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PEACE KEEPING OPERATIONS A CAUSE OF DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE AMONG PEACE KEEPERS: A CASE OF  
UGANDA PEOPLES' DEFENCE FORCES IN AFRICAN  
MISSION IN SOMALIA

By

Lieutenant Colonel MS BYEGARAZO

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CERTIFICATION OF SUPERVISORS

NAME OF THE STUDENT : Lt Col MS Byegarazo

NAME OS THE SUPERVISOR : Col JARSK Jayasekara USP psc

SIGNATURE OF THE SUPERVISOR : *[Signature]* 27.09.2015

NAME OF THE SUPERVISOR : Mr S Satheesmohan

SIGNATURE OF THE SUPERVISOR : *[Signature]* 27.09.2015

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**ABSTRACT**

1. This report brings forth issues relating to Peacekeeping operations a cause of domestic violence among peacekeepers. It specifically takes a case of UPDF in AMISOM from where 5 case studies were drawn. It is a fact that peacekeeping operations have existed for decades since the UN, yet the UPDF have not been participants. AMISOM is the first peacekeeping mission where UPDF is playing a role.

2. Apparently since the participation of UPDF in AMISOM, the extent of domestic violence and homicide in UPDF is unprecedented. Despite the rising levels of domestic violence, Uganda government has weak domestic violence laws and the domestic relations bill meant to address this, still lies idle in parliament. UPDF courts therefore rely on other laws for prosecution of domestic violence culprits yet these are not prohibitive enough.

3. The objective of this study is to examine how adequate compassionate leave can reduce domestic violence. The study also highlights how AMISOM operational environment with improved welfare facilities like fitness centres, games, shopping centres and high speed internet communication facilities can contribute to reduction of stress that is responsible for some violent tendencies among peacekeepers.

4. The focus of the study was former peacekeepers, commanders and administrators of battle group 13. The study was conducted between April 15 and June 15. A total of 120 respondents were randomly selected from the three categories out of which 94 responded to the questions. Data was collected using a questionnaire with 24 systematically arranged questions (See Annex A) that provided a list of answers based on Likert scale.

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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Based on the presented data, it is evident that AMISOM peacekeeping environment compounded with lack of welfare facilities is a contributory factor to stress that translates into domestic violence. Exposure to life threatening risks is also responsible for the violent behaviors. Insufficient leave has contributed to promiscuity that is responsible for most homicide cases.

5. Despite the study being focused on one battle group of UPDF peacekeepers, it is applicable and relevant to the whole UPDF institution and can be used to guide relevant policies.

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