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PRESS RELEASE

UNOCI HQ CONTINUES TO COME UNDER FIRE FROM GBAGBO'S SPECIAL FORCES

Abidjan, 3 April 2011 ... The headquarters of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) in Abidjan continued, on Sunday 3 April 2011, to come under fire from Laurent Gbagbo's special forces. As on the previous day, UNOCI troops returned the fire of these special forces and snipers.

At about 17 hours, a war tank was positioned in a military camp overlooking UNOCI headquarters and shells it fired at the mission landed in the populous neighbourhood of Attecoubé, constituting a direct threat against the civilian population there.

UNOCI Chief Y.J. Choi warned the Gbagbo camp that these condemnable attacks, which are tantamount to an act of war, are unacceptable. UNOCI reserves the right to take the measures required to carry out its mandate to protect civilians and ensure the security of its personnel and premises.

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