

Liberia VNSA Cases
Last Updated: 7 October 2016

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T2360	LURD	2000	1999	2003
T2320	MODEL	2003	2003	2003
T725	INPFL	1990	1990	1990
T1941	United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO)		1992	1994
T320	NPFL	1989	1984	1996
T1836	National Democratic Front of Liberia		1992	1992
T438	Revolutionary United Front		1991	2001
T415	Lofa Defense Force		1993	1993
T1523	Liberia Peace Council		1993	1996

I. Group Name: LURD

Min. Group Date: 1999

Max. Group Date: 2003

Onset: 2000

Aliases: Liberians United For Reconciliation And Democracy (Lurd), LURD, Liberians United For Reconciliation And Democracy

Part 1. Bibliography

- Brabazon, James. *Liberia: Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD)*. Rep. no. 1. N.p.: Royal Institute of International Affairs, 2003. The Royal Institute of International Affairs: Africa Programme. Web. 23 June 2016. <https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/files/chathamhouse/public/Research/Africa/brabazon_bp.pdf>.
- [2] Tan, Andrew T. H. *The Politics of Terrorism: A Survey*. London: Routledge, 2006. *Google Books*. Google. Web. <<https://books.google.com/books?id=qXerAgAAQBAJ&pg=PA175&lpg=PA175&dq=LURD+terrorism&source=bl&ots=rwcnkSOct&sig=Zl6bWICg4iMIAK92hozlQISNHJw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjLnKStnL3NAhVOwWMKHS7NCSsQ6AEILTAD#v=onepage&q=LURD%20terrorism&f=false>>.
- [3] "Liberia; LURD's Shadow Power - Loyalists Still Seek Impunity But Sekou Remains Circumspect." *Africa News*. (January 4, 2005 Tuesday): 1068 words. LexisNexis Library. Web. Date Accessed: 2016/06/23.
- [4] *WAR CRIMES BY LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT AND REBELS: A Call for Greater International Attention to Liberia and the Sub Region*. Working paper. A ed. Vol. 14. N.p.: Human Rights Watch, 2002. (2). *Back to the Brink*. Human Rights Watch. Web. <https://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/liberia/liberia0402-02.htm#P129_26671>.
- [5] "Liberia; Ex-LURD General, Others Indicted for 'Terroristic Threats'." *Africa News*. (May 16, 2013 Thursday): 634 words. LexisNexis Library. Web. Date Accessed: 2016/06/23.

- [6] *The Siege of Monrovia*. Dir. Michael Davie. *National Geographic*. National Geographic, n.d. Web. <<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/explorer/videos/the-siege-of-monrovia/>>.
- National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, "Liberia: Civil Society's Role in the Political Transition," 2004, https://www.ndi.org/files/1710_Ir_civilsociety_010104.pdf
- Jeremy Levitt, 2005, *The Evolution of Deadly Conflict in Liberia*
- Colin Waugh, 2011, *Charles Taylor and Liberia*

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

LURD, or Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy, is a group located in Liberia and Sierra Leone. They were founded in July 1999 in Freetown, Sierra Leone, by Liberian exiles frustrated by ECOMOG's Abuja Peace Accords (Waugh 2011, 264). The group came to attention in April 1999 or April 2000 when Liberian rebels launched a cross-border raid from Guinea and attacked Taylor (Levitt 2005, 217; Waugh 2011, 264).

Geography

Their military headquarters was located in Voinjama, Liberia and Lufa County (Waugh 2011, 265). They originally launched attacks from Guinea (Brabazon; Levitt 2005, 218). They mobilized support from refugee camps in Guinea and Sierra Leone (Levitt 2005, 218).

Organizational Structure

Originally, the group elected Mohammed S K Jumand as their chairman, but he was removed from office after failing to fulfill his promise of \$1 million in funding. He was replaced by Sekou Damate Conneh, who was elected in 2001 (Waugh 2011, 264). Their primary goal was to overthrow Liberian president Charles Taylor (Levitt 2005; Brabazon). Conneh repeatedly said LURD would return captured territory and assets after Taylor left office (Waugh 2011, 265).

Many of the members of LURD include Mandingos and Krahn's opposed the leadership of Charles Taylor, as well as Liberian refugees in Guinea and Sierra Leone as well as ex-ULIMO fighters (Levitt 2005; Waugh 2011, 264). LURD attacks were mostly acts of participation in the Second Liberian Civil War, including their substantial participation in the Siege of Monrovia along with MODEL, in which the "rebel" groups were responsible for hundreds of deaths ("Liberia: Ex-LURD General") (*The Siege of Monrovia*). In 2002, the Krahn minority of LURD split into their own rebel group, the Movement for Democracy in Liberia, or MODEL. LURD ceased activity after the end of the Second Civil War, and their disbandment was confirmed by leaders in October of 2004 ("Liberia").

External Ties

Taylor accused LURD of external support from Ghana and Ghanaian sanctuary at a refugee camp, Gomoa Buduburam, though Ghana denied this fact (Levitt 2005, 220). Financial support for the group is alleged to have been from wealthy Liberians in exile in America (Brabazon). There is also speculation the United States indirectly funded LURD by providing military support and training to the Guinean military which, in turn, supported LURD (Waugh 2011, 264).

Group Outcome

Taylor's regime responded with a state of emergency in February 2002 (Levitt 2005). They also allegedly hired mercenaries from Sierra Leone, including former RUF soldiers, to help fight against the rebels (Levitt 2005, 222). The group has been inactive since 2003.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1999

Group End (Outcome): 2003 (peace agreement)

II. Group Name: MODEL

Min. Group Date: 2003

Max. Group Date: 2003

Onset: 2003

Aliases: Movement for Democracy in Liberia, Movement For Democracy In Liberia (MODEL), Movement For Democracy In Liberia

Part 1. Bibliography

- National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, "Liberia: Civil Society's Role in the Political Transition," 2004, https://www.ndi.org/files/1710_lr_civilsociety_010104.pdf
- Gleditsch et al. NSA Data, http://privatewww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/data/NSAEX_casedesc.pdf
- Jeremy Levitt, 2005, "The Evolution of Deadly Conflict in Liberia"
- UN Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN), 2003, "Liberia"

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

MODEL was formed in 2003 by Krahn members of LURD who split due to ethnic differences. Like LURD, MODEL's main goal was the removal of Liberian President Charles Taylor from power (Levitt 2005).

Geography

The group's first prominent attack was on April 9, 2003, when rebels attacked two refugee camps outside Monrovia (Levitt 2005, 223).

Organizational Structure

Its leader was Thomas Nimley (Waugh 2011, 267). The group drew support from ex-Doe loyalists from the first civil war (Levitt 2005, 223).

External Ties

MODEL participated in the Second Liberian Civil War in an attempt to drive Taylor to resign. It allegedly received support from Cote D'Ivoire (IRIN; Levitt 2005, 223). Laurent Gbago, the president of Cote D'Ivoire, supposedly backed MODEL after Taylor refused to provide military assistance to Gbago to find rebels within his country (Waugh 2011, 266-267).

Group Outcome

MODEL signed a peace agreement along with LURD and the Liberian government on August 18, 2003 (Gleditsch et al.). The group has been inactive since 2003.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 2003

Group End (Outcome): 2003 (peace agreement)

III. Group Name: INPFL

Min. Group Date: 1990

Max. Group Date: 1990

Onset: 1990

Aliases: Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia

Part 1. Bibliography

- Gleditsch et al. "INPFL," NSA Data, http://privatwww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/data/NSAEX_casedesc.pdf
- "Insight on Conflict," Peace Direct, <http://www.insightonconflict.org/conflicts/liberia/conflict-profile/conflict-timeline/>
- Adekeye Adebajo, "Liberia's Civil War: Nigeria, ECOMOG, and Regional Security in West Africa," 2002, <https://books.google.com/books?id=IKq275PYZm8C&pg=PA59&lpg=PA59&dq=NPF+Liberia&source=bl&ots=hLpbZb8VGr&sig=6gNGjdiP06rzdyQBNT5-RagLRik&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjwIPz3vcHNAhUE52MKHQD0CRM4ChDoAQgoMAI#v=snippet&q=NPF&f=false>
- HRW, "Waging War to Keep the Peace: The ECOMOG Intervention and Human Rights", 1993, <https://www.hrw.org/reports/1993/liberia/#2>
- Ellis, Stephen. "Liberia 1989-1994: A Study of Ethnic and Spiritual Violence." African Affairs 94.375 (1995): 165-97. Web. http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/723778.pdf?_id=1466715531844
- Colin Waugh, "Charles Taylor and Liberia," 2011
- Gen. Prince Johnson, "The Rise and Fall of President Samuel Doe," 2003

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

The INPFL was formed in 1990 by Prince Johnson, a Gio, as a splinter group from Charles Taylor's NPFL. The schism occurred due to a disagreement with Taylor over the execution of senior NPFL officials (Adebajo 2002; Waugh 2011, 129). Like NPFL, the group had no official political affiliation, but sought to overthrow the regime of then-President Samuel Doe. Johnson did not wish to become the next president of Liberia (Waugh 2011, 148).

Geography

The group had a base in Caldwell outside Monrovia (HRW 1993).

Organizational Structure

The group consisted of mostly Gio fighters. Johnson maintained a "more disciplined army" than Taylor although the two forces often fought in the same battles (Waugh 2011, 129). The INPFL gained little territory but was able to control parts of Monrovia alongside NPFL fighters (Gleditsch et al). On September 9, 1990, members of the INPFL captured, tortured and murdered President Samuel Doe (Waugh 2011, 151). They primarily funded themselves with diamonds and other resources (Waugh 2011, 158).

External Ties

It is unclear whether they received any external support.

Group Outcome

Taylor ordered the execution of Johnson's family and close followers as punishment for splintering (Waugh 2011, 129). It is unclear whether they received any external support. The group was quiet until NPFL's Operation Octopus in October 1992, during which the group collapsed, and Prince Johnson escaped to Nigeria. The group has been inactive since 1992 (Ellis 1995).

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1990

Group End (Outcome): 1992 (military collapse)

IV. Group Name: United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO)

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1994

Onset: NA

Aliases: United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia, ULIMO, ULIMO-J, ULIMO-K

Part 1. Bibliography

- [1] "Refworld | Liberia: The United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy (ULIMO)-J Faction including Its Leader, Known Activities in 1997, Treatment of Its Supporters by the Taylor Administration, and Whether Members of the Fante and Americo-Liberian Ethnic Groups Would Be Activists in the Faction (1997)." *Refworld*. Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, n.d. Web. 23 June 2016. <<http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6aad767.html>>.
- [2] Ellis, Stephen. "Liberia 1989-1994: A Study of Ethnic and Spiritual Violence." *African Affairs* 94.375 (1995): 165-97. Web. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/723778.pdf?_id=1466715531844>
- [3] Ellis, Stephen. *The Mask of Anarchy Updated Edition: The Destruction of Liberia and the Religious Dimension of an African Civil War*. New York: NYU, 2007. *Google Books*. Google. Web. <https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=hkY9DAAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PR7&dq=ULIMO&ots=_pR1LioP05&sig=6PoKoOg4JSx6Ynqm06H4Pp1GSXI#v=onepage&q=ULIMO&f=false>.
- [4] Gleditsch et al. NSA Data, "ULIMO", http://privatewww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/data/NSAEX_casedesc.pdf
- Colin Waugh, "Charles Taylor and Liberia", 2011

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

ULIMO was formed in 1991 by Krahn and Mandingo people, and was initially led by Alhaji G.V. Kromah, although he did not fully consolidate control until 1992 (Waugh 2011, 158; Levitt 2005, 206; Refworld nd.). The group was formed out of three existing components: the Movement for the Redemption of Liberian Muslims, the Liberian United Defense Force (LUDF), and the Liberian Peace Council (Levitt 2005, 206). They opposed the NPFL and Taylor so fought primarily against the NPFL rebels (Waugh 2011, 158; Gleditsch et al.).

Geography

ULIMO fought around Monrovia, Cape Mount county, Bomi county, Bong Mines, and near Lofa county.

Organizational Structure

ULIMO was formed in 1991 by Krahn and Mandingo people, and was initially led by Alhaji G.V. Kromah, although he did not fully consolidate control until 1992 (Waugh 2011, 158; Levitt 2005, 206; Refworld nd.). The group was formed out of three existing components: The Movement for the Redemption of Liberian Muslims, the Liberian United Defense Force (LUDF), and the Liberian Peace Council (Levitt 2005, 206). They also recruited some support from Krahn members of Doe's AFL (Waugh 2011, 158). They primarily funded themselves with diamonds and other resources (Waugh 2011, 158).

External Ties

Nigerian ECOMOG officers are also rumored to have supplied weapons and intel to members of ULIMO in exchange for profits from ULIMO's diamond industry (Ellis).

They opposed the NPFL and Taylor so fought primarily against the NPFL rebels (Waugh 2011, 158; Gleditsch et al.).

Group Outcome

In 1994, ethnic conflicts caused ULIMO to split into ULIMO-K, led by Kromah, which was largely Mandingo, and ULIMO-J, led by Roosevelt Johnson, which was Krahn (Ellis). In 1991 ULIMO began to receive combat training from the Guinean army and government at Kankan, Guinea. ULIMO, and especially ULIMO-K, under the leadership of Kromah, had a strong relationship with Guinea and had many operatives and factions located in Guinea.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1991

Group End (Outcome): 1994 (splinter)

V. Group Name: NPFL

Min. Group Date: 1984

Max. Group Date: 1996

Onset: 1989

Aliases: NPFL

Part 1. Bibliography

- Ellis, Stephen. "Liberia 1989-1994: A Study of Ethnic and Spiritual Violence." *African Affairs* 94.375 (1995): 165-97. Web.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/723778.pdf?_seq=1466715531844>
- Gleditsch et al., NSA Data,
http://privatewww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/data/NSAEX_casedesc.pdf
- Encyclopedia Britanica, "Charles Taylor,"
<http://www.britannica.com/biography/Charles-Ghankay-Taylor#ref701741>
- HRW, "Waging War to Keep the Peace: The ECOMOG Intervention and Human Rights", 1993, <https://www.hrw.org/reports/1993/liberia/#2>
- Adekeye Adebajo, "Liberia's Civil War: Nigeria, ECOMOG, and Regional Security in West Africa," 2002,
<https://books.google.com/books?id=IKq275PYZm8C&pg=PA59&lpg=PA59&dq=NPF+Liberia&source=bl&ots=hLpbZb8VGr&sig=6gNGjdiP06rzdyQBNT5-RagLRik&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjwIPz3vcHNAhUE52MKHQD0CRM4ChDoAQgoMAI#v=snippet&q=NPFL&f=false>
- "Insight on Conflict," Peace Direct,
<http://www.insightonconflict.org/conflicts/liberia/conflict-profile/conflict-timeline/>
- Colin Waugh, "Charles Taylor and Liberia," 2011
- Gen. Prince Johnson, "The Rise and Fall of President Samuel Doe," 2003

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

The NPFL was a militia founded in 1984 against then President Samuel Doe (Johnson 2003). It came to attention in 1989. It was led by Charles G. Taylor, a former government official, who was a strong opponent of the presidency of Samuel Doe (Gleditsch et al.). Taylor had originally fled the Doe regime in the early 80s and escaped from jail in Massachusetts in 1985, later returning to Liberia (Waugh 2011, 114-115). From 1988 to December 1989, Taylor traveled to several West African states to recruit members,

resources, and avoid detection by potential Liberian security forces trying to track him down (Waugh 2011, 119).

Geography

The group operated around Monrovia and Nimble County, Liberia.

Organizational Structure

NPFL was made up of mostly ethnic Gios and Manos, and their members included former Liberian politicians (HRW 2003). The militants were young boys and teenagers, who were often drunk when executing attacks (HRW 2003). Levitt (2005) argues Taylor assembled a coalition of multi-ethnic Liberians to create the group. The goal of the NPFL was to overthrow President Doe and establish a new regime in Liberia. The group was formed in Cote D'Ivoire, and on Christmas Eve, 1989, NPFL invaded the Liberian Nimba County through Cote D'Ivoire (HRW 2003). There, they found support from ethnic Gios who, too, were opposed to the rule of President Doe, who was part of the Krahn ethnic tribe. Many of the NPFL's targets were supporters of Doe's regime and members of the Krahn and Mandingo ethnic groups (HRW 2003). Their initial attack was a cross-border raid from Cote D'Ivoire led by Prince Johnson. The group organized themselves into separate military units led by Taylor, Prince Johnson, and Paul Harris (Waugh 2011, 123). They also benefited from the advice of Elmer Johnson who had dual US-Liberian citizenship and also served in the US Marines for a number of years (Waugh 2011, 127). They primarily funded themselves with diamonds and other resources (Waugh 2011, 158).

External Ties

The group had alleged support from Libya and Cote D'Ivoire in terms of military arms and territory (Johnson 2003, 60). Taylor secured support from Mano and Gia individuals in Nimba county, as well as foreign fighters from Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Ghana attracted by the idea of pan-African revolution (Waugh 2011, 124). Taylor traveled to Tripoli on multiple occasions where he met with Gaddafi and was able to train at al-Mathabh al-Tahuriya al-Alamiya (Waugh 2011, 120). Taylor also secured support from Liberian exiles in Cote d'Ivoire (Waugh 2011, 121).

Group Outcome

There have been various attempts at counterinsurgency campaigns by the AFL (Armed Forces of Liberia) against the NPFL as well as attempts at peace agreements by ECOWAS' ECOMOG. The AFL employed indiscriminate tactics against Gio fighters and noncombatants, which, unlike in 1983 and 1985, backfired badly (Waugh 2011, 125-126). AFL was especially vulnerable to attacks because of their inexperience and openness during battle (Waugh 2011, 127; Johnson 2003, 50-51). After the NPFL's 1989 invasion of Liberia, the AFL responded brutally in an attempt to limit the NPFL's reach, using scorched earth methods against residents in Nimba county (HRW 1993; Waugh

2011, 124). The Doe regime also denied they were under attack through multiple denials and counter-statements (Waugh 2011, 125).

In early July 1990, the NPFL rebels occupied the capital of Monrovia, engaging in bloody conflict with both the AFL, Liberia's army, and the INPFL. Additionally, in October 1992, the NPFL surprised the city of Monrovia with Operation Octopus, which included attacks against ECOMOG and the Interim government created by ECOWAS (Ellis 1995). In August 1990, ECOWAS agreed to send ECOMOG into Monrovia in order to impose a ceasefire, create an interim government, and hold a new election within a year. However, NPFL refused to respond to ECOMOG's presence, and continued fighting, forcing ECOMOG to use combat in an attempt to push NPFL out of Monrovia. In November 1990, NPFL finally agreed to a ceasefire, but it was broken in 1992 with Taylor's launch of Operation Octopus, which was a series of direct attacks on ECOMOG and the AFL. In October 1992, ECOMOG conducted a series of bombings and strafing raids using borrowed Nigerian planes; the NPFL did not respond in kind due to their lack of air power (HRW 1993).

In 1990, Prince Johnson, an ethnic Gio, splintered from the NPFL to form the INPFL, which later was responsible for the assassination of President Doe (Gleditsch et al.). Initially, the group only had 200 members, but quickly grew to 1500 (Waugh 2011, 128). The group splintered in 1990 due to leadership tensions between Taylor and Johnson (Waugh 2011, 129). Johnson formed the INPFL soon after.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: NPFL

Group Formation: A new proposed formation date if different than above

Group End (Outcome): 1996 (splinter and peace agreement)

VI. Group Name: National Democratic Front of Liberia

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=199205170012>
- Searched PQ, Lexis, Keesings, gscholar with "name" and name

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

Could not find any information about this group. There is a similar group, National Democratic Party of Liberia, but I could not find any information linking the two. It is

possible this group does not really exist given that they only have one event attributed to them in the GTD dataset.

Geography

Could not find any information about this group. There is a similar group, National Democratic Party of Liberia, but I could not find any information linking the two. It is possible this group does not really exist given that they only have one event attributed to them in the GTD dataset.

Organizational Structure

Could not find any information about this group. There is a similar group, National Democratic Party of Liberia, but I could not find any information linking the two. It is possible this group does not really exist given that they only have one event attributed to them in the GTD dataset.

External Ties

Could not find any information about this group. There is a similar group, National Democratic Party of Liberia, but I could not find any information linking the two. It is possible this group does not really exist given that they only have one event attributed to them in the GTD dataset.

Group Outcome

Could not find any information about this group. There is a similar group, National Democratic Party of Liberia, but I could not find any information linking the two. It is possible this group does not really exist given that they only have one event attributed to them in the GTD dataset.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: Unknown

Group End (Outcome): Unknown (Unknown)

VII. Revolutionary United Front

Min. Group Date: 1991

Max. Group Date: 2001

Aliases: Revolutionary United Front (Ruf), RUF, Revolutionary United Front

Part 1. Bibliography

- Colin Waugh, "Charles Taylor and Liberia," 2011

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

The RUF was founded by Corporal Foday Sankoh to overthrow the Sierra Leone government under Siaka Probyn Stevens (Waugh 2011, 203). Sankoh was heavily influenced by Mao's writings on revolution and pan-African revolutionary sentiment during the 1970s (Waugh 2011, 205-206).

Geography

RUF primarily operated out of Bo in the south of Sierra Leone. It is unclear when the RUF moved into Liberia, but they established an external base of operations in Liberia around 1990. In 1991, they launched an initial cross-border raid against the Sierra Leone government with 200 RUF members and a handful of Liberian foreign fighters (Waugh 2011, 208). Individuals in Sierra Leone initially thought the raid was a result of the Liberian Civil War which had been going on for over a year at this point (Waugh 2011, 209).

Organizational Structure

The RUF was founded by Corporal Foday Sankoh to overthrow the Sierra Leone government under Siaka Probyn Stevens (Waugh 2011, 203). Sankoh was part of the Sierra Leone military in the 1960s, served on a UN PKO in the Congo, and received military training in Libya in 1988 (Waugh 2011, 206-207). RUF drew a large coalition of supporters and primarily operated out of Bo in the south.

External Ties

Momoh reacted to the RUF by asking for help from the UK, but the British were unwilling to assist (Waugh 2011, 210).

Group Outcome

The group signed a peace agreement in 1999 that led it to stop fighting in 2002. It later turned into a political party.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1990/1991

Group End (Outcome): 2002 (politics and peace agreement)

VIII. Lofa Defense Force

Min. Group Date: 1993

Max. Group Date: 1993

Aliases: Lofa Defence Force, LDF

Part 1. Bibliography

- Colin Waugh, "Charles Taylor and Liberia," 2011
- "The Lofa Tragedy," James Fasuekoi, 2003, <http://www.theperspective.org/lofatragedy.html>
- Global Security, "The Liberian Civil War," <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/war/liberia-1989.htm>
- Gabriel Williams, "Liberia: The Heart of Darkness", 2006

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

The Lofa Defense Force emerged after the 1993 Cotonou Accords between different rebel factions (Waugh 2011, 164-165). LDF fought against the ULIMO-K and was led by Francois Massquoi (Waugh 2011, 166; Fasuekoi 2003).

Geography

The group was active in Lofa County.

Organizational Structure

It was composed of former AFL members (Williams 2006). LDF accused NPFL and ULIMO of conducting massacres against noncombatants in Lofa county against Gio and Mano (Fasuekoi 2003; Williams 2006, 183). It acted as a local militia to remove 'armed gangs' and protect individuals from ULIMO raids (Williams 2006, 183).

External Ties

There is conflicting information on whether the group either allied itself with the NPFL or fought against it (Waugh 2011, 166; Williams 2006, 183).

Group Outcome

It is unknown what happened to the group.

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1993

Group End (Outcome): 1993 (unknown)

X. LIBERIA PEACE COUNCIL

Min. Group Date: 1993

Max. Group Date: 1996

Onset: NA

Aliases: Liberia Peace Council, Liberia Peace Council (LPC), LPC

Part 1. Bibliography

- “Human Rights Abuses by the Liberian Peace Council and the Need for International Oversight,” HRW Vol. 6, No. 3, May 17, 1994, <https://www.hrw.org/reports/1994/liberia/>
- “Boley: I Did Not Lead a Warring Faction,” Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia, Feb. 5, 1999, http://trcofliberia.org/press_releases/31
- “Liberia ex-warlord George Boley to be deported from US,” BBC, Feb. 7, 2012, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-16924744>

Part 2. Narrative

Group Formation

The Liberian Peace Council was formed in 1990 to fight Charles Taylor’s National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) (HRW 1994; Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia 2009). The group was involved in the power-struggle against Taylor following the death of Samuel Doe (HRW 1994). It came to attention in 1993 after the Cotonou peace agreement (HRW 1994).

Geography

The LPC was active in southeastern Liberia including Sinoe, Grand Gedeh, River Cess, Grand Kru, Maryland, and Grand Bassa counties (HRW 1994). Most of the fighting occurred around Buchanan and Grand Kola (HRW 1994).

Organizational Structure

LPC was primarily composed of ethnic Krahn and ex-military members from the Liberian Armed Forces under Doe (HRW 1994). It is believed to be a splinter from the AFL and the Krahn wing of ULIMO (HRW 1994). The leader is George Boley, former minister of education and had approximately 800 members in 1994 (HRW 1994)

External Ties

LPC allegedly received support from Nigerian ECOMOG soldiers including arms and ammunition, but this was never confirmed (HRW 1994).

Group Outcome

The LPC signed the 1995 Abuja Peace Accord in which it agreed to lay down its arms and form a provisional political council with other parties (Truth and Reconciliation Commission 2009; BBC 2012).

Part 3. Proposed Changes

Aliases: None

Group Formation: 1990 (Truth and Reconciliation Commission)

Group End (Outcome): 1995 (negotiated peace settlement, politics)