



UNOCI – 984

PRESS RELEASE

81mm SHELLS FIRED ON ABOBO CLAIMED ABOUT A HUNDRED VICTIMS, UNOCI SAYS

Abidjan, 18 March 2011... The examination by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) of the projectiles fired on a market and surrounding areas in Abobo, Abidjan, on Thursday afternoon enable it to confirm that they were 81mm mortar shells.

The security forces of President Gbagbo's camp fired these shells from a military camp, killing or maiming about 100 persons.

Such an act, perpetrated against civilians, could constitute a crime against humanity.

UNOCI reiterates that it reserves the right to take appropriate measures with a view to ensuring the protection of civilians, in keeping with its mandate.

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