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## Resurgent Mungiki targeted in fresh crackdown

Posted by [BERNARD MOMANYI](#) on May 23, 2012



A Mungiki sect member is arrested in a previous crackdown/FILE

NAIROBI, Kenya, May 23 – Police have renewed their war against the outlawed Mungiki sect following intelligence reports that the gang is re-launching itself and its activities countrywide.

A confidential memo seen by Capital FM News indicates that Police Commissioner Mathew Iteere has issued express orders to all provincial commanders with firm instructions to crack down on the sect members and their regional commanders.

In the confidential memo, Iteere identifies Maina Njenga as the national commander of the gang.

“Mungiki sect leader Maina Njenga has disclosed plans to revamp the sect’s disciplinary and hit squad, christened Chapa Squad,” the memo dated May 15 and marked as ‘Secret’ states.

Iteere wants the members dealt with firmly in line with the law because some of them have been identified as extremely dangerous and armed.

Other sect leaders in the top command chain include two individuals from Nakuru and Nairobi who are named in the document.

“The sect has been tasked to revive its roles and collect information that will assist in the operations of the sect,” the document states.

Eight other individuals are named as regional commanders of the once vicious group, which Vigilance House is convinced is regrouping itself.

“It is apparent that the Mungiki is putting a lot of efforts with a view to re-energize itself,” Iteere wrote in his memo to the provincial commanders.

“Continued crackdown on the sect’s activities is therefore necessary in order to curb its activities. In this regard, vigilance is called for in order to ensure law and order is maintained,” the police chief directed.

He wants the provincial police commanders to adhere with the rule of law in dealing with the emerging threat of the Mungiki gang.

“Ensure that any person breaking the law is dealt with in accordance with the law and efforts must be made to arrest members engaged in criminal activities,” he adds in the strongly-worded memo.

Police Spokesman Eric Kiraithe when contacted to confirm if there was a renewed crackdown on the sect members, said the war on all criminal groups is ongoing.

“There is nothing like a re-launch of a war on a criminal gang, the war on criminal gangs has always been ongoing,” Kiraithe told Capital FM News on telephone.

Police headquarters sees the resurgence of the group as a recipe for chaos in the country, with reports the gang has intentions of disrupting rallies organised by a presidential aspirant from Central Kenya.

Mungiki remains a banned sect in the country and its activities have faded lately since its former chairman Njenga publicly denounced it.

Police are however, convinced that the sect is firmly regrouping.

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In the same breath the police should decisively deal with MRC. Its sad that MRC leaders are walking scot-free in the streets of Mombasa bragging about secession plans. MRC must be cracked in the bud as the real losers will be the jobless young men being recruited into the movement. Let us not wait until when the government sends security forces (KDF) to wipe MRC as happened in Kosovo and Mt Elgon. And while at it too these young people need psychiatric and psychological help because some like the MRC leaders live in Utopia.

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Go and learn to write proper english first! Why should they care so much about disruptions of political rallies of a certain central politician but not the general security of Kenyans! While at it sending the KDF to wipe out the jobless youth joining the MRC wouldn't solve anything, the government has failed in general in all aspects, reforms will not suffice we need a peaceful revolution!!!

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you missed my point sharp rainbow, am against Security forces wiping out these outlawed groups and thus why there is need for an urgent solution before we get to that point. however, these outlawed groups don't offer any solutions to the youths, rather they create more trouble. the leaders of these groups are simply raw self seekers who just want a platform to gain cheap publicity. for instance when someone chest-thumps that pwani si Kenya, kwani yeye ako na serikali yake? Do they even know what governance is all about? running a country is not like operating some cheap changaa den... the government of Kenya has not failed as u put it, it all begins with you because you are part of that government. what have you done for your country????

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**David Kimaiyo says**

There are substantive grounds to believe that the violence in the Tana Delta is not as a result of scramble for land or other resources. On many occasions, it has been suggested that the motive is a desire to completely displace one of the communities for political reasons. This could also explain why the violence has escalated as we approach the general elections and [the terror](#) needlessly visited on women and children.

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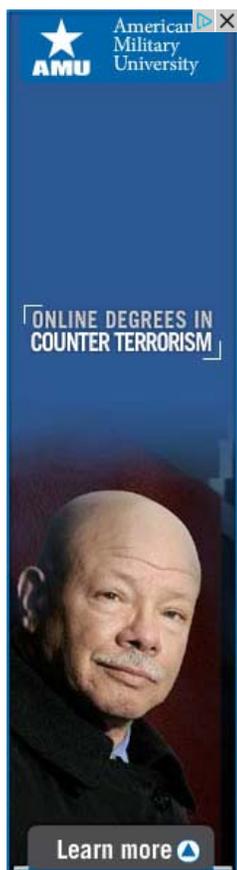
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