UNOCI-990

PRESS RELEASE

GBAGBO SPECIAL FORCES FIRE ON UNOCI HEADQUATERS

Abidjan, le 1 avril 2011... The headquarters of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) came under heavy gunfire on Thursday afternoon from President Gbagbo’s special forces, entrenched at the Ministry of Defence, close to the Presidential Palace in Abidjan. The UNOCI troops returned fire, and the exchange of shots lasted close to three hours.

On the same day, a UNOCI patrol deployed to strengthen UNOCI's presence in the military wing of Abidjan airport was fired upon by groups of armed youths. Another of the mission’s patrols came under fire at around 19 hours near the premises of the Radio Television Ivoirienne (RTI- Ivorian Radio and Television).

For further information, please contact:

Hamadoun Touré, Spokesman
Tel.: +225-06203305; Cell phone: + 225-05990075 ; Fax : +225-020235107

Email: hamadoun@un.org.

http://www.onuci.org