a significant number of wounded, when a *shahid* (martyr) blew himself up as he entered the popular *Gelato Divino ice cream parlor*, located on the road leading to Mogadishu international airport. on Saturday 28. On Tuesday, November 17, in another suicide attack, against a restaurant near a police academy, another five people were killed, while eight were injured.

It was also learned that fundamentalist militiamen attacked the military base in the city of Ba'adweyene, in the center of the country, on Monday 30th, leaving nearly seventy dead among

militiamen, soldiers and some eleven civilians who had participated in the combat. According to official sources, the terrorists have lost some 51 men, including the head of the *khatiba*, while on the *al-Shabbab side* the information refers to 53 dead soldiers and the seizure of weapons and vehicles by the fundamentalists.

This Thursday the third, it was learned that at the beginning of November a CIA man died while participating in an operation in Gendershe, a coastal village about 50 kilometers southwest of Mogadishu, along with Somali special forces, who were trying to arrest the person responsible for the death of a US soldier and two US contractors after the attack on the *Camp Simba* military base in Kenya, last January, as part of the terrorist campaign "*Jerusalem will never be Jewish*".

The CIA element, of which no further information has been given, although it transpired that he was a member of the paramilitary division of the "Company", of the Special Activities Center and a former member of SEAL Team 6, the elite commando of the US Navy, died when the *mujahideen* detonated a car bomb, at the moment the operation began, on November 6, which makes him the 135th dead agent of that gloomy organization, which alone in Afghanistan since 2001, lost twenty of his agents.

The ambushed patrol had arrived in helicopters from Mogadishu at two a.m. The operation would have originated from the information that three *al-Shabbab chiefs* would meet that night in that village, including Abdullahi Osman Mohamed, also known as "Engineer Ismail" is an expert explosives maker, believed to be responsible for many of the deadly devices that have killed hundreds of civilians in Somalia in

recent years, and who has been declared a "specially designated global terrorist" by Washington just last November. The 36-year-old cataloged as the group's greatest explosives expert, he is the organization's media chief and a key adviser to Ahmed Diriye, the

movement's *emir*, supplanted last August by Abukar Aden. The failure of the operation in Gendershe, according to *al-Shabbab*, is due to the fact that they had information about the ambush they were preparing for him.

The withdrawal of the United States from Somalia, if finally so decided, will make the country of the Horn of Africa await the next US president Joe Biden with a red carpet, but not of the traditional hand-woven *kabad*, but of innocent blood.

Image Source:

<https://atalayar.com/content/las-tropas-estadounidenses-partir%C3%A1n-en-el-pr%C3%B3ximo-mes-de-somalia>

# Ethiopia, without news on the front

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



A little over a week after the Ethiopian central government announced the seizure of the city of Mekelle, the capital of the separatist province of Tigray and, apparently, ended the resistance of *the Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF), that would have lasted about 24 days, the conflict that began on November 4, seems to be withdrawing from the big media, like the insurgents of the same conflict. Little has transpired after the announced and foreseeable victory of Addis Ababa and fundamentally about the cost in lives of that victory. Information continues to be restricted and communications with the city of Mekelle, the epicenter of the fighting, remain blocked, at least for civilians.

It was learned this last Sunday, the seventh, that aid to civilians trapped in the conflict, from the different humanitarian organizations that operate in the region, was increasingly difficult to provide given the "volatility of the situation", of what it follows that the "victory" announced by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has not been as forceful as was said, or perhaps it has been too much and that the

Ethiopian army is hiding the evidence of such an "overwhelming" victory. The same NGOs that are working in Tigray warn of the lack of food, medicine and "body bags". The most reliable reports speak of constant clashes, looting, and overflowing social disorder.

Beyond the agreement that Addis Ababa reached with the *United Nations* on Wednesday the second, for humanitarian and unrestricted access to the region, which it demanded from the moment the escalation began, to allow health and food assistance in the areas of combat, the Convoys with this aid are constantly being assaulted, without the army being able or willing to contain them, so the shortage of basic elements such as water, food and fuel is even affecting humanitarian workers, according to Saviano. Abreu, regional head of *the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs*. The health teams denounced the lack of electricity, fuel to supply the generators, gloves, and medication as basic as painkillers, antibiotics, and even

that they had been stripped of their ambulances by the soldiers.

*United Nations* since before the conflict that already assisted some 600,000 people in the region, including 96,000 Eritreans living in four camps, who are completely dependent on international food aid while another million benefited from the *food safety net*, they cannot supply themselves by their own means.

Prime Minister Abiy's assertions that there had been no civilian casualties during the offensive last week were contradicted by a doctor who said that around thirty people had been killed in different incidents in the vicinity of Mekelle, when residents inter -they interrupted traffic on a highway to protest against the looting carried out by members of the federal army. At the same time the UN says that at least five humanitarian workers have died and another hundred are missing. An Ethiopian doctor already a refugee in Sudan, reported that, in the hospital of the Tigrinian city of Humera, of some 22,000 inhabitants, in the first days of combat they had received at least fifteen dead, and that they were only

those who had been able to collect on the streets.

The urgent declaration of victory by the Prime Minister was undoubtedly an attempt to bring some order to the country, for fear that other rebellious regions will try to follow in Tigray's footsteps. which could destabilize the second most populous country in Africa, the largest region in the Horn of Africa and also, in some way, give an image of governability abroad, at a time when Addis Ababa is facing a conflict, which has just It starts with Egypt, because of the great Renaissance dam in the final phase of filling, which will affect the flow of the Nile River.

What has been confirmed is the massacre of November 9, in the village of Maikadra, which left more than 600 dead of the *Amhara ethnic group*, the second largest in the country with about 25 percent of the total population of the country. about 110 million. The victims of this massacre were at the hands of *the Samri Youth Movement*, linked to the TPLF, who attacked the village and murdered civilians, including children, women and the elderly, with knives, beatings and hangings.

The most shocking details of the massacre were given by a survivor found in the *al-Hashaba refugee camp* (Sudan), a 29-year-old English teacher, who would have explained that the deaths occurred after the first brawls in the town started by the *Fannos* an armed militia belonging to the *Amhara*.

### **The fear of the end of the war**

The *Tigray People's Liberation Front* warned that its withdrawal from the capital city had only been in response to tactical issues, as it

wanted to avoid giving the invaders excuses to continue with the destruction, making it clear that it would continue its fight. It is reported that thousands of combatants were killed in the final assault on Mekelle while it is estimated that between 50,000 and 60,000 refugees have fled to Sudan, traveling for days through forests and after crossing the Sittet River.

According to the *United Nations*, the number could reach 200,000, a little more, depending on the development of the war; The new refugees denounce that they have left behind abandoned corpses in the streets, selective executions, that the stench that can be smelled from the roads is unbearable, in addition to looting, rape and torture, which have made the camps exceed *al-Hashaba*, Hamdayet, and the last to *date Um Raquba*, opened with haste, by the transitional government established after the removal of Omar al-Bashir, in April 2019, which at the same time Perhaps it is waging a political war of its own with widespread discontent over the worsening economy and shortages of essential goods.

While close to a million people are considered internally displaced in Ethiopia, most of them *Tigrinos*, which could give rise to the formation of an important guerrilla nucleus that would not give rest to the federal government.

There is also the possibility that a new, much more unstable and untraceable battle front could open up for the government, the one that could arise 800 kilometers south of Mekelle, and it is the very streets of Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, some five million inhabitants,

including an estimated 350,000 *Tigrinos*, who up to now have meekly resisted police abuses, who are permanently harassing them not only in the streets but in their workplaces and also in their private homes, because of the that there are already numerous complaints about these abuses. Every evening, police mobiles travel through the city making meticulous vehicular controls not only in private cars, but also bus taxis and light rail transport, where passengers are registered as well as all the belongings they carry. The authorities, with these intimidations, try to prevent the militants of *the Tigray Popular Liberation Front* (TPLF), from starting to operate in the capital, carrying out some type of attack, which will undoubtedly occur at some point.

Supporting the state of insecurity that the separatist province is experiencing, which could spread to the rest of the country. Tigrinian leader Debretsion Gebremichael declared that: "the northern region would continue to fight as long as the federal invaders were on Tigray soil."

Apart from the internal Ethiopian conflict, it was learned on Sunday that Sudanese forces have advanced on part of *the el-Fashaga triangle*, a sector of 250 square kilometers, an area whose demarcation has been under discussion between the two nations for decades. So, the Sudanese army took possession of part of this territory rich in arable land, located in the south-eastern part of the eastern Sudanese state of Gedaref, which will undoubtedly bring more news to the front.

Image Source:

<https://www.noticiasaminuto.com/mundo/1620975/etiopia-declara-estar-em-guerra-com-regiao-separatista-de-tigray>

# Egypt, facing the debacle

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



*Abdelfatah Said Hussein Khalil el Sisi, Trump's favorite tyrant.*

The Egyptian group affiliated with *Daesh*, *Willat Sinai*, which since February 2018 has resisted *Operation Sinai*, designed by the high command of the army, to eradicate terrorism that not only operates in the peninsula, but in almost the entire rest of the country, such as the western desert and with more discreet deployments in the vicinity of the Suez Canal and whose turning point was the attack on the *Rawda Mosque*, in the city of Bir-el-Abab on November 24, 2017, which killed 311 faithful.

*Operation Sinai*, to which President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi granted ninety days for its resolution, involves, in addition to the *Armed Forces (EAF)* to the police, the border guard and prefectures, has not managed to resolve the critical security situation that gave rise to it. Since, almost

three years after it began, it has only been able to contain the *mujahideen* and is still far from the desired eradication. At the same time as the political ceiling of the Egyptian *rais*, it seems each time to tighten it much more against the hot sands of Sinai, at this point soaked by the blood of the combatants and that of more and more civilians, victims of desperation, irrationality and lack of control of the contending groups. To which must be added the economic crisis and the increasingly loud dispute with Ethiopia over the construction of the *Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam*, about to be completed, which would substantially modify the course of the Nile.

Beyond having caused the death of hundreds of militiamen, the destruction of arsenals, the dismantling of security houses and

supply networks, the militants continue to respond blow by blow to each action of the EAF, which not only has the American advice, but also with the invisible but very active presence of the *Zionist entity*. According to some sources, since February 2018, about a thousand militants have been killed, while among the security personnel, although the casualties are not recognized, it is estimated that they would reach about three hundred.

The *Willat Sinai*, which in 2014 made its *baya't* (loyalty oath) to the *Emir of Daesh* Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, has dealt very hard blows to the regular forces, not only because of the casualties it produces in almost daily clashes, but by using *improvised explosive devices* or IEDs to assassinate high-ranking officers such as Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Shehata

Maksoud and Brigadier General Mostafa Abido, commander of the 134th Infantry Brigade, a member of the 2nd Field Army, killed in different actions last February in North Sinai.

The *takfiristas*, giving a new profile to their actions, to put even more pressure on the army, have started a campaign of intimidation against the civilian population, which has caused the death of fifteen people since last October as victims of IEDs in villages near the town of Bir al-Abd, which were abandoned for three months, when fighting intensified in early July. After an appeasement in that sector and the abandonment of the villages by the *Daesh militiamen*, about a thousand residents decided to return to their homes to find, in addition to their houses looted, their herds stolen or slaughtered, with different "offerings" left by terrorists. Therefore, it is expected that the number of victims will continue to increase since these devices are placed in strategic places, where in one way or another the villagers will make contact, when opening a door or stepping on a piece of wood, or looking for their work tools.

Official spokesmen reported that some forty *mujahideen* had been eliminated since September, while only seven of their men were wounded or killed.

While some 450 weapons depots were destroyed, 159 IEDs were deactivated and dozens of different types of weapons were confiscated.

According to US government sources, in 2019 the *Willat Sinai* would have carried out 137 attacks with *improvised explosive devices*, concentrating them in the north and central region of the peninsula, in addition to carrying out assaults against fortified government positions almost once a week. According to another Washington source, Egyptian terrorists have

greatly perfected their techniques in making and fitting explosives into doors, furniture, appliances, toys, and even copies of the *Koran*.

#### **favorite dictator**

The former general and strong man of the country, who at the time was glimpsed as a new Gamal Abdel Nasser, was nothing more than the light of a match, and the austere general who had the courage to carry the republic on his shoulder and finish in 2013, with the government of Mohamed Morsi, who was leading Egypt to become a fundamentalist state, faded as soon as he came to power in 2014 with almost 97 percent of the vote (sic). Not only did he tie his destiny to the whims of Saudi Arabia, but he undeterred allowed Donald Trump to call him "my favorite tyrant", beyond the dirty war he is waging in Sinai, he must lead a country in a critical situation.

The collapsing economy, with no more ability to borrow and much less to pay the debts already taken. Due to the economic policy imposed by the *International Monetary Fund* and the *World Bank*, the external debt increased by 12.2% since October, the poverty rate climbed to 32.5% between 2017/2018, which means that 32.5 million the hundred million Egyptians are below the national poverty line with less than 50 dollars a month.

General al-Sissi must also assume that the Ethiopian Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, with only two years in charge of the executive of his country, has broken his arm regarding the negotiations on the *Renaissance Dam*, which is going to put I saw the water supply of the mythical river.

With the highest *Covid-19 figures* on the continent, some 7,000 deaths and almost 120,000 cases, with no strategy to combat it. Increasing inflation and

skyrocketing prices for products such as bread, electricity, fuel, public transportation, which fundamentally affect the population with the scarcest resources, who are also being overwhelmed with new taxes and increases in education and health. A situation that has forced hundreds of thousands of citizens to take to the streets, who have been repressed with extremely high levels of violence.

The protests of last September 20 have erased any doubt that Trump's preferred dictator meets all the requirements for such a high "honor". Thousands of people have been arbitrarily detained, under a nebulous charge that resembles those of terrorism, for which they have been placed in preventive detention, by "special courts" that in some cases have handed down death sentences.

It is known of summary executions, torture both in official prisons and in others parallel to legality. Women and the different sexual minorities live in situations of terror, similar to those established by the Afghan *mullahs*. Dozens of workers and trade unionists have been imprisoned after arbitrary arrests, and sentenced without the right to defense, for demanding their right to strike. Some 25 churches have been closed, obstructing the right to religious freedom. An unknown number of refugees awaiting asylum were arrested and accused of having entered the country illegally.

The result of the parliamentary elections that should have been held last October is just under two months away, although it is estimated that, due to government operations, nothing really renewed will reach the chambers. Many of the candidates are tycoons who have amassed their fortunes under the shadow of the corrupt government of Hosni Mubarak who

ruled the country for thirty years (1981-2011) leaving this imprint of corruption in every state office. always pressing geopolitical needs of Paris, which is in a serious dispute with Turkey, over recently released oil and gas fields. that the *rais*, on the verge of political collapse, and Emmanuel Macron could offer each other, would be crucial for both.

At this time, the Egyptian president is visiting France, taking a sunscreen bath thanks to the discovered in the eastern Mediterranean, the mutual support

Image Source:

<https://istoe.com.br/presidente-do-egito-declara-tres-meses-de-estado-de-emergencia/>



**fuerzasmilitares.org**  
el portal militar colombiano

# Omission: the perverse legacy of the mediocre to the Homeland

By Alberto Carracedo (Argentina)



The omission results in an efficient tool for self-exculpation in order to maintain firm, before oneself and before others, the supposed distance regarding a matter that involves us, but whose cost of attending would make us leave the stage of comfort in which others mediocre do not judge or criticize us.

A good element to forget the helplessness of being on the cusp of the violent and cloudy wave of reality that hits, and still hurts with its power, in the face of our supposed ignorance.

It also turns out to be incredibly rich raw material for those who, in addition to being mediocre, are perverse marauders of what is foreign, be it tangible or not. Since the premeditated distraction of the one who omits opens the doors to the control of the situation at stake for those who seek to impose their praxis.

The childish action of covering our eyes in fear of the night, trying not to see the monster that comes to attack us and, therefore, it will not attack us. But the monster arrives, and what is worse, from our hands.

Enabled by that nonsense, he consents to skip his arrival.

And it sneaks into every space that the shift itself leaves empty.

But, in the same way, our omission finally results in a distorted conscience, which does not challenge us from what we observe, but from the very fantasies with which the pervert drags us to the resolution of nothing, to the discussion about what to discuss, to the Obsessed militancy on the same banality and the heroic compulsion to win the eternal battle on inconsequential facts of everyday life.

Weak consciences that hide behind not taking sides with the most incredible excuses: I don't want to be singled out, I don't want to get involved in this issue because it's none of my business, those in the know will decide, I've already expressed my opinion at some point.

Hundreds of phrases that seek to convince the subject himself that, with his omission, he is safe from the responsibility that he should assume, making a rude rudeness to the leading role with which life has

endowed him. The self-exclusion from the world of responsibility and the fall to hell of the permanent victim, violated by all and loudly shouted to get compassion from others.

But this is not the case for those who hold firm to their convictions and raise them without fear.

In daily interaction those who do not accept military omission recognize the mediocre and the way they operate. The only thing that comes out of them is the placebo of the excuse, the indignity of spiritual alms, projecting on the rest the miseries of their own misfortunes that have been earned gram by gram with the self-conviction that this must be the case, that the Lord ordered it that way. destination.

Sheltered behind the offended figure when confronted and claimed. And that is why confronting them results in gaining the role of enemy, at least sincerely suicidal, when more aggressive.

And not to mention those who take advantage of the omissions of others, showing surprising skill.

They like to incite the half-creeds with the monster of the night

and appear in the story as the enchanted prince who kills him in a terrible and unequal fight. But, as they wield the saving sword, they turn their doll dressed as the puppet of the beast to convince of its eternal power, of its constant presence; and, at the same time, delay the paladin's supposed victory.

Assumed because there is never really the desire to obtain it, but to pour every trace of dignity that individuals still have left into the putrid jaws of the ferocious and deformed animal.

For this reason, they must occupy the self-excused conscience of those who, in omission, find the path comfortable and lacking in commitment, with the painful and endless agony of guilt, which surrounds them with a plastic crown.

So, every word, every thought, every action that demonstrates independence and honesty, must be destroyed with certain finesse, with spells that disrupt the noble values, with illusions in which the wicked themselves represent salvation from the damage that they themselves encourage.

With the perennial confusion that, when in doubt, makes every good person seek the complicity of omission to avoid committed and exhausting action.

Difficult to live with mediocre.

If it even seems that they adhere to their own dialectic. One that rises like a tornado carrying everything in its path, first sound reasoning, then just action, and finally complete dignity.

And that dialectic, like a whirlwind of lightness and dishonor, turns dirtying everything, because that is its function. Let everyone feel dirty and accept that dirt is normality, lowliness is ordinary, dialogue is insult, value is violence, authority is bravado, unfounded announcements are news, and crime is justice.

And above all, the word, in its most cohesive conception of being a remedy for disunity, is convulsed in coiled speeches as empty as they are ill-intentioned, and vociferated with the arrogance typical of the

mediocre who seeks to frighten the cry and not turn on the idea.

For this reason, omission as an action clouds the eyes and distracts from painful realities, impoverishes minds and subjects them to the will of impracticable utopias, throws bodies into the pit of collective scrutiny and the disloyal attack of those who, already mediocre, try to dress of that to who is not accusing him for his values and virtues.

And the few weapons at the disposal of intelligent defense, wielded by people of integrity, can do nothing against the force of the hurricane-nothing with which mediocrity whips, because it is a hurricane of omission, the wind that bothers but is not corporeal, no looks and no one knows where it comes from.

It is like fighting against a shadow, or trying to stop a landslide of ignoring that demoralizes, of feeling drenched in slander, of being accurately wounded by champions of non-reason who, at certain levels, tend to hide behind clever journalistic publicists. to omit with half-truths— or social networks where to be a hero you just have to put a fantasy name.

The effects on society are easy to detect.

Ideas mutate into ideologies, values in the simple waving of banners or rags, knowledge in the poor reproduction of supposed idealists who are terrified of science because it shows them that there is a level of intelligence beyond their poor intellectual vulgarities. . The supposed merits in the repayment of services in pursuit of the omission, the knowledge transmitted by chatterboxes who shamelessly vomit painful and cunning perceptions towards the healthy sacrifice and self-sacrifice of a dignified life.

And in this way mediocrity reproduces itself, infecting omission and carelessness in the collective. Or in any case, concern of the mediocre that the collective descends to the level of the mud and allows them to build a true aristocracy of unharmed by self-sacrifice but gluttonous of what has been achieved by those who

continue to dispute the truth, reason and commitment to a better future.

I cannot stop delving into two aspects in which the omission, in my opinion, has become flesh in our beloved region.

And that its appearance is palpable in the most painful of its applications, such as the omission of duty, especially when it comes to security and education.

Little can be expected from a tree that has bad roots. And even less of complex systems, such as security and education, whose engine, in view of events that have occurred, is far from transferring power and direction to the entire social body. Generating, unfortunately, the reduction of benefits due to the extreme subordination to the legalistic mechanism -a perfect variable of omission- that inspires the position of mediocrity.

If the presence of a mediocre person is bad in itself, the existence of someone who takes refuge in not having seen, not understanding or not knowing about such critical services is devastating.

Although it is true that the law and regulations limit the actions of public officials for the sake of control, anchoring institutions in their cold and often obsolete nomenclatures as a justification for not acting constitutes a perversity that citizens cannot let go.

Even error is understandable, because it is part of our humanity.

But the premeditated and biased argumentation in favor of justifying the omission is a death blow to the future, both to the institutes that consecrate the benefits (security and education) and to the organizations that provide them.

It is not worth delving into the justifications for omitting duty. Whether in security, poor pay, poor training of human resources, lack of technology, good or bad history of the forces. Or in education, the lack of parental support, the social problems that erupt in the classroom, poor teacher training or union issues.

In all cases, it assumes that the officials are obliged to generate the necessary changes and go to court,

if required, to correct the malpractice (well-intentioned or not) of the providers.

But due to the actions that are observed in everyday life, it seems that the transformations that I previously exposed weigh more heavily, where the pettiness and suspicion of mediocrity creates its own language that limits, harasses, threatens and detracts from those who should feel support for the exercise of his vocation.

Where every action is suspicious and deserves public ridicule even without proof, efficiency is trumpeted, even if it dies in the endless amount of paperwork that subjugates the profession to the administrative

function. Those who play not to be omitted are thrown into the gladiatorial arena of false integrity so that they are devoured and, furthermore, those who think they appear above the painful and poor waterline imposed by the mediocre are intimidated.

And meanwhile, those who do not omit, helplessly hopeless with the half machine that they impose on their children's teachers - sometimes not even that- or the ridiculous disregard of some academics who are not even capable of preparing exams without fearing that the students are copied with their cell phones. Or embarrassed by the security that the policeman, gendarme or prefect

gives himself for the sake of not being transformed by his own organizations into the image of what he should be pursuing.

Despair tires, but the mediocre in his omission always has justification for it.

More tiring is the flurry of cynical insults that you have to endure from the mediocre, all of them made up with disqualifying actions for those who try to provide reason, science or raise doubts.

Mediocrity is a rain that corrodes everything, with time and without fanfare, and that is why it is, ultimately, the perverse legacy of the mediocre to the Homeland.

And maybe we should start worrying about each other.

Image Source:

<https://ignacioisusi.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/envy.jpg>

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# Western Sahara: A Map Drawn With Napalm and White Phosphorus

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



*Saharawi camp in Algeria.*

Morocco, under the cover provided by Madrid, Paris, London and Washington, continues its advance to, once and for all, exterminate the resistance of the *Saharawi people*, who for forty-five years have been seeking to establish themselves with all rights as what they is: the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). (See: *Western Sahara: The World's Most Ignored War.*)

Once again, given the complicity of the great powers and the *United Nations*, where as always only powerful voices resonate, the SADR's claims have not been heard, for which it was forced to decree a "state of war"., which has allowed the *Alawite kingdom* to deploy its atrocious weapons

sampler, bought from those same powers that give it cover, in front of a people that does not have much more than its irreducible will.

The new reality of Western Sahara has caused thousands of young *Saharawis* born and raised in the exile camps of Tindouf (Algeria), who have only seen the long war waged by their people against the Moroccan invader, in the physical and spiritual scars of their elders, has encouraged them to enlist in the ranks of *the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguía el Hamra and Río de Oro* or just *plain Polisario*, the armed organization from which the SADR would be born.

to the five military schools, one exclusively for women, from the *Polisario*, that the refugee camps

have been practically empty of young men. From the training camps where classes are being taught on military strategy and the use of weapons and explosives, and tactics to manage in the territories plagued by anti-personnel mines, estimated to be between seven and ten million, and which in recent days the Royal Moroccan Army, has replanted in large numbers. to protect the 2,700-kilometre-long wall, which was actually built on the front line.

The flood of volunteers has forced the authorities of the military schools to order a stop to the arrival of more recruits, until the first litters of new militiamen are formed, since all the facilities have been overwhelmed.

When last November thirteenth, Morocco invaded Guerguerat, the demilitarized sector next to the border with Mauritania, burning the *haimas* (tents) and expelling *Saharawis*, who peacefully resisted to the new subjugation of its territories by Rabat, with which it tries to protect the merchandise route that, from Morocco, transits to Mauritania and from there to a vast sector of West Africa, in a flagrant act of war that no one has censored. Therefore, there is no other way than to reactivate the war front at whatever cost. Faced with the complicit passivity of MINURSO, (United Nations International Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara), which is the only one of its kind, of all those that exist.

So there are not a few new recruits, they have even had the opportunity to study and work in Spain, and somehow live life, which in the camps in the middle of the desert, it is impossible for them to have, but all the same they have returned to enlist as volunteers, knowing that the famous referendum with which the United Nations committed itself to *Resolution 690 of the Security Council of April 29, 1991*, in which the *Saharawi nation* chose between independence or integration with Morocco, has been become a mirage that the more you walk towards it, the further away it is.

In this framework of extreme confrontation, since the ceasefire agreed in 1991, the Moroccan King Mohammed VI, has just dealt a sinister blow to the independence hopes of the *Saharawi people*, and in a purely mercantilist transaction, on Thursday the 10th the Zionist agent highest paid in the world, Donald Trump, announced that the *Zionist enclave* in Palestinian lands and the Kingdom of Morocco, agreed to establish full diplomatic relations. Becoming the fourth *Muslim* nation, along with Bahrain,

the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Sudan, which under US pressure and behind their peoples, have made agreements of this style with the occupiers of Palestine. In this case, they not only deal a new blow to the struggle of the Palestinian people, but also to the struggle of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), since with this agreement, Mohammed VI, has managed to get the United States, just two days later, to announce that they adopted a "new official map" of Morocco, which includes the territories of the SADR, illegally appropriated by Rabat during the fifteen-year war it had with the *Polisario army*.

#### **Oblivion and sand**

Despite the fact that the *Zionist-Alawite agreement* is very difficult to be revoked, since the king has the final decision on diplomatic issues, discordant voices quickly emerged within the kingdom, such as that of the religious branch of the co-ruling *Movement party of Unity and Reform (MUR)*, which in a statement said that the measure was "deplorable" and denounced "attempts at normalization and *Zionist infiltration*." At the same time, the banned *Islamic movement, Adl Wal Ihssane*, (Justice and Charity) one of the most important political groups in the country, declared that normalization was: "a stab in the back to the Palestinian cause". This decision notoriously conditions the security of the *Jewish community* in Morocco, the largest in North Africa, with about three thousand people, innocent of *Zionist arbitrariness* and who could be subject to reprisals, by one of the fundamentalist militants. local and independent of the cause of the *Polisario*, which, being *Muslim*, has always detached itself from ultramontane positions.

With this action, the *Saharawi people* have been condemned exactly like their Palestinian brothers, and many other nations that claim their right to exist, to be erased by the sand and oblivion. The map of the Moroccan usurpation will be officially presented at the United States embassy to King Mohammed VI in the city of Rabat, the Moroccan capital.

The usurped territories of Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony, to which Francisco Franco, shortly before his death, had granted independence, a decision that was ignored by his heir, King Juan Carlos, who since his inauguration, together with his Moroccan and North American partners of the extraordinary riches of the *Saharawi subsoil*, where the richest phosphate deposits in the world are found, and of the fishing banks off its coasts, also among the richest in the world.

Too much wealth to leave in the hands of an independent and rebellious people who have always fought for their self-determination and have not been shy about showing their affection for countries like Cuba, where hundreds of young *Saharawis have traveled* to become doctors. and engineers.

The *Polisario front*, after knowing that the United States would adopt the new map, announced that beyond condemning the decision of the outgoing, Donald Trump, assured that he will continue fighting for the claim of his territories. On the other hand, the prime minister of Algeria, Abdelaziz Djerad, said that "the maneuvers aim to destabilize his country and the desire of the Zionist entity to approach our borders."

Algeria, which shares a border of almost 2,000 kilometers with the *Alawit kingdom*, with whom it has historically had an extremely tense relationship, to the point of acting on

many occasions as the main *Saharawis* live and have developed prohibited by different agreements international operator of *the* since the 1991 agreement, where international, which continue to be *Polisario Front* , and shelter the they remained behind the border manufactured and used by the Tindouf refugee camp in the south drawn by force of napalm and white United States and the *Zionist entity* of the country, where some 200,000 phosphorus, weapons expressly .

Image Source:

<https://comitesaharai.wordpress.com/2015/02/02/los-campamentos-de-refugiados-saharais-en-la-hammada-argelina/>

# The bitter fruits of the Arab Spring

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



When on the morning of December 17, 2010, Mohamed Bouazizi, left his house of adobe and sheet metal, in the humble neighborhood of *Hainur*, pushing his fruit cart, to sell them in the square of Sidi Bouzid, a small Tunisian city, of less than 40,000 inhabitants, 220 kilometers from the country's capital, did not suspect that it was also dragging the world into one of the most virulent changes in modern history since the Second World War, only comparable to the triumph of the Chinese Revolution, the fall of the socialist bloc or the collapse of the New York towers, which the international press would baptize with great innocence or despicable perversity as the "Arab Spring".

The rest of the story is well known, that day the simple fruit seller, fed up with the repeated police abuses, would immolate himself in front of the police station, to die a few days later, without suspecting that his indignation would inflame the dignity of many of his brothers, who took to the streets to protest that death and all the deaths that injustice, inequality and the arrogance of power were causing not only in Tunisia, but

throughout the Maghreb, which had come to change, indeed, international geopolitics.

It is obvious that Bouazizi is innocent of the hundreds of thousands or millions of deaths that have occurred and are still occurring behind his, leaving a deep river of blood from San Francisco, California, to the shady jungles of Mindanao, Philippines.

From that hot December morning, everything was dizzying, the protests that began in Sidi Bouzid, did not take long to embrace the entire country and put the dictator Zine ben Ali to flight, with twenty-two years as president of Tunisia and behind him, Not only tyrants fell, like the Egyptian Hosni Mubarak with thirty years in command or Ali Abdullah Saleh, with only twenty-one in charge of the Yemeni executive. Three substantial casualties for the West, which could do nothing to keep those allies in their positions who acted as viceroys of Washington and London, who together with a significant number of nations from Morocco, through the Gulf monarchies and Jordan and Turkey, functioned and they continue to act as Israel's protective shield, and as

a containment dam for Iran's emancipatory policies, so that within the framework of the great operation actually planned for other purposes, so the loss of henchmen such as ben Ali, Mubarak and Saleh, should have been registered as "collateral damage".

But those revolts, perfectly plotted from London, launched the most phenomenal movement of mercenaries who traveled to Libya and Syria, encouraged by the world's great journalistic media and financed by Saudi and Qatari oil. The wars that broke out in Libya and Syria showed the true intentions of the Arab Spring, to annihilate the only two leaders in the Arab world independent of State Department policies and *Zionist interests*.

It would be redundant to detail the fate of Libya, the African nation with the highest standards of living, and Syria, the most progressive country in the Middle East. In both nations the deaths number in the hundreds of thousands, the destruction of their infrastructure and means of production was absolute, in the Syrian case, and partial with respect to Libya, since, despite the notorious drop in its oil production, the French *Total* and

the Italian *ENI* , with some restrictions in the framework of the most terrifying war that can be remembered so far this century, were able to continue pumping cheap oil to their countries, to continue improving that range steadily until today.

Ten years after those days, not only the *Arab world*, but all of *Islam* is still in turmoil. Armed fundamentalist groups, in one way or another linked to *al-Qaeda* and *Daesh* , have sprung up in the vast majority of these nations and have exported their memberships from Nigeria to the Philippines, injuring and killing mainly *Muslims* , in many cases attacking government targets and civilians such as in the Maghreb, Iran, Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey, Somalia or Afghanistan, and inevitably never targeting *Wahhabi nations* , such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Oman or Bahrain, where the 2011 protests were silenced by the invasion of Saudi troops, leaving an unknown number of dead. And despite major attacks in Europe and the United States, no group of *takfirists* has ever dared to attack a target within the *Zionist* enclave, which occupies Palestine.

The Arab Spring only left destruction, new tyrants, like Turkish President Recep Erdogan, who caresses the recreation of a *neo-Ottomanism* and the idea of becoming the voice of *Islam* to the rest of the world. The *Saudi* crown prince Mohammed bin Salman, who with the help of a great *Sunni - Western-Zionist alliance* , has been waging a war against Yemen since 2015, in which he has been stuck and despite having caused a real holocaust, With hundreds of thousands dead and the country destroyed beyond its foundations, not only has he not won, but he is approaching a debacle in which he could see not only his head roll, but that of many relatives. General Abdul Fattah al-Sisi is another of the new tyrants imposed by the Spring... who, despite governing extremely harshly, came after a democratic process. Although for this he had to overthrow the legitimate government, whether we

like it or not, of Mohamed Morsi, supported by the *Muslim Brotherhood* , a quasi-terrorist organization, from whose ranks emerged none other than Ayman al-Zawahiri, Osama bin Laden's successor in *al-Qaeda* and which since 2013 the brutal repression of al-Sisi, continues to decimate. In addition, the Arab Spring came to strengthen absolutist kingdoms such as those of Mohamed VI in Morocco or that of the Saud family in Saudi Arabia, which have tolerated that the *Zionist entity* continues to spread, until this very moment, as the worst of the evils over Palestine.

### **Wars, wars and more wars until the end**

The disappearance of Colonel Gaddafi allowed many organizations that operated with low intensity in Algeria, Libya and Tunisia to relaunch themselves at will, not only in Libyan territory, but also in the south of the Maghreb in the strip known as the Sahel, particularly in the north of Mali, from where they have spread to Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad, in which two powerful organizations operate as equals, not only against a cluster of national armies, but against the numerous troops that under the seal of *Operation Barkhane* , who since 2013 with a staff of some 5,000 French soldiers, who in recent years have been joined by troops from other European nations, have been trying with little success to contain the *khatibas* of both the *Islamic State of the Great Sahara* and to the *al-Qaeda franchise* in that region the *Jamā'at nuṣrat al-islām wal-muslimīn* (Group for the Support of Islam and Muslims) or JNIM.

The origin of this conflict dates back to 2012, with the uprising of the *Tuareg people* , who, pushed by the death of Gaddafi, members of that tribe, who were part of his armies, left Libya, with significant amounts of weapons and taking advantage of the coup de state that was developing in Mali, they try to recover their mythical territory: Azawad. Given the important mineral interests that France has in that region, using fundamentalist

gangs, Paris cups and deactivates the *Tuareg revolution*, leaving hundreds of *mujahideen in that place* who settle there and begin the attempt to create an "Islamic State" .

On the African continent, *Muslim fundamentalists* are now advancing south, managing to establish themselves in an incipient way in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mozambique, a country in the actions of the group *Ansar al-Sunna* (Followers of the Traditional Path or Defenders of Tradition), in Since 2017, the northern province of Cabo Delgado has caused almost 5,000 deaths and the displacement of almost 800,000 people.

Other terrorist groups throughout *Islam* , driven by the "success" that their brothers were having in Syria and Iraq, where *Daesh was formed* , after an internal dispute within *al-Qaeda* , with the obvious support of the United States, Israel, Turkey and the Gulf monarchies are beginning to reactivate fronts such as *Boko Haram* in Nigeria, *al-Shabab* in Somalia, the Afghan *Taliban themselves* , which have definitively imposed themselves on the United States not only militarily, but also in politics, so much so that in a short time we will see them enter Kabul, to take charge of the country again, this time, in a "democratic" way. Also in Pakistan and India, fundamentalist groups have gained more and more presence, to the point of leading both nations, historically rivals and the two nuclear powers, to a confrontation that every year seems to be the final one.

The wave of "vindication" has also reached Southeast Asia, invigorating the terrorist *khatibas* operating in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, which with the return of local veterans of the Middle East wars, have been reactivated, as is the case of the *Abu Sayyaf front* , group with enough power to take and control the city of Marawi, with 200,000 inhabitants, on the island of Mindanao, from May to November 2017, resisting the siege of the

Philippine army, together with North American and Australian units.

The Arab Spring revitalized rigorous movements, encouraged and financed by Riyadh, not only in *Muslim countries*, but also in those communities in countries like France, the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany and Belgium, who turned a blind eye when thousands of its "problematic" youths, radicalized in *mosques*, *madrassas* and European prisons, traveled to Syria

and Iraq to wage their misunderstood *jihad*, the same ones who shortly after returned to their countries of origin, to carry out attacks that put Europe in a state of alert, who had not lived since the end of World War II.

The arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees from the ports of Turkey and Libya, coming from dozens of countries where the *Arab Spring* deepened the conflicts, not only caused the *European*

*Union to capsize*, causing *Brexit*, but also ended up incubating "the egg of the snake", that those same societies had fostered within them since the end of *Nazism*, allowing today not only to win the streets, but more and more seats in all parliaments, and even take control of governments such as the case of Bulgaria, Poland, Finland, Austria, Hungary or Sweden among others, which may be ahead of a next European Winter.

Image Source:

<https://www.timetoast.com/timelines/momentos-de-la-primavera-arabe>

# Fuerzas Antiterroristas del Mundo

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## Paraguay Paraguayan Army



The Paraguayan Army is an institution of the Paraguayan state, organized into three corps and nine divisions, in addition to several commands and directorates; He participated in international wars on two occasions, in the War of the Triple Alliance or Paraguayan War (1864-1870) against Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay and in the Chaco War (1932-1935) against Bolivia.

### The dictatorship

Alfredo Stroessner stood out in the Paraguayan army and in 1954, he was chosen to be Division General, in May of the same year he led a coup in which Federico Chaves was overthrown and in August 1954 he was elected by the Government Junta to President. He was re-elected in 8 legislatures, in fraudulent elections, being the only candidate: 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983 and 1988. He was the ruler in power for the longest time in a Latin American country, after Fidel Castro.

Stroessner governed with the support of the army and the Colorado Party. In the latter, he carried out a series of purges that facilitated his control, in order to perpetuate himself in power. The government party also became a framework dedicated to the distribution of favors. Corruption spread in this way in what is remembered as the "Trilogy: Government-Party-Army."

The armed forces were frequently used as a means of "intimidating" the population, and the incorporation of troops that were not "affiliated" with the ruling party, the Colorado, was not allowed. Likewise, it acted as a means of repressing the demonstrations and its fearsome fame lent itself to the commission of abuses by some soldiers to the detriment of the civilian population.

### **The Armed Forces Today**

Through a military coup on the night of February 2 and the morning of February 3, 1989, the division general and Stroessner's father-in-law, Andrés Rodríguez, overthrew him, forcing him to resign and leave the country as an exile to Brazil, where he lived the rest of his life until his death on August 16, 2006. Rodríguez called for free elections and a National Constituent Convention in 1992, in order to promulgate a new National Constitution. From then on, the President of the Republic also holds the title of Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Nation, regardless of his civil or military status, and the institution tends to shrink.



*Special Troops of the Paraguayan Army.*

Currently, the head of the Armed Forces is second in command after the President of the Republic, and he is the one who usually promotes a new institutionalized and respectful image of the Armed Forces towards the Constitution and the Laws.

Currently, Paraguay is the most “militarized” country in the region in terms of military personnel per km<sup>2</sup>. In Paraguay there are 5.86 soldiers/1000 km<sup>2</sup> compared to 4 in Bolivia; 2.11 from Argentina; and 1.88 from Brazil.

### **Mission and Objectives**

- Maintain the inviolability of the land borders of the Republic of Paraguay.
- Strengthen civic-military relations.
- Cooperate in case of emergencies, cover civil defense needs.
- Organize, frame and manage reservations.
- Organize, equip and train your force to deal with any threat.

- Cooperate in activities to support the national development of the country;
- Cooperate with the scientific and technological development of the country.

#### **UN peace missions in which he participates or participated**

- Haiti (MINUSTAH)
- Cyprus (UNFICYP)
- Democratic Republic of the Congo Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)
- Chad and Central African Republic (MINURCAT)
- Ivory Coast (UNOCI)
- Sudan (UNMIS)
- Liberia (UNMIL)
- Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)

#### **battle order**

The Paraguayan Army is composed of a Presidential Escort Regiment made up of two battalions (PM and Infantry), an armored section and an artillery battery (this regiment is equipped with three M-4A3 Shermans, four EE-9 Cascavels, four EE -11 Urutú, three M2 with 20 mm cannon, four M-101 105 mm howitzer). It could be said that this “flagship” unit of the military governments is structurally and materially the strongest in the Paraguayan Army, the Presidential Escort Regiment is an autonomous unit from other commands.



*All-terrain and amphibious vehicles recently acquired by the Paraguayan Army.*

The Paraguayan Army also has three Field Artillery Groups (GAC 1 12 88 mm QF-25, GAC 2 12 M-101 105 mm, GAA 13 40 mm M1A1, Oerlicon 20 mm, 6 M-55 4x12.7 mm) and an Anti-Aircraft Artillery Group, six Engineering Battalions, a Communications Battalion, a Special Forces Battalion, seven Infantry Regiments, and six Cavalry Regiments (RC 2 12 M3A1 5 operational 20 M9 Halftracks, RC3 24 EE-9 Cascavel , and EE-11 Urutu). The Paraguayan Army does not have organic aviation units.

Each of the army arms has a school run by its Command. The Logistics Command manages 10 directorates of material, mobilization, health, etc. The Command of Military Teaching Institutes of the Army (CIMEE) manages 3 schools: the Military Academy of Army Officers “Mcal. López ” (ACADEMIL) -in Capiatá-, the Military College of Army NCOs “Lt. 1st Rev. Manuel Irala Fernández” (COMISOE) -in San Juan del Paraná-, and the “Acosta Ñu” Military Lyceum (LICEMIL) -in Ypané-.

The CIMEE also manages the CIMEFOR (Military Instruction Center for Students and Training of Reserve Officers), present in each military unit in the country for the fulfillment of the SMO (Compulsory Military Service) of secondary students.



*This rifle testifies to the obsolescence of much of the material used by the Paraguayan Army.*

Each of the 9 divisions that make up the 3 Army Corps has one or two infantry and/or cavalry regiments, its platoon of engineers, communications section, Military Police, among others.

### **Specialties within the Paraguayan Army**

#### **Weapons**

- Infantry
- Chivalry
- Artillery
- engineering
- Communications
- war material

#### **Services**

- Intendancy
- Health
- military justice
- Religious
- Military Music Bands
- Transport
- Agricultural Service
- Geographic Service

## Organization

Army Command. Seat: Asuncion.

Presidential Guard Regiment. Seat: Asuncion.

I Army Corps. Seat: Curuguaty.

3rd Infantry Division.

4th Infantry Division.

3rd Cavalry Division.

II Army Corps. Seat: Saint John the Baptist.

1st Infantry Division.

2nd Infantry Division.

2nd Cavalry Division.

III Army Corps. Seat: Marshal Estigarribia.

5th Infantry Division.

6th Infantry Division.

1st Cavalry Division.



*Paraguayan Army units continue to operate despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic.*

Special Troops Command. (Seat: Cerrito). Composed of an instruction school and a battalion.

Artillery Command. Seat: Paraguay. Composed of 3 Field Artillery Groups and an Anti-Aircraft Artillery Group. In addition to a school and an Infantry regiment.

Engineering Command. Seat: Tacumbu. Made up of a training school and 5 battalions.

Communications Command. Seat: Tacumbu. Made up of a school and an instruction/services battalion.

Command of Military Teaching Institutes of the Army (CIMEE). Formed by a Military Academy, a high school, an officers' school, a command and general staff school, a military college for sub-officers and a training and physical education center.

- Military Academy "Mcal. López" (ACADEMIL). Seat: Capiata. Officer training.
- Military College of Noncommissioned Officers of the Army "Lt. 1º Rva. Manuel Irala Fernández" (COMISOE). Seat: San Juan del Paraná. Army non-commissioned officers training.
- Liceo Militar "Acosta Ñu" (LICEMIL) - Based in Ypané, for the training of reserve officers, for young people between 14 and 18 years old who have completed BSE
- Military Instruction Center for Students and Training of Reserve Officers (CIMEFOR), present in each military unit of the country for the fulfillment of the SMO (Compulsory Military Service) of secondary students -young people between 18 to 25 years old-, and training of officers and reserve non-commissioned officers. They include three periods, -the first is mandatory by law-. The ranks are: Applicant, Corporal, Sergeant -Reserve Non-commissioned Officer- and Second Lieutenant -Reserve Officer-).

Logistics Command. Seat: Asuncion. It is made up of 10 general directorates and a military hospital.



*The engineers of the Paraguayan Army contribute greatly to the development of the country.*

## Equipment

### Armored

- 03 Medium Tanks M4A1 Firefly (Sherman)
- 15 M3A1 Light Tanks
- 28 EE-9 Cascavel Combat Vehicles
- 12 EE-11 Urutu Armored Transports
- 20 M5 Halftrack Armored Transports
- 03 M2 Halftrack Armored Transports
- 06 Armored Vehicles with anti-aircraft mounting M8/M55

### Artillery

- 24 105 mm caliber M101 howitzers
- 12 British Ordnance QF-25 88 mm/G-1 Howitzers from South Africa

6-12 Bofors 75 mm Model 1934 guns  
12 Krupp 75 mm cannons  
13 40mm M/36 and L40/60 Anti-Aircraft Guns  
20 Oerlikon Typ S (Mod 1938) 20 mm Anti-Aircraft Guns  
03 Oerlikon GA-BO1 20 mm Anti-Aircraft Guns  
06 Antiaircraft Mounts M8/M55 4 x 12.7 - 20 mm

#### **Anti-tank weapons**

M40A1 106 mm recoilless gun  
75 mm M20 recoilless gun  
57 mm M18 recoilless gun  
M72 LAW anti-tank rocket

The standard rifle is the T75K2, of Taiwanese origin.

#### **Insider Threat**

The Army of the Paraguayan People (abbreviated: EPP), is a guerrilla organization with a Marxist-Leninist orientation and influences of liberation theology that has been operating in Paraguay officially since March 1, 2008, although its antecedents date back to the decade 1990, acting at that time as the "clandestine armed wing" of Patria Libre (a leftist party founded in 1990).

They operate in a similar way to the insurgent Latin American left-wing paramilitary guerrillas in times of dictatorships, claiming responsibility for expropriations and kidnappings against businessmen, bankers and ranchers, from the area in which the EPP operates. According to the Paraguayan government, in its beginnings, its first leaders and members were trained by members of regional guerrilla groups, such as the FARC in Colombia, or the Manuel Rodríguez Patriotic Front in Chile, among others.

Its area of influence is currently the northeast of the Eastern Region of the country, especially in the departments of Concepción, Amambay and San Pedro. It is not certain how many its members are. According to the source consulted, the number of subversives varies between 30 and 100.

According to investigations by the *Joint Task Force* (a special counterinsurgency unit made up of police, military and other state agents created in 2013), the EPP has collected millions of dollars in kidnappings, extortion, expropriation and even contributions from neighbors and sympathizers. This subversive group is the main internal threat that the Paraguayan Army must face.





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