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STORY: Ugandan troops awarded medals for their contribution to the restoration of peace in Somalia

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LANGUAGE: ENGLISH NATURAL SOUND

DATELINE: 15/APRIL/2022, MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

SHOT LIST:

1. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, arriving for the medal parade at the ATMIS Uganda contingent headquarters in Mogadishu, Somalia.
2. Med shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, being received by the Commander of ATMIS Uganda troops, Brig. Gen. Keith Katungi at the Uganda contingent headquarters in Mogadishu, Somalia.
3. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, saluting at the medal parade.
4. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, saluting.
5. Close up shot - ATMIS Force Commander, saluting
6. Close up shot - ATMIS Uganda Contingent Commander, Brig. Gen. Keith Katungi.

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7. Med shot - ATMIS Uganda soldiers blowing the bugle at the medal parade.
8. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, saluting.
9. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, inspecting a guard of honour mounted by ATMIS Uganda soldiers.
10. Close up shot - Uganda, African Union and Somalia flags.
11. Wide shot - ATMIS Force Commander, Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, saluting.
12. Close up shot - African Union medals and certificates.
13. Close up shot - African Union medals.
14. med shot - Maj. Bilal Katamba, ATMIS Uganda PIO speaking at the medal ceremony.
15. Close up shot - ATMIS Force Commander.
16. Med shot - Brig. Gen. Keith Katungi, Commander of ATMIS Uganda troops.
17. Med shot - Deputy Commander of Uganda ATMIS troops, Col. David Opero and Col. Odongo, the Chief Administrative Officer of ATMIS Uganda troops.
18. Med shot - Officers and medals.
19. Wide shot - Outgoing officers getting ready to receive medals and certificates.
20. Close up shot - A soldier carrying a tray with medals.
21. Wide shot - Senior officers ready to receive medals.
22. Med shot - ATMIS Force Commander pins a medal on the outgoing Battle Group 32 commander, Col. Charles Odong.
23. Med shot - ATMIS Force Commander pins a medal to another officer.
24. Close up shot - Medal.
- 25. SOUNDBITE: (ENGLISH) Lt. Gen. Diomedede Ndegeya, ATMIS Force Commander**

“You have done this mission and your country proud. You have served with professionalism, discipline, and commitment in the advancement of the mission’s mandate. And it is partly through your commitment and sacrifice that Somalia is enjoying relative peace,”
26. Close up shot - The Commander of ATMIS Uganda troops pins a medal.
27. Med shot - Maj. Kato after receiving a medal.
28. Wide shot - The Commander of ATMIS Uganda troops pins a medal and awarding certificates
29. Med shot - Officers after receiving medals.

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30. Wide shot - Officers holding certificates.
31. Med shot - An officer receiving a medal.
32. Wide shot - Incoming Battle group 32 commander, pins a medal to an officer.
- 33. SOUNDBITE: (ENGLISH) Lt. Gen. Diomed Ndegeya, ATMIS Force Commander**

“To the in-coming Battle Group 35, you have come at a time when we have just transitioned into a new mission, ATMIS. There is no time and room for complacency. You have to hit the ground running, with regard to implementing the ATMIS mandate as stipulated by the UN Security Council Resolution 2628. This calls for you to show the highest degree of professionalism and discipline as you execute the mission’s mandate,”
34. Wide shot - Officers salute after receiving medals and certificates.
35. Med shot - Brig. Gen. Keith Katungi, the Commander ATMIS Uganda troops..
36. Close up shot - Col. Kashemeza, incoming Battle Group 32 Commander.
37. Close up shot - Col. Odong, outgoing Battle Group 32 Commander.
- 38. SOUNDBITE: (ENGLISH) Lt. Gen. Diomed Ndegeya, ATMIS Force Commander**

“Battle Group 32 was largely successful in delivering the AMISOM mandate, and now ATMIS. The Al-Shabaab have been degraded and denied action in the general areas of Barawe and Beldamin. I also take this honour to congratulate this Battle Group for successfully conducting two major operations – the Barawe operation, as well as securing the elections in Barawe,”
39. Close up shot - Col. Opeero.
40. Close up shot - A junior officer at the medal ceremony.
41. Med shot - Junior officers at the ceremony.
42. Wide shot - Officers at the ceremony.
43. Close up shot - Senior officers attending.
- 44. SOUNDBITE: (ENGLISH) Lt. Gen. Diomed Ndegeya, ATMIS Force Commander**

“To the incoming Battle Group 35 Commander Col. Kashemeza, Barawe is a sensitive area in that it has a port, an airport, and when you go into the history of Somalia, it is a treasured area. So you have to put there your expertise and build on from where they (Battle Group 32) stopped,”

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45. Med shot - Handover takeover ceremony.
46. Wide shot - Signing of handover documents.
47. Close up shot - Col. Kashemeza, Incoming Battle Group 32 Commander signing.
48. Close up shot - Document.
49. Close up shot - Brig. Gen. Keith Katungi, the Commander of ATMIS Uganda troops.
50. Med shot - Col. Odong, outgoing Battle Group 32 Commander signing.
51. Close up shot - Col. Odong, outgoing Battle Group 32 Commander.
- 52. SOUNDBITE: (ENGLISH) Col. Kashemeza, Incoming Battle Group 32 commander**
“I want to appreciate the outgoing Battle Group 32 for the achievements they have made. I pledge to build on the good work you have done in order to advance the mission mandate,”
53. Close up shot - Group photo.
54. Wide shot - Group photo.

Ugandan troops awarded medals for their contribution to the restoration of peace in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 16 April 2022 – The African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) has awarded medals and certificates to Ugandan soldiers for their contribution to the ongoing peacebuilding process in Somalia.

The soldiers, from Battle Group 32, were honoured at a medal parade ceremony presided over by the ATMIS Force Commander, Lieutenant General Diomedede Ndegeya, and attended by the Contingent Commander of Ugandan troops in Somalia, Brigadier General Keith Katungi, and other senior ATMIS military officers.

The soldiers, who deployed to the mission in March 2021, are due to rotate out of the mission, having completed their one-year tour of duty, and will be replaced by Battle Group 35, commanded by Colonel Bernard Kashemeza.

Speaking at the medal parade, Lt. Gen. Ndegeya hailed the soldiers for their professionalism and selfless service to the people of Somalia in ongoing efforts to restore peace and stability in the country.

“You have done this mission and your country proud. You have served with professionalism, discipline, and commitment in the advancement of the mission’s mandate. And it is partly through your commitment and sacrifice that Somalia is enjoying relative peace,” said Lt. Gen. Ndegeya.

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For symbolic purposes and also in adherence to the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures, the occasion was attended by a small section of soldiers of the outgoing Battle Group, commanded by Col. Charles Odong.

Upon their deployment in the different forward operating bases (FOBs) in Barawe and Beldamin, the soldiers of Battle Group 32 conducted and sustained key military operations to degrade Al-Shabaab.

Additionally, the troops helped secure main supply routes and population centres in their area of responsibility, which enabled local communities to go about their lives normally.

The Force Commander called upon the incoming Battle Group to embrace and execute their duties with vigour and professionalism, noting ATMIS is operating with a new mandate.

“To the in-coming Battle Group 35, you have come at a time when we have just transitioned into a new mission, ATMIS. There is no time and room for complacency,” Lt. Gen. Ndegeya noted.

He added, “You have to hit the ground running, with regard to implementing the ATMIS mandate as stipulated by the UN Security Council Resolution 2628. This calls for you to show the highest degree of professionalism and discipline as you execute the mission’s mandate.”

Brig. Gen. Katungi, applauded Battle Group 32 for conducting several successful offensive operations against the Al-Shabaab terrorists, including ensuring the successful completion of parliamentary elections in Barawe.

“The Al-Shabaab have been degraded and denied action in the general areas of Barawe and Beldamin. I also take this honour to congratulate this Battle Group for successfully conducting two major operations – the Barawe operation, as well as securing the elections in Barawe,” said Brig. Gen. Katungi.

Brig. Gen. Katungi advised the commander of the in-coming battle group to be vigilant and tactful in the execution of the Mission’s mandate in his Area of Responsibility (AoR).

“To the in-coming Battle Group 35 Commander Col. Kashemeza,” he said, “Barawe is a sensitive area in that it has a port and an airport. And when you go into the history of Somalia, it is a treasured area. So you have to put your expertise there and build on from where they (Battle Group 32) stopped.”

Brig. Gen. Katungi later in the day presided over a handover ceremony at which Col. Odong handed over instruments of power to Col. Kashemeza, witnessed by other senior military officers.

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Col. Kashemeza pledged to build on the successes of Battle Group 32 in the furtherance of the ATMIS mandate.

“I want to appreciate the outgoing Battle Group 32 for the achievements they have made. I pledge to build on the good work you have done in order to advance the mission mandate,” said Col. Kashemeza.

Battle Group 32 has been responsible for securing Barawe and Beldamin sub-sector, occupying FOBs like Embresso, Barawe Knoll, Airport Runway, Kismayo Road, Barawe Seaport, Golweyn, Buulomareer, as well as various areas around ATMIS Base Camp, Somali Parliament, State House, Mogadishu Seaport and Al-Jazeera.

Apart from conducting offensive operations against the Al-Shabaab, the outgoing Battle Group also implemented a number of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in their area of responsibility.

ENDS

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