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From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2011 3:24 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: Kenya, Somalia security officials plot al Shabaab offensive (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker
Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2011 03:18 PM
To: NEWS-Mahogany
Subject: Kenya, Somalia security officials plot al Shabaab offensive (Reuters)

ISILOLO (Reuters) - Kenyan and Somali security officials met in the Somali border town of Dhobley on Sunday to discuss preparations for an offensive against al Shabaab rebels after the kidnapping of two Spanish aid workers, a Kenyan security source said.

The meeting comes a day after Kenya said it would hunt down the al Qaeda-linked insurgents, who police believe seized the two Medecins Sans Frontiers staffers at the Dadaab refugee camp last week.

Al Shabaab denied it was responsible.

"A team comprising Kenya Army and Rapid Deployment Unit (police) officers left our border last evening and went to Dhobley. They held a meeting with top officers of the TFG (Somali) forces for about two hours before they came back," the security source said.

"The meeting was to prepare a joint operation between the two forces which is meant to launch an offensive against al Shabaab rebels who are scattered in different parts of southern Somalia," he added, without giving further details.

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