



# Module 5 – UNMISS



## Scenarios and Snap Situations

### PART V: UNMISS CRSV Operational Scenarios

#### Scenario 1: White Army Raid

##### Scene 1.

Pibor is a remote town in Jonglei state, home to the Murle people. One late afternoon, one tribal chieftain calls up the Company Commander and informs that the Nuer White Army is preparing and concentrating in the thousands in the area North of Likuangole to attack the Murle tribe living in Pibor at night. Although the local Murle are hurriedly organising to defend themselves, the chieftain requests that the UN should somehow protect them since they will not be able to stem the impending onslaught of the ‘Nuer White Army’ on their own.

##### Additional Information.

- a. In the past, (e.g. December 2011), a large number of Nuer Youths Army marched on to Pibor burning homes and looting facilities after overtaking a small South Sudan Army unit, in which as per estimate, hundreds of people were killed, mainly children, women and the elderly.
- b. A CLA informs that the current impasse is mainly due to an alleged cattle raid undertaken by Murle youth in Lou-Nuer area three days before, in which seven Lou-Nuer people died (one old man, two young men, two women as well as a boy and girl in their teens).
- c. Inputs also indicate that approximately 60 to 70 cattle are stolen in the raid.



- d. The Lou-Nuer accuses the marauders of raping the women and girls and killing them and vows to wipe out the entire Murle Tribe.
- e. Pibor is the county capital, with majority of houses concentrated in an area of 1 km x 850 m and four hamlets spread outwards in an area of 3 to 4 km.
- f. The population of Pibor is approximately between 1000 and 1350 (comprising 400 men, 350 women, 350 boys and 250 girls). The Murletribe will be able to muster approximately 500 able bodied men and boys to repel the impending attack.
- g. Your Company is deployed in Pibor. The Battalion HQ is in Bor (180 km away).

**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What immediate actions you would like to take at the company level?
- c. What are the options and what course of action do you plan to take to protect the people of Pibor?
- d. How do you intend to protect women, children and the elderly from the impending Nuer assault?
- e. What assistance do you require from the Battalion HQ, neighbouring UN units and the Force HQ to institute preventive measures?
- f. What proactive measures could have prevented tribal clashes and promote reconciliation?

**Scene 2.**

While many civilians vacated their homes and congregated near the COB, some of the families decided to stay in the village. At about 2 AM, a night patrol deployed three km to the North of Pibor reports that they can hear the movement of hundreds of people approximately 500 to 900 m to the East of their location and are probably heading towards Pibor. A while later, the ground sensor radar detachment of the company detected large scale movement of personnel approximately 1000 m to the North-East. The attack on Pibor appears to be imminent. All of a sudden you hear angry yelling and shouting of many hundreds of people. This was accompanied by the cries of women and children from within Pibor.

**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. How would you react to the attack?
- c. How do you intend to protect the vulnerable people, including the women and children?
- d. What preventive actions could have deterred the White Army from attacking Pibor?

**Scenario 2: Murle Revenge Attack**

**Scene 1.**

Pierri is an air strip village in Jonglei inhabited by Murle tribe and has one of the very few functioning dry season drinking water wells, often with thousands of people queuing for its water. The Murle tribe is feeling discriminated, alienated and distressed due to alleged torture by the Nuer tribe backed SPLA (iO) and a rebellion is smouldering in the Eastern part of South Sudan. The Murle tribe claim that in a recent incident the SPLA (iO) and Nuer tribesmen entered the villages of Laor and Tanyang and tortured Murle locals (tore fingernails, burned plastic bags dripped over children to make their parents hand over weapons, raped and burned people alive in their huts); because rebels were suspected of spending the night in these villages. The Murle are also aggrieved because the Nuer tribe did not permit them to use the water from the wells of Pierri.

Information from multiple sources (including from Nuer and Murle) population indicates brewing tension and a potential revenge attack by Murle youth to avenge the torture and killings in Laor and the Tanyang villages as well as to retrieve cattle stolen from previous



conflicts. Young Murles are congregating in Laor village to coordinate and launch the attack on Nuer settlements with an intention to humiliate and teach a lesson.

**Additional Information.**

- a. It appears Pierri (including the airstrip) and its surrounding hamlets are obviously the target because of the following:
  - i. Water dispute (further exacerbated due to ongoing drought);
  - ii. Presence of large number of cattle, including those stolen from the Murle;
  - iii. Involvement of Nuer men from Pierri village in previous attacks; and
  - iv. Abduction of Nuer children to be raised as Murle.
- b. An estimated 200 to 300 Murle youth are expected to join in the attack which may take place in the next 72 hours.
- c. The Nuer population in Pierri is apparently oblivious to the intentions and designs of the Murle.
- d. In the past, such attacks have also resulted in rape, abduction and sexual slavery.
- e. A CLA gets information from a local person that some of the Murle community leaders stated that their women and girls are being humiliated and sexually assaulted by Nuer men during attacks and cattle raids and urged the youth to take appropriate revenge by raping Nuer women.
- f. Time now is 8 AM. Earliest time for the attack to materialise is not before 10 PM; and if not, an attack is most probable tomorrow.
- g. Your COB is approximately 50 km to the South East of Pierri. A Long Range Patrol is operating along a main road approximately 15 km to the East of Pierri. Two other UN COBs are located approximately 75 km to the Southwest and 125 km to the Northeast respectively and will be able to send some reinforcements.

**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What immediate actions would you like to take at the company level?
- c. What are the options and what course of action do you plan to take to protect the people of Pierri?
- d. How do you intend to protect women, children and elderly from the impending Murle assault?
- e. What assistance do you require from the Battalion HQ, neighbouring UN units and the Force HQ to institute preventive measures?
- f. What proactive measures could have prevented tribal clashes and promoted reconciliation?

**Scene 2.**

Seeing your proactive measures to dominate the area with presence and posture, Murle youth group abandon the plans to launch the attack from Laor and thinned out on ground. Many young Murles were seen moving out to graze cattle. On the third night, a patrol on watch deployed to the Northwest of Pierri village notices some suspicious movement to the North of Pierri (approximately 4 km from the village). Another patrol reports that the buildings in the airstrip are on fire and probably gutted.

**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. How would you like to react to the attack?  
What measures do you suggest to prevent or to save abducted women and children by the Murle.



### Scenario 3: Abduction of Women

#### Scene 1.

One evening at about 5.30 PM, a group of approximately 50 armed men wearing SPLA uniform along with some armed militia members (probably of Dinka tribe), marches in and takes control of a Nuer neighbourhood in Juba. A house to house search ensues in which the armed men brutally beat and torture the civilians. The commander of the group calls all the community members to assemble in an open area. At this moment (about 6.30 PM), a local informer calls the CLA and informs on the developing situation. Your unit is deployed in the town as part of the UN Sector HQ.

#### Points for Deliberation.

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What immediate actions would you like to take at the company/unit level?
- c. What are the options and what course of action do you plan to take to protect the people?
- d. Do you need any additional support/assistance from the HQ or other components?

#### Scene 2.

After half an hour (about 7 PM), the CLA rushes to you and connects the informer on the cell phone/radio. The informer mumbles the following to you:

- a. Many men sustain injuries while being interrogated;
- b. The armed uniformed men and militia men are forcibly segregating young women from the community; and
- c. The segregated women are forcibly undressed and paraded naked in front of the community.
- d. 6 women who refuse the orders to undress are beaten and kicked with rifles.
- e. An armed man shoots two Nuer men dead for violently protesting the ill-treatment of their wife and daughter.

#### Points for Deliberation.

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What actions would you take to protect the community and in particular women and girls?
- c. What actions would you like to take to prevent further deterioration of the situation?

#### Scene 3.

You are at the site of incident. You observe devastation, terrified people crying of pain as well as of the loss of the near and dear. Seeing you, five to six men of the community rush and report that 32 of their women are abducted by the SPLA and associated militia men a few minutes ago. They also inform that the abducted women are naked and are made to walk hand-cuffed along with the armed men to some other place (probably to the military barracks). They accuse UN of not doing enough to protect them and their women and girls, and demands that you must immediately save the abducted women, lest they be “assigned” to soldiers and militia members to be raped/gang-raped or even killed. They threatened of taking revenge on the abductors and warned of serious consequences.

#### Points for Deliberation.

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What actions would you like to take:
  - i. To save/extricate abducted women at risk?
  - ii. To provide assistance to injured civilians?
  - iii. To engage SPLA and associated militia groups?
- c. What preventive/pre-emptive and proactive actions could have averted such an incident?



### **Scenario 4: Targeted CRSV by Opposition Forces**

#### **Scene 1.**

The division between the Government and opposition forces are ever widening. The opposition forces and associated armed youth take control of Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile States and secure their state capitals. Civilians are being systematically targeted (primarily from the Dinka, and also other groups that are perceived to be against them, such as Shilluk and Darfurian communities) and towns and villages are being thoroughly looted and destroyed.

You are deployed in Bentiu (Unity State) and have been getting reports of the atrocities being committed by the opposition forces. One day early in the morning, a Dinka Chieftain from the Rubkona town, accompanied by three other men reaches your COB/HQ and requests for a meeting. On meeting with the Dinka delegation, the Chieftain informs you of the following:

- a. An attack on the Dinka population in Rubkona by the Nuer dominated opposition forces is expected in the immediate future.
- b. Fearing the attack, and past brutal incidents perpetrated by the opposition forces, many civilians are fleeing to safety from the surrounding villages, hamlets and tukuls and are congregating at Rubkona (in places of worship, hospitals, schools and government buildings) or hiding in the bush.
- c. The situation is unpredictable and gloomy.
- d. The terrified people are awaiting the inevitable attack of the opposition forces and seek protection and food from the UN.

In the meantime, one of your OP informs you that groups of civilians are moving across the El Salaam Bridge to Bentiu.

#### **Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What immediate actions you would like to take at the company/unit level?
- c. What are the options and what course of action do you plan to take to protect the people of Rubkona?
- d. What particular measures will you take to protect women and children in the bush and places of congregation in Rubkona or in Bentiu?
- e. What assistance do you require from Mission/Force HQ to institute preventive measures?
- f. How will you deal with civilians fleeing Rubkona and reaching your base in Bentiu.

#### **Scene 2.**

Your OPs and patrols report that the opposition forces have entered the town and are carrying out house to house search and are engaged in physical torture and pillage. The unit's CLA gets the following information from a confidential informer:

- a. Probably three females (two women and one girl) are being gang-raped.
- b. Five men have been taken into custody and are being interrogated in a closed house and their painful moan can be heard outside.
- c. A group of armed men brandishing rifles and swords are moving towards the bush where some families are hiding.
- d. A senior looking commander orders another commander to pursue those fleeing from Rubkona and send them to heaven.

Some armed men are seen moving towards the bridge. Some fire and smoke can be seen at the centre of the town, with occasional shots of fire arms.



**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What actions could have prevented the situation from becoming dangerously alarming and probably slipping out of control?
- c. What is your response to the atrocities of the opposition forces?
- d. What additional assistance would you require to deal with the highly volatile situation?
- e. What actions do you intend to take to assist the female and male (including minors) victims of CRSV?

**Scenario 5: Violence in PoC Site**

The government and opposition forces are battling for control of Malakal and heavy firing as well as attacks and counter attacks are raging. Dead bodies are strewn across the streets and fields. Approximately 30,000 IDPs have taken refuge in the PoC site at Malakal adjacent to your base. The majority of the IDPs in the PoC site comprise Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups, together with other ethnic groups in small numbers. However, ethnic tension has been brewing in the PoC site for some time now with sporadic incidents of clashes between groups/communities. UN efforts for maintaining peace and tranquillity through reconciliation are in progress.

One early morning, a mixed delegation approach the CoB with a complaint of the rape of two girls (including one minor) the previous night by five men from a particular ethnic group.

Additionally, the delegation informs you the following:

- a. The girls need urgent medical attention.
- b. They know the perpetrators and their whereabouts.
- c. The perpetrators ethnic group elders have denied the charges.
- d. The situation is volatile and violence can erupt any moment.

While discussing the issue with the delegation, you hear two to three bursts of rifle fire and shouting and screaming of people from the North Eastern direction of the COB. OP of the base and an informer from the PoC site confirms that two groups of civilians clashed in which three people have been injured (one woman and two men) and fist fight is going on. The informer further states that the perpetrators are levelling counter allegations that there is a sex racket in the camp.

Hearing the firing and commotion, the delegation rush out shouting that they will kill the perpetrators and rape the women and girls from the particular ethnic group.

At this moment you see a large group of people, primarily women and children banging the front gate requesting entry in to the base to save themselves.

**Points for Deliberation.**

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. What immediate actions would you like to take at the company/unit level?
- c. What assistance will you provide to the survivors?
- d. What options will you consider in responding to inter-tribal clash?
- e. How will you respond to civilians needing protection at the doorstep of the CoB?
- f. What measures could have prevented the escalation of the rising tension?



## UNMISS Snap Situations

### Snap Situation 1: Government Forces Attack and Rape

A delegation of tribal people calls on you and reports the following:

- a. There was indiscriminate and widespread shelling as well as tank assaults on their village two days back.
- b. Followed by that SPLA, SSNP and some other armed men assaulted the village.
- c. Civilians were rounded up and interrogated separately.
- d. Allegedly 5 men were summarily executed after interrogation and 15 men were taken prisoners. The prisoners were taken to unknown location.
- e. The prisoners have not returned since and presumably will be exterminated.
- f. Allegedly 6 women and 5 girls were raped, abused and tortured.
- g. 7 women and 5 girls were forcibly taken to unknown place (presumably to be assigned to soldiers who will repeatedly rape/gang-rape them).
- h. The captured men's and women's relatives and neighbours were specifically tortured.

The delegation claimed that the attacks were planned, deliberate, coordinated and guided by political directives; and requested for the following help:

- a. Obtain release of the captured men and women.
- b. Assist the rape victims.
- c. Punish the perpetrators.
- d. Protect and support them with basic necessities (in their temporary camp).
- e. Prevent any such future incidents.

#### Points for Deliberation.

- a. What is your assessment of the situation?
- b. How will you verify the reports?
- c. What actions will you take as a UN Military Commander to address their specific requests?
- d. What roles do you envisage for other Mission components and elements of UNCT?
- e. What preventive measures could have prevented such an incident?

### Snap Situation 2: Rape and Extermination of Men

#### Scene 1

Unconfirmed information indicates that hundreds of Nuer men are taken prisoners, tortured (including rape) and detained in the State prison at Gudele in Juba. Reportedly, many of them are being systematically exterminated and there is concerted effort by the State Security Forces to remove/destroy/conceal evidence of this heinous crime being perpetrated. It is suspected that murder, enforced disappearance, rape and other forms of sexual violence are taking place in the neighbourhood.

One day at noon, a civilian informs you of the following:

- a. In the morning, many armed men from the State Security forces arrived at the Gudele neighbourhood.





- b. The area is cordoned off by the security forces and no movement of vehicles and personnel is allowed.
- c. The security forces are specifically targeting Nuer houses and have asked Nuer men to come out with hands raised and made to stand in a line.
- d. The armed men have rounded up approximately 300 Nuer men. Seven to nine of these Nuer men who resisted being taken prisoner have been shot dead.
- e. The men of the security forces knew which house belonged to the Nuer community and the number of male members in each house.
- f. Women and children have been told to remain inside their houses. Screams of women and girls from some houses being searched can be heard, probably being molested (sexually violated) by the security forces.
- g. At present the Nuer men prisoners are being forced to walk to a nearby adhoc police station, which has a building converted to be a prison.
- h. The civilian feared that these Nuer men will be tortured, raped and killed.

A mobile patrol leader, passing through Gudele neighbourhood for another mission reports that he/she can hear intermittent firing from the general area of the State Prison.

A CLA got a call from another civilian that many Nuer men are being rounded up from other neighbourhoods, such as Newsite, Mangaten and Mia Saba.

***What is your response?***

## **Scene 2**

A reconnaissance patrol informs you that a fresh batch of approximately 150 Nuer men in 15 trucks have reached the detention centre at dusk. The men appear to be handcuffed, screaming in local language for help and most of them appeared to be bleeding or injured. After half an hour, the patrol heard fusillade of fire from many automatic weapons for approximately five minutes.

***What is your response?***

(Actual incident – Approximately 450 Nuer men killed).

## **Snap Situation 3: Rape of a Minor**

One afternoon, you are informed that there is pandemonium and commotions in the Bor IDP camp, including fistfights between Murle community members and the members of SPLA. You were ordered by the commander to rush to the site and stabilise the situation. On reaching the camp you find that the situation has been brought under control by the SPLA and the local police. A group of Murle men and women hurling abuses at the SPLA approaches you and reports that a 14 year old girl was raped by an SPLA officer during food distribution. You find the girl lying on the ground, dishevelled, terrified and crying silently.

***What is your response?***





#### **Snap Situation 4: Seizure of State Capital and Violence against Civilians**

At about 9 AM you get information that the Government forces (approximately battalion strength) are advancing to Bentiu and Rubkona to evict the opposition fighters and they are expected to be in Rubkona by evening. It is also reported that the forces are committing gross violations, including murder and sexual violence en-route. Victims are being systematically sought based on their ethnicity. There are approximately 100 opposition fighters dispersed in defensive positions in Rubkona/Bentiu. From the information available, it is not clear whether the rebels would fight the advancing government forces or vacate the area soon. Local civilians, including a large number of women and girls are caught up in the middle of an inevitable battle for the control of the township, who could be victimised either by the advancing forces or the withdrawing opposition fighters.

***What is your response?***

#### **Snap Situation 5: Security of IDP Communities in PoC Sites**

An angry IDP delegation reports that the women and girls of their community are being subjected to ill-treatment, sexual assault, arbitrary detention and abduction or even killed sometimes, when they go out of the IDP camp for livelihood activities such as firewood/water collection, farming, or to the market places. Moreover, the members of the IDP community are also subjected to physical violence by the rival forces/militias when they attempt to return their original place of residence. They question the impartiality of the UN and accuse the CoB of not protecting the people. Two male members of the delegation drag a bruised women and a girl to the front and informs you that they both are pregnant; carrying their enemy's babies and declares that they are banished from the community.

***What is your response?***

#### **Snap Situation 6: Rape of Foreign Women**

There have been instances when foreign nationals were specifically attacked in their work places by armed men in SSNPS and SPLA uniforms. In many such cases, foreign women and girls were also gang raped (20 Dec 2013). There are approximately 60 foreign nationals in the township nearby your CoB (25 men, 20 women, 8 boys and 7 girls). Recent inputs from various sources indicate that the foreign nationals, particularly the women and girls are vulnerable to targeted attacks from the security forces.

***What is your response?***

#### **Snap Situation 7: Sexual Slavery**

Two men, bleeding profusely approach your CoB (Upper Nile State) and demand an immediate meeting with the Company Commander. They inform the Company Commander that opposition fighters captured two women and two girls four days back and took them along to another isolated village, where the fighters are camping. When the men went to enquire and obtain the release of the women and girls, they were detained and brutally tortured for two days, before being released with a warning never to return. The injured men alleged that the fighters have either killed the women and girls or they are being used as "wives" or sex slaves in the houses of the isolated village.

***What is your response?***



### **Snap Situation 8: CRSV by JEM**

Security forces (mainly Dinka soldiers) and JEM elements attacked Mayendt area and raped 20 women and 3 boys, some of them publicly. In the incident, four women and one boy have died due to the rape. The alleged perpetrators are camping in a nearby area and are reportedly planning for similar attacks on other rival tribal settlements.

***What is your response?***

### **Snap Situation 9: Mission Response to Violations**

Documented evidence of atrocities against civilians indicate that both the State Security Forces and the Rebel opposition forces have committed human rights and international humanitarian law violations. It is also evident that sexual violence was used by both parties as a tactic of war.

***What actions do you propose at different levels and different components of the Mission to prevent such incidents in the future and end impunity?***

### **Snap Situation 10: Threat of CRSV by an Opposition Forces General**

An opposition General gives an incriminating speech and orders the armed men to take revenge by impregnating women and girls of the rival tribes. Followed by this, the General holds a closed door meeting with a select group of leaders, including those in different patterns of uniform and some in civilian cloth but armed. The General's speech was also aired over the local Radio.

***What is your response?***

(Actual incident - 18 Feb 2014, 6 dead and 150 injured).