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PRESS RELEASE

UNOCI CALLS ON GBAGBO'S SPECIAL FORCES TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS

Abidjan, 05 April 2011... We are witnessing new developments in the political front in Abidjan. Mr. Gbagbo's closest advisers, both military and civilian, are leaving him while, with a handful of persons, he is known to have retreated to the basement bunker of the presidential residence.

UNOCI calls on the Special Forces which continue fighting in some areas of Abidjan, especially around the presidential palace in Plateau and the presidential residence in Cocody, to lay down their arms with a view to preserving the life of the civilian population as well as their own life.

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