



United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Media & Spokesperson Unit

Communications & Public Information Office

PRESS RELEASE

15 August 2014

UNMISS condemns clashes in Bentiu, Unity State South Sudan

This morning between 6:30am and 9:00am, heavy, sustained small arms and artillery fire was heard to the South East of the UNMISS Base in Bentiu.

During the violence, approximately 340 civilians fled from Bentiu and took shelter with UNMISS troops stationed at the airport. UNMISS protected the civilians and then escorted them from the airport to the Protection of Civilians (POC) area in the UNMISS compound outside Bentiu.

“I am deeply troubled by this morning’s outbreak of violence and condemn it, said Toby Lanzer, officer-in-charge of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan. “UNMISS has taken swift action to protect the people who sought shelter at the airport and we are now receiving these civilians into our base,” he continued, “and I call on those responsible for today’s hostilities to refrain from any further violence, and to avoid any actions that hinder the protection or assistance provided by UNMISS and aid agencies, respectively.”

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For further information or media enquiries,

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