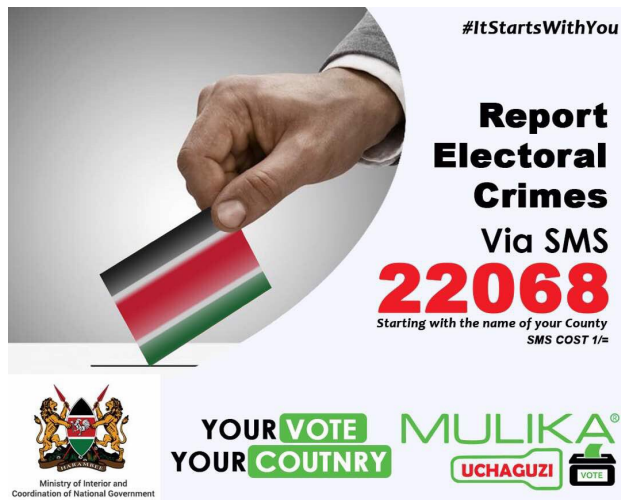


SMS Africa– Kenya – April 2017--Report 2

Election fever

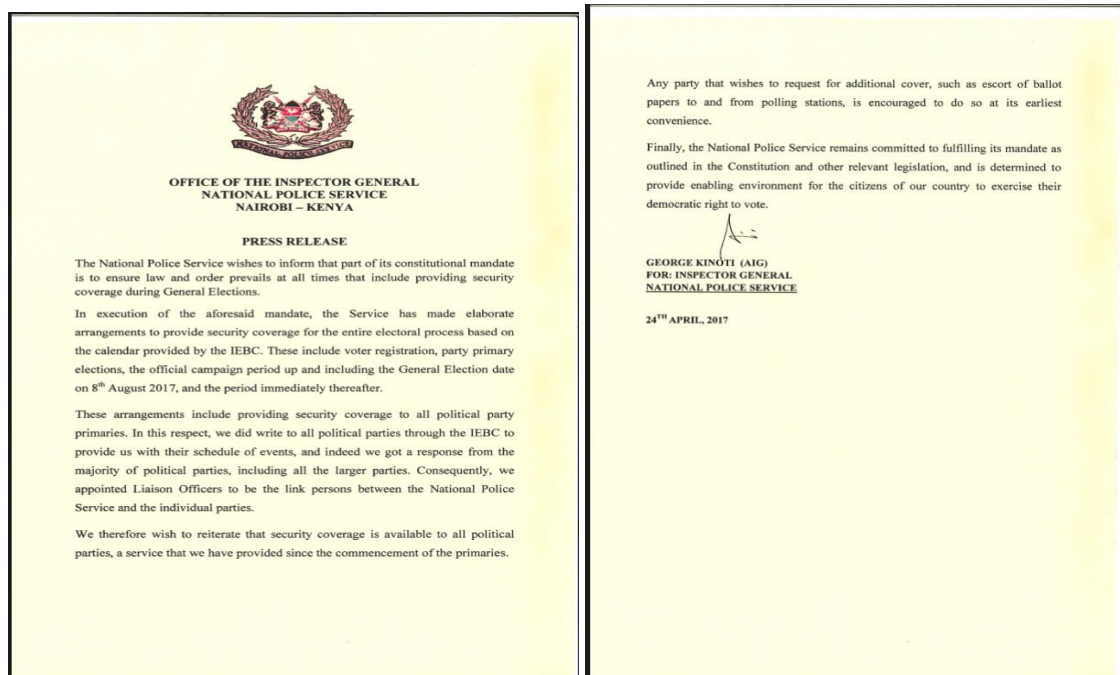
Election season is in full swing. The primaries took place in April and were hotly contested before, during and after they took place with claims of rigging and general machinations. Institutional arrangements were put in place to report electoral crimes and cater to all parties.

Pls note and RT on #electoralcrimes (Suemc_phee, 2017)



Source: https://twitter.com/suemc_phee/status/854792121508921345

Any rowdy crowds or groupings? Kindly tweet & mention @PoliceKE or @APSKenya for speedy response #NairobiDecides (GroundHawkKE, 2017)



Source: https://twitter.com/NPSOfficial_KE/status/856550064680054784

All in all, it was a very eventful period. The most violent incident was the alleged attempt on one candidate's life.

I condemn with the strongest terms possible the assassination attempt of Hon. Mwaura M Isaac Cbs Those who know this man very well can attest to the fact he is not a violent man. He has risen to the position of leadership through diligence, intelligence and resilience. He has denied all odds and endured the path of high resistance to become one of the strongest voices from Mount Kenya region and indeed the entire Republic of Kenya. He represents the ideologies and the kind of leadership that shall make Kenya great for all people regardless of the gender, race, tribe, disability, creed and form. The culprits of this heinous act must be apprehended and prosecuted. As we approach the party nominations, Jubilee Party should ban all those perpetrators of violence seeking elective positions on its ticket. Violence is both backward and barbaric and is only fanned by cowards. Get well Mheshimiwa and fight on the good fight, this is the homestretch and victory is thine. Ndindi Nyoro Martin Mbau Ririkana mùti ùtari matunda ndùikagirio mahiga ni ihii [Martin Mbau remember that a tree that does bear fruit does not have boys throwing stones thrown at it] (David Wakogy, 2017)

Assassination attempt by Simon King'ara , a bullet has pierced My left ear and car sprayed bullets . Rushed to Nairobi Hospital



Source:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10154383570116367&set=p.10154383570116367&type=3&theater>

Despite all the tumult, there was only one arrest, that of a gubernatorial candidate arrested for incitement after she was videoed distributing money to voters and later, after the election, claiming that the election had been stolen and urging her supporters to make their disgruntled feelings known.

VIDEO: Margaret Wanjiru arrested at City Park for inciting voters. #NairobiDecides (InsecurityKE, 2017)

BISHOP MARGARET Wanjiru to remain in custody until May 2 when she will appear in court to be released on a Sh500,000 bond. #ElectionsKE (NationBreaking, 2017)

Gangs on social media

While most of the general social media commentary had moved onto the election primaries, in some pockets of the internet, discussion around gangs and executions continued. Facebook pages dedicated to particular neighbourhoods, regions and causes continue to discuss their interests. One tweet by an internet tabloid led me to the Facebook page of Jojes Mistari <https://www.facebook.com/jojes.mistari> who the tabloid identified as a gang member.

Dangerous Nairobi Thug Posts Photos Flaunting A Gun And Dares @PoliceKE To Arrest Him
(MpashoNews, 2017)

A search for Jojes Mistari on Facebook, brought up a page, Dandora Crime Free (Dandora is an estate in the Eastlands part of Nairobi), dedicated to eradicating crime in Dandora. What I have been able to piece together thanks to Google and Kenyan media reports is that there are police who use Facebook to warn Gang members of their impending execution, and also allow residents to revel in said demise. Some of the content on Dandora Crime Free is very disturbing as it is a page that promotes and highlights the killings of alleged thieves. The following caption accompanied a photo of a dead youth:

Uliona heri kuiba.. ungekuwa Lunga Lunga ninge kuwa nshakupeana kitambo... hawa walichelewa
[You saw fit to steal...were you in Lunga Lunga I would have given it to you a long time ago...they were late] (Hesy wa Lunga Lunga, 2017)

Dandora Crime Free seems to be run by the account Hesy wa Dandora. The media reports¹ indicate that “Hesy” is a police person who issues a warning to thugs before sending them to meet their maker. Given that there are accounts for Hesy wa Lunga Lunga, and Hesy wa Kayole, etc. it is not clear whether Hesy is one person or several police officers who work in different areas of the Eastlands part of Nairobi.

The author of another account, Blackest Widow, who identifies themselves as a CID officer, makes it clear that the ‘work’ of posting pictures of suspects, requires due diligence and circumspection:

Am strongly Condemning the act of posting pictures of individuals whom you lack clear details of! In as much as one is trying to bring change by bringing the criminals before the public, All #HESSY'S need to understand the fact that posting someone's pic in abid of seeking information from the guy is risking his/her life more so if the person is innocent!!! Remember the bloggers are here! The girl in question has just been crowned as a member of the dreadful gaza gang yet she's nowhere within Kenya!!! Take it slow lest you crown more citizens as the next Osamas!! (Blackest Widow, 2017)

¹ http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2017/04/12/meet-the-kayole-cop-who-kills-gangsters-and-posts-their-photos-on_c1542506

Blackest Widow has posted in Dandora Crime Free. It was a message to a particular individual, including photographs, so there must have been an expectation that they would see it:

Tunakujua, Tunakuheshimu na Tunakutambua ...Lakini tabia yako ndo tunakataa...Uliletwa kwa highlights in Dandora Love People wengi wakasema wewe si mwizi...Swali ni je, Mbona uhepe??? Jana umeonekana na gari flany KCF pamoja na Canter ukipack virago zako ukihamia sijui Ruaka siko much sure (ukitoka kwa iyo nyumba ulikua ukishii apo cinema ya chini)...Nimekufwatilia for long but umeniprove otherwise...Chungana na gava kijana...huendi mbali. [We know you. we respect you, we see you...but we reject your actions...you were highlighted in Dandora Love People and many said that you are not a thief...the questions is, why run??? Yesterday you were spotted in a certain car KCF and a canter packing your things to move to maybe Ruaka, I am not sure (you left the house you were living in down by the lower cinema... I have followed you for a long time but you have proved me otherwise...watch out for the government youngster...you are not going far], (Blackest Widow, 2017)

Dandora Crime Free is a public page but the page Dandora Love People that Blackest Widow talks about, is a closed group only for residents of Dandora. It has also been featured in the media as a 'Facebook group where criminals are put on notice'. It appears that these law enforcement officers live in these communities or are very familiar with the communities.

Blackest Widow seems to think that Facebook is for conducting investigations or warning away individuals from a life of crime. The Hessy's on the other hand have a particular view on the world: crime does not pay and a willingness to mete justice to the wayward.

Vijana wenye wanadai job....#job kibao zaja. [The youths who are seeking work...many jobs are coming] Those wishing to join #National Police Service. 12th may recruitment kicks off. #Kenya Defence Forces 15th may...#AllTheBest. #Gooday (Hessy Wa Kitengela, 2017)

We dont need such like pple in our society: infact everyone involved in thiz scandal(that police officer, the thug nd the MCA) would have been shot in the head: why waste time to arrest such like pple???? Hawa ndo adui ya maendeleo kwa jamii!!! [These are the enemies of societal progress] (Hesey Wa Dandora, 2017)

Based on the responses on Dandora Crime Free, the Hessy's have the people's mandate to do whatever it takes to eradicate crime. A caption to a photo of dead young men:

Kunianika hapa am a gang member was a big mistake ningekua hivi sahi mtaa yetu iko na polisi anaitwa black he is a no joke he doesn't post on fb but anaku fikia bila warning. I love the people there too wakiona blacky amechelewa they help too .this idiots were trying to pick pocket waka nyeshewa na raiya [Exposing me here is a gang member was a big mistake. In our area we have a policeman named Black, he is no joke he does not post on fb. He gets you with no warning. I love the people there too if they see Blacky is late they help too. These idiots were trying to pick pockets and they were rained on by the public] (Katrinah Essy Malika, 2017)

It implies that the young men had been killed by an angry mob. When people inquired into the area that the boys had been killed, a solemn commenter identified it as Kibera. Her dismay over the situation was dismissed by other posts:

Jana kibera [Yesterday Kibera]... Who will remain if all the able men die. Where did society go wrong., (Madge Wambui, 2017)

---Respectable...n hardworking....hao.ndio watabaki.. [that's who will remain] (Maxhah Makhariah, 2017)

---Ppl are still breeding. Stop worrying about dead thugs! (Karyma Jean, 2017)

---Karyma am not worried about the dead am worried about this generation becoming extinct (Madge Wambui, 2017)

---There is no need to have millions of men who are lazy, thieves, killers and raia is not at peace,a generation where living in will be very difficult,a generation where we will not have teachers,lawyers doctors etc coz all will be armed robbers.Its better we remain with few hardworking men and a Peaceful country (Sharon Kageha, 2017)

---Exactly! Better few but meaningful and safe (Karyma Jean, 2017)

There are some who would like to see a rehabilitation option floated, rather than simply summary execution, given the many avenues through which innocent lives might be taken:

Na kama unajua wewe ni Hesi imbo please stay back. Dont kill an innocent youth then plant him an allegation based on mistaken identity or personal differences. Let thorough investigations be conducted before execution and warnings be issued to these youths where necessary like we have witnessed in some of the cases.Let those who can genuinely transform be assisted and monitored.Sio ku pull tu trigger juu unafel uko above the law. Otherwise,big up Hesi Wa Dandora., (Brainchild Asubuhi, 2017)

A TV programme alleged that there were connections between the gangs and security forces but did not address the question of vigilante police and vigilante people:

Gaza thugs of Kayole and how intertwined they are with security forces (Suemc_phee, 2017)

A screen caption of Dandora Love People shows how the content intersperses jokes and shout outs to Dandora with kudos to Hesi/Hessy, posts 'outing' thugs, and pictures of burnt bodies: <http://archive.is/P0yrQ>.

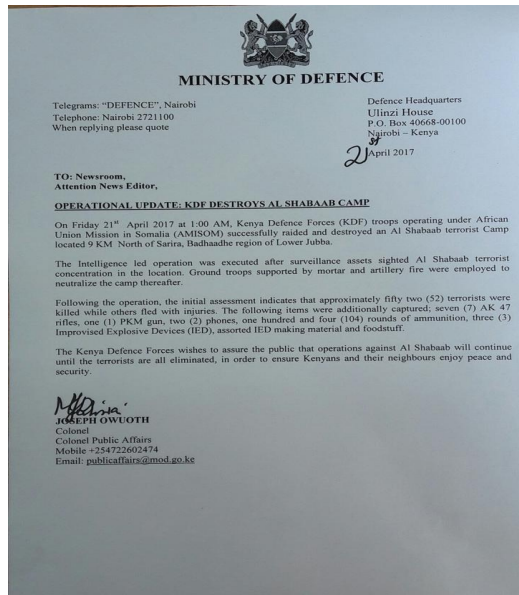
Terror News

Accounts that report on KDF's progress in Somalia generally elicit a lot of interaction and receive many likes and positive comments. Popular posts on CTNSIS's Facebook page include:

#WeAreKDF #Salute [Photos] (Strategic Intelligence Services, 2017)

Intensified Campaigns: #KDF Conducts Airstrikes Against Al-Shabaab Makeshift Camp in Gedo Township, Southern Somalia (Strategic Intelligence Services, 2017)

On KDF's Twitter account, the news led to mostly positive responses and requests for more similar kinds of information. The perception also seemed to be that KDF had improved its on the ground strategy, rather than merely become more open about its operations:



Source: <https://twitter.com/kdinfo/status/855391269069049857>

#OpsUpdate: #KDF in @amisomsomalia successfully raided & destroyed an Al Shabaab terrorists' camp in Badhaadhe District, Lower Jubba Region (Kdinfo, 2017)

----KDF has now become proactive which is good. Setting barracks in a war zone waiting to be attacked was never good (Moseskaagu, 2017)

----Well done @kdinfo and remember your objective is not to die for your country but ensure the terrorists die for their cause!!, (HillaryAkoto, 2017)

----Muwe mkija na evidence kama vindeo, thermal image, DNA...etc. [Include evidence like video...] Photos of dead terrorists are a turn on to some of us. Yeah, I said it!, (ChiziTheGreat, 2017)

KDF Operational UPDATE. Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) Kill 52 Al-Shabaab Terrorists In Sarira, Badhaadhe Of Lower Jubba (Strategic Intelligence Services, 2017)

A post about KDF renovating a mosque that was shared by both KDF and CTNSIS generated favourable responses and good will amongst the commentators—an indication that the power of PR cannot be dismissed.

#KDF Soldiers Renovate Tabda Mosque in Somalia after 30 Years of Neglect (Strategic Intelligence Services, 2017)

----LA illaha ila Allah mosque neglected for thirty years and yet they call themselves Muslims...may Allah forgive them in sha Allah and congratulations soldiers Allah will reward you for the good and Godly work you are doing (Abdikadir Ibrahim, 2017)

----Show them Kenya has no problem with Islam the problem is the terrorist al shaabab hiding in the name of Islamic (Mwakisha De Maghanga, 2017)

----It took a long period for the Kenyans to know that Islam and terrorists are two different things (Abdinasir Raziin Omar Hassan, 2017)

Kenya military renovate oldest mosque in Tabda town, near #Somalia-#Kenya border (WhoseinMoulid, 2017)

-----Thank you @kdfinfo for renovating Tabda Mosque in #Somalia. May Allah multiply the reward for your good deeds & protect you against the Enemy (Taqwamedia3, 2017)

Kerio Valley Update

Baringo, Laikipia and West Pokot continued to be dangerous to residents and security services alike.

Two GSU officers missing following a weekend shootout with bandits at Matweku at the border of Laikipia & Baringo counties. via @dailynation (TheMfanyikazi, 2017)

Bodies of two police officers who went missing on Friday after fighting with bandits found in Ng'elecha Valley in Baringo South, police say (Citizentvkenya, 2017)

Today the 23rd day of April 2017, in Laikipia West Division, Kuki Gallmann owner of Laikipia Nature Conservancy, while driving within the Conservancy along Kaptuya road, was attacked by three armed bandits. She sustained injuries and was airlifted to Nairobi for treatment. The ongoing security operations in Baringo and Laikipia have succeeded in driving out hundreds of illegal herders and thousands of their animals from several ranches, including her Laikipia Nature Conservancy (LNC). In LNC in particular, we have mounted several operations to drive off illegal herders and have arrested a number of suspects including a local politician who is facing court charges for instigating arson attacks and incitement. We believe that the unfortunate attack this morning was staged by remnants of illegal herders, who are at the moment being sought for arrest and court action. Meantime, the wider operation continues and officers are under instruction to deal firmly with the remaining illegal herders throughout Laikipia county and parts of Baringo county. We also wish to caution certain politicians to refrain from making statements that amount to encouraging ranch invasion, as this sends confusing messages to members of public. KINOTI GEORGE (AIG) For: INSPECTOR GENERAL NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE Date: 23/04/2017 (National Police Service, 2017)

RAIDERS INJURE Police Reservist at Sosian ranch in Laikipia; make away with cattle stolen from Ol Maisor ranch, head of security confirms., (TYCOONEWS, 2017),

Three people #shot and injured in a kdf security operation at #muwarak laikipia north", (SGASecurity, 2017)

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