



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – September 22nd to 28th, 2025

Updated September 29th, 2025

Overview

For the week of September 22nd to 28th, 2025, fighting between the *Amhara Fano self-defense force* (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.¹²

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 38 woreda/city administrations across 10 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam,

¹Regime forces are primarily comprised of the *Ethiopian National Defense Force* (ENDF) often with backing from regional riot dispersal, militia and police.

²The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) [AFW] or East Amhara Qetena (Menelik Command; MC), Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder (AFUG) or North Amhara Qetena (Belay Command; BC), Amhara Fano in Gojjam (AFG) or West Amhara Qetena (Tewodrose Command; TC), Amhara Fano in Shewa (AFS) or South Amhara Qetena (Asaminew Command; AC). The remaining sub-regional commands operate under the *Amhara Fano People's Organization* (AFPO) which are mainly comprised of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command (AFSPC), the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command (AFGPC) and the Amhara Fano Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Province Command [AFWC].

West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones.

- This week Fano forces under AFNF initiated *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali (Aba Nadew)* in northeastern Amhara resulting in the capture of territories and significant casualties sustained by regime losses. Developments were also recorded in East Arsi Zone of Oromia Region.
- Civilian casualties were recorded in 7 woreda/city administrations across 4 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Woldia, Gubalafto, Ambassel, Dessie, Wemberima, Farta, and Tach-Gayint Woredas in North Wollo, South Wollo, West Gojjam and South Gonder Zones. Civilian casualties were also recorded in East Arsi Zone of Oromia Region.
- Over 14 drone strikes were recorded across Woldia, Gubalafto and Lasta Woredas of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region. The drone attacks resulted in civilian casualties (including patients and medical personnel), and property damages including structural damage to a health center and a secondary school.
- Arbitrary arrests were recorded in Raya-Kobo Woreda of North Wollo Zone and abductions were recorded in Dessie city in South Wollo Zone of Amhara Region. In addition, widespread arrests including of prominent religious figures was reported in Debre-Zeyit city in East Shewa Zone of Oromia Region and arrests were reported in Addis-Ababa city.
- Reports indicate *Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)* forces affiliated to the Tigrayan settler administration have continued occupying military camps in Alamata city of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)

- On September 22nd, a wave of defections from regime forces to the Fano ranks occurred, following a successful military operation earlier in the month.
 - According to sources, a militia commander holding the rank of Meto-Aleqa defected to the Tirari Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps), accompanied by several of his comrades.
 - The defection took place in the aftermath of a late-night battle on September 19th, in Ahun-Tegegn town, located within Angot Woreda. The battle, led jointly by the Tirari and Tekeze Divisions, reportedly inflicted a significant defeat on regime forces stationed in and around Ahun-Tegegn. The encounter, which took place overnight on September 19th, is said to have weakened the morale of the regime's local units, triggering internal disarray and encouraging defections. Following the battle, the militia commander, along with a group of fellow fighters, officially joined the Fano. The group was reportedly welcomed by senior Fano commanders, signaling both a strategic and symbolic victory for Fano forces.
- On September 24th, the AFNF-MC announced a coordinated and wide-reaching military campaign named “*Operation Adem Ali (Aba Nadew)*”, in honor of the late Fano commander.
 - The campaign had been carried out simultaneously by all five corps under the AFNF-MC with preliminary reports indicating severe human and material losses among regime forces. The operation aims to dismantle key regime strongholds and supply lines, weaken the regime forces' military structure, and secure territorial and operational control across North Wollo and South Wollo Zones.

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- Preliminary reports indicated significant achievements by the East Amhara Corps 1, East Amhara Corps 2, and Lasta Asaminew Corps alone, including the capture of six mortars, six DShK HMGs, 14 Bren LMGs, nine sniper rifles, 438 Kalashnikov rifles, 52,600 rounds of ammunition of various kinds, 148 F1 grenades, nine military radios, 37 mortar sets, and one Sinotruck fully loaded with military equipment and rations. In addition, 471 regime soldiers were killed, 175 soldiers were captured, and 126 regime personnel were wounded and incapacitated.
 - According to Fano intelligence assessments, the 12th and 61st ENDF Divisions, which are key components of the ENDF Northeastern Command, suffered catastrophic losses. It is estimated that these divisions have lost up to 70% of their combat strength, with large numbers of personnel either killed, wounded, captured, or dispersed, and significant quantities of military hardware either captured or destroyed.
 - On September 25th, the AFNF-MC reportedly achieved major territorial and military victories on the second day of *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali*.
 - The operation, which involved all five corps and the special campaign unit under the AFNF-MC, reportedly resulted in capture of numerous strategic areas across North Wollo and South Wollo Zones. Areas that were reported to have come under full control of Fano forces include Gidan (including Muja city), Gazo (including Estayish Town), Angot (including Ahun-Tegegn), Lasta (including Bilbala town, but not Shumsha Kebele), Gubalafto, Dawunt (including Kurba town), Wadila, Meket, and Ambassel Woredas (including Wuchale). These gains reflect a broad territorial expansion by the Fano across multiple woredas in a single day of operations, signalling a high level of coordination and momentum.

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- According to reports, the AFNF-MC General Asaminew Tsige Corps in particular, captured a significant quantity of combatants and military equipment. The corps reportedly seized 343 black Kalashnikov rifles, 16 Bren LMGs, two DShK HMGs, 9,954 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition, 11,500 rounds of Bren ammunition, and 7,314 rounds of DShK ammunition. Additionally, 716 regime soldiers were killed, and 188 were captured. The corps also captured 15 military patrol vehicles and ambulances, along with two Ural vehicles.
 - On September 28th, regime forces have continued their military buildup by deploying additional forces into North Wollo and South Wollo Zones.
 - These movements appear to be part of a broader strategy aimed at either preventing further territorial gains by Fano forces or preparing for a new counter-offensive. According to sources, new troops were observed moving from Dessie toward Hayk and Kutaber along two separate routes. These maneuvers seem to indicate preparations for a military operation targeting the western and eastern parts of South Wollo Zone, particularly areas such as Ambassel Woreda.
 - Reports suggest that the regime has been utilizing civilian aircrafts to transport troops, especially airborne commandos, into Kombolcha city, indicating an effort to expedite troop deployment in strategic locations. Furthermore, additional forces have been mobilized from Merhabete toward the Jama–Degolo direction, suggesting a coordinated effort to reinforce multiple fronts.
 - In North Wollo Zone, new military units have also been deployed to Woldia city, coming from Kobo and Hara. These reinforcements may be intended to strengthen defensive lines or serve as staging points for future operations.

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- Overall, the regime appears to be regrouping and repositioning its forces across different areas of Amhara Region, with a particular focus on North Wollo and South Wollo Zones. This pattern of movement suggests a deliberate effort to either prevent further territorial advances by Fano forces, or launch a renewed counter-offensive to reclaim contested areas.

North Wollo Zone

Alamata City

- As of September 23rd, numerous schools in Alamata city and its surrounding areas continue to be occupied and used as military camps by TPLF forces affiliated to the Tigrayan settler administration in the area.
 - While schools officially reopened across Ethiopia in early September, corresponding with Meskerem 2018 EC, this has not been the case in most schools in Alamata city and surrounding areas. Instead of resuming their educational function, several schools remain inaccessible to students and teachers, having been converted into military outposts. According to sources, key institutions such as Misrak Primary School, Midre-Genet Primary School, and the Alamata Technical and Vocational Training Center are among the facilities still being used for military purposes. These sources further indicate that a number of other schools in the region are similarly occupied, continuing to serve military rather than educational functions.
 - In addition to the physical occupation of schools, reports have emerged regarding language-based discrimination in the few schools that have reopened. TPLF forces are reportedly pressuring these schools not to conduct instruction in Amharic, effectively attempting to impose the Tigringa language on Amhara children.

Meket Woreda

- On September 22nd, Fano forces carried out a public discussion with local residents in Kebele 013 (Debrekerbe), even as intense armed engagements continued in surrounding areas.
 - This public meeting was organized by the Wubante Abate Division of the Lasta Asaminew Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). The initiative reflects an ongoing effort by Fano forces to strengthen political awareness and community engagement in areas under their influence.
 - During the session, Fano representatives delivered a structured presentation highlighting the systemic and structural challenges faced by the Amhara people, challenges they described as existential threats targeting the identity, security, and autonomy of the Amhara population.
- On September 25th, Fano forces achieved significant territorial advances in Meket Woreda. According to sources, the vast majority of Meket Woreda has fallen under control of AFNF-MC. The only remaining area not yet captured is Filakit-Gergera city, a key urban center that also serves as the administrative capital of the woreda. Fano forces have reportedly encircled Filakit-Gergera and launched an offensive aimed at taking control of the city. The assault is ongoing, and the area is under heavy pressure as Fano units advance from multiple directions.
- As of September 28th, reports indicate that defections from regime-aligned forces to the Fano have intensified in Meket Woreda.
 - This development is seen by local observers as part of a growing shift in allegiance among armed groups within the region. On that day, sources reported that 20 riot dispersal members, including their leadership, defected to Fano forces. The defectors reportedly arrived with full military equipment and

a communication radio, suggesting not just individual defections but a tactical reinforcement for the receiving unit. These riot dispersal and local militia also joined the Fano aligning themselves with the Wubante Abate Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps). Sources suggest that these individuals responded to the Fano forces' call to join the struggle as a timely opportunity, aligning with a broader sentiment of disillusionment toward the current federal administration. These individuals were formally received by Colonel Solomon Ashagre and Shaleqa Mebratu Gete, senior commanders in the Wubante Abate Division.

Mersa City

- On the night of September 22nd, reports indicate that Fano forces infiltrated Mersa city. The fighting was reportedly carried out by the AFNF-MC. According to sources, residents reported hearing sustained gunfire and armed clashes during the night within various parts of the city. While these accounts suggest a coordinated incursion, official details regarding the incident, including the scale of the confrontation and casualties, have not yet been released.
- On September 25th, on the second day of *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali* Fano forces took control of the strategic city of Mersa, which also serves as the administrative center of Habru Woreda.
 - Following the takeover, Fano units (operating under the AFNF-MC) began efforts to stabilize the city, maintain public order, and safeguard civilian life and property. Their activities included patrolling the city to reassure residents, urging the public to resume their daily activities peacefully, providing verbal assurances to protect both civilian infrastructure and public institutions and assurances to former regime affiliates. In a related development, Fano fighters

also extended public guarantees of safety to families of regime-affiliated individuals, including regime police personnel, riot dispersal members and family members of militias. These assurances appear to be part of a broader strategy to avoid reprisals, reduce tension among civilians, and promote stability during the transition of control.

Gubalafto Woreda

- On September 24th, Fano forces carried out fighting under *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali* in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - The operation which began at approximately 6 am led to significant military gains against regime forces, including Gubalafto Woreda. The Asaminew Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 1) carried out offensive operations around Bekilo-Manekiya and the surrounding area. The Fano units reportedly achieved tactical victories, capturing both territory and regime materials/supplies. Captured equipment and supplies included two mortars, 2 Bren LMGs, 76 Kalashnikov rifles, one STR rifle, 7,000 Bren rounds, 9,800 Kalashnikov rounds, 1,300 DShK rounds, 95 chest armor pieces, 180 military backpacks, and five Icom radios.
 - In coordination with ongoing operations, the Hawjano Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 1) also reportedly achieved significant tactical victories on the battlefield, further weakening regime capabilities and reinforcing momentum for the Fano forces. Over the course of recent engagements, the Fano successfully captured a considerable cache of weapons and military equipment, including one DShK HMG, one sniper rifle, 40 Kalashnikov rifles, 5,000 Bren rounds, 3,000 Kalashnikov rounds, 23 body protection gear pieces, 18 Kalashnikov magazines, ten F1 grenades, and seven mortar shells.

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- According to sources, confirmed regime losses include the killing of 283 regime soldiers (including one officer with the rank of colonel and another identified as Meto-Aleqa Isayas) and the capture of 18 regime combatants. In addition, Ato Ayalew Desale, administrator of Bekilo-Manekiya, was also killed along with close associates during the battle. These outcomes represent a major blow to the regime’s military command and local administrative structure in the area.
 - On September 25th, Fano forces captured new kebeles including Sirinqa and surrounding areas, as part of ongoing operations in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - This territorial gain by the AFNF-MC comes in the wake of a significant defeat suffered by regime forces the previous day (on September 24th), which prompted the deployment of new regime troops into the area. The newly deployed regime forces, however, reportedly turned their focus toward civilian populations, particularly in Bekilomanekiya, Sirinqa, and Senbo. According to sources, regime forces engaged in a pattern of physical assaults, intimidation, and arbitrary arrests of civilians including farmers in these areas.
 - The stated reason for this crackdown is that residents allegedly failed to inform the ENDF about the movement and entry of Fano units into the area on September 24th. This type of retaliatory behavior by regime forces, targeting civilians after military setbacks, is reported to be a recurring practice. Civilians are often accused of withholding intelligence or cooperating with opposition, and have been subjected to collective punishment as a result.
 - On September 27th, heavy fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - The clashes involved the AFNF-MC and marked one of the most intense days

of combat in the region, particularly in areas surrounding Woldia city. According to multiple sources, the fighting was especially fierce in locations such as Tikur-Wuha, where hostilities entered their second day. Fano forces reportedly launched a large-scale offensive, resulting in the destruction of a regime-operated ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun, indicating a significant blow to the regime's defensive capability. Amid the escalating ground conflict, the regime conducted an airstrike targeting the Sanqa Health Center, located within the war-affected area. The drone attack resulted in serious civilian casualties and damage to the facility, which was actively providing medical care to both civilians and the wounded. As of current reports, four civilians, including patients, have been confirmed dead, two health professionals were critically injured, and the facility suffered major structural damage, impacting its ability to provide further medical services. Sources on the ground warn that the casualty figures may rise, as rescue and recovery operations continue. The drone strike has drawn condemnation from observers, as it targeted a clearly marked health facility, in violation of IHL, which prohibits attacks on medical infrastructure during armed conflict.

- In a related development, two more drone strikes were reported in the vicinity of Gala-Giyorgis-Megenteya, specifically behind the Abo-Giyorgis Church area. While detailed information about the extent of the damage or casualties from these strikes is still emerging, the frequency of aerial attacks in civilian-populated zones has raised serious concerns.

Gidan Woreda

- On September 24th, Fano forces carried out a series of coordinated offensives against regime forces under *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali* across multiple locations in Gidan Woreda.

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- These offensives resulted in the capture of strategic towns and significant battlefield gains in terms of both combatant casualties and captured equipment. Several divisions including the Zobel-Amba, Kalakorma, and Tatek Divisions (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 2) played central roles in these victories, including the capture of Wondanchi town, a strategic location in the region.
 - The Zobel-Amba Division led a major assault capturing three DShK HMGs, eight Bren LMGs, and 130 Kalashnikov rifles, five sniper rifles, 102 F1 grenades, two 82-mm mortars, one 120-mm mortar, 30 mortar launch sets, an Ural military vehicle with ammunition, and 22,000 rounds of assorted ammunition.
 - The Kalakorma Division similarly secured important gains, including the capture of one DShK HMG, two Bren LMGs, two sniper rifles, 89 Kalashnikov rifles, 1,500 Bren rounds, 2,000 Kalashnikov rounds, four Icom radios, 50 Kalashnikov rifle magazines, 36 F-15 grenades, and two field binoculars.
 - The Tatek Division also made contributions to the operation, capturing 20 Kalashnikov rifles, four chest armor plates, and four utility pouches.
 - Sources indicate in this operation the Fano forces captured 147 regime combatants, killed 137 regime forces, and seized or destroyed a large quantity of supplies.
 - In related developments, the Tekeze and Tirari Divisions under the Lasta Asaminew Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC) conducted a major operation in the Kulmesk, and Wondach areas. The Tekeze Division took control of Kulmesk town and killed 11 regime forces and captured three others; and captured 20 Kalashnikov rifles, 420 Kalashnikov rounds, and 580

Bren rounds. The Tirari Division captured one 82-mm mortar, one Dshk HMG, one Bren LMG, one sniper rifle, and 54 Kalashnikov rifles.

- On September 25th, Fano forces continued offensives resulting in the capture of Muja, Wondanchi, and Sanqa.
 - The operation undertaken by the AFNF-MC Lasta General Asaminew Tsige Corps dealt a major blow to regime forces, with several fortified positions destroyed. Notably, the stronghold at Wondanchi, a site of critical geostrategic importance, was overrun by Fano units. The Fano also captured Muja and Sanqa. In addition to territorial gains, Fano forces inflicted substantial human and material losses on regime troops.
 - The Margu Temare Division captured 122 black Kalashnikov rifles, four Bren LMGs, 3,200 Kalashnikov rounds, 2,190 Bren rounds, 3,264 DShK rounds, and 24 mortar rounds. Regime losses include 256 regime personnel killed and 59 captured.
 - The Tirari Division captured 21 black Kalashnikov rifles, four Bren LMGs, one DShK HMGs, 2,600 Kalashnikov rounds, 3,480 Bren rounds, and 1,250 DShK rounds. Regime losses included 147 personnel killed and 18 captured.
 - The Tekeze Division captured 59 black Kalashnikov rifles, three Bren LMGs, 1,850 Kalashnikov rounds, 2,940 Bren rounds, and 24 mortar rounds. Regime losses include 146 regime personnel killed and 44 captured.
 - In total, over 549 regime forces were killed in the operation and 121 were captured.

Angot Woreda

- On September 24th, Fano forces carried out fighting under *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali* in Angot Woreda.

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- The operation targeted key strategic areas in Angot Woreda, with a focus on the main transportation corridor connecting Woldia, Lalibela, and Bahir-Dar cities. As part of this coordinated offensive, Fano forces (operating under the AFNF-MC) successfully seized control of critical military and logistical positions, particularly along the Woldia to Lalibela to Bahir-Dar axis. A significant outcome of this operation is the capture of the strategic high ground in the Dilb area, a location of major tactical importance. This gain has severely disrupted transportation and troop movement across the aforementioned routes, extending as far as Tikur-Wuha, near Woldia city. In addition to territorial gains, Fano forces also captured substantial military assets, including one Bren HMG, two Kalashnikov rifles, and seven regime combatants were captured.
 - On September 25th, Fano forces took full control of Ahun-Tegegn town along with large swathes of surrounding territory in Angot Woreda.
 - The 5th Battalion of the Tekeze Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps) captured strategic territories and significant military equipment, while inflicting heavy casualties on regime forces. Captured equipment and ammunition include ten black Kalashnikov rifles, 250 rounds of Bren ammunition, and 230 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition. In addition, five regime militias were captured.
 - Simultaneously, the Tefera Mamo Division (also operating under the Lasta Asaminew Corps) conducted a parallel offensive, inflicting both personnel and material losses. In this fighting over 137 regime fighters were killed and 62 were captured including a high-ranking regime officer identified as Lieutenant-Colonel Zerihun. In addition, captured assets include 131 black Kalashnikov rifles, five Bren LMGs, 2,074 Kalashnikov rounds, 3,520 Bren

ammunition rounds, 2,800 DShK HMG rounds, 16 mortar rounds.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On September 22nd, regime forces reportedly committed an arbitrary arrest of a civilian in Zobel town. Regime forces forcibly detained Mulugetta Chanie from his place of business. The arrest was carried out without a warrant, due process, or any publicly stated justification. As of September 22nd, Mulugeta's whereabouts remain unknown, raising serious concerns about enforced disappearance and the potential for abuse in detention.
- On September 26th, amidst ongoing sub-regional military offensives Fano forces took control of the strategic Keyu-Gariya area.
 - Fano forces took control of Keyu-Gariya without encountering any significant military resistance. The regime forces vacated the area during the night of September 25th, abandoning their positions without engagement. This allowed Fano units (operating under the AFNF-MC) to enter and secure Keyu-Gariya the following day without direct clashes. Keyu-Gariya is considered to hold high tactical value due to its geographic location situated between Zobel and Kobo city, acting as a corridor or chokepoint along potential military movement routes. Its capture effectively blocks regime forces from maneuvering between these two key areas, isolating units and complicating any counteroffensive from either direction. Control over Keyu-Gariya also enhances the Fano forces' ability to consolidate their hold in Raya-Kobo Woreda and prepares the ground for further advances toward Kobo city or deeper into North Wollo Zone.

Gazo Woreda

- On September 25th, Fano forces took control over Estayish town and several areas in Gazo Woreda. According to reports, regime forces withdrew from the area in an apparent attempt to avoid capture by advancing Fano units under Operation Arbegna Adem Ali. Following the withdrawal, Fano forces took full control of Estayish town without significant resistance. There are also unconfirmed reports indicating that regime officials fled with public funds belonging to the woreda.

Dawunt Woreda

- On September 25th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive targeting Kurba town.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the AFNF-MC and resulted in the swift capture of Kurba during the early morning hours, without resistance from regime forces. Sources confirmed that regime troops and officials retreated from the town in advance of the Fano offensive, avoiding direct confrontation. Rather than engaging in combat, regime forces abandoned their positions and reportedly fled towards the Kon and Delanta areas. The withdrawal was carried out hastily, suggesting either a lack of preparedness or a strategic decision to avoid casualties and loss of equipment.

Habru Woreda

- On September 25th, Fano forces captured Girana town and surrounding areas of Habru Woreda. The operations were undertaken by the Baleshiritu Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). In addition to these advances, neighboring areas in Wuchale, located within Ambassel Woreda, were also reportedly captured by Fano forces.

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- As of September 26th, Fano forces expanded their territorial gains in Habru Woreda.
 - The black asphalt road connecting Woldia to Dessie cities, a critical transportation and supply corridor, has come under control of Fano forces (operating under the AFNF-MC) under the third day of *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali*, starting from Sembo Kebele, a location in close proximity to Woldia. Control over this route marks a strategic advantage, allowing Fano forces to potentially restrict movement and logistics for opposing forces in the region.
 - In addition to securing the asphalt route, large portions of Habru Woreda and surrounding areas have fallen under Fano control. These include several key areas such as Sirinqa (part of Gubalafto Woreda), Wurgessa, Genfo-Chefe, Mehal-Amba, and Libso. The capture of these areas further solidifies the Fano forces' operational foothold in North Wollo Zone and suggests an effort to encircle and isolate regime-controlled urban centers such as Dessie and Woldia.

Woldia City

- On September 25th, intense tension has persisted amid escalating military activity in Woldia city.
 - Reports indicate that the regime launched heavy artillery strikes targeting the western part of the city, contributing to a growing atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. According to sources, a state of panic and confusion was observed within regime ranks, both among political officials and security personnel. From around 7:20 pm, the city reportedly saw a complete halt in regime troop and civilian movement, reflecting anxiety within the state structure.

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- In a further indication of the unrest, sources confirmed that regime officials were transported from their homes to nearby military camps, reportedly out of fear of attacks. This level of precaution suggests a significant breakdown in confidence and security within regime-controlled zones of the city.
 - In addition, the Sheikh Muhammod Alamudin Stadium, a facility originally constructed for international sports and events promoting peace, has been repurposed for military purposes by regime forces. The stadium was used as a launch site for heavy artillery fire.
 - On September 26th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive toward Woldia city.
 - With the majority of woredas and city administrations in North Wollo Zone reportedly falling under Fano control in recent days, the strategic focus appears to have shifted to securing Woldia city as a major administrative and logistical center in the region. Consequently, units from the AFNF-MC have made significant incursions into key areas of the city including Jeneto-Ber, Woldia University, and outlying neighbourhoods such as Gola-Mecharie. While heavy clashes continue, Fano forces appear to be intensifying efforts to fully capture Woldia.
 - During the armed confrontations in Gola-Mecharie, civilian casualties were reported including the deaths of two civilians identified as Nuradis Gushish and Assefa Amlaku and severe injuries sustained by another unidentified civilian.
 - In a related development, reports from sources indicate that large numbers of ENDF troops and allied regime forces were seen retreating from Woldia toward Hara in the early morning hours of September 26th. This withdrawal was described as chaotic and uncoordinated, reflecting the loss of morale and

apparent disarray among regime forces. In the evening, sources also reported that regime forces were observed transporting rations and logistical supplies from their military camp to Hara using four vehicles, including Ural vehicles. This movement is seen as a sign of growing concern within regime ranks, likely reflecting their fear of the area completely falling under Fano control. In parallel, numerous regime officials based in Woldia reportedly fled toward Hara, presumably to avoid capture by advancing Fano units.

- On September 27th, clashes between Fano and regime forces continued for the second straight day in Woldia city.
 - The fighting erupted at around 5 am, initiated by Fano forces with the objective of fully capturing Woldia city. Heavy clashes were reported in various parts of the city as well as in surrounding kebeles of Gubalafto Woreda. According to sources, intense hand-to-hand combat took place in multiple locations, indicating the ferocity of the urban warfare.
 - In response to the Fano advances, regime forces carried out at least ten drone strikes throughout the day in an attempt to halt the city's fall. The strikes covered a wide geographical area of one drone reportedly surveilled and struck areas stretching from Woldia University to Molla-Giyorgis and Merto, as well as Mechari, Sewameda, and Woodmen. A second drone operated over Gonder-Ber, passing through Gubo and Tota Maderia toward Tikur-Wuha, Alagedo, Afrikare, and Qalim. Repeated bombardments were also reported in Jeneto-Ber, although the specific nature and impact of these strikes remain unconfirmed. Meanwhile, in Mechari and Merto, mortar and DShK fire continued throughout the day. Unable to withstand the Fano offensive, the regime began deploying additional mechanized and aerial reinforcements. Reports indicated that a mechanized army unit led by Kefyalew Amide,

previously stationed at the Afar-Bure front, was redeployed and entered Woldia overnight on September 26th. In addition to the drones, the regime has utilized fighter jets, helicopters, and foot soldiers to prevent a complete takeover of Woldia by Fano forces. Fighting reportedly subsided around 6 pm, although the situation remains fluid and the potential for renewed clashes remains high/

- Observers note that the offensive marks one of the most intense and strategically successful operations by Fano forces in the past two years. Sources suggest that without the regime’s reliance on air power, Fano would likely have fully captured the city, having gained dominance over ground forces. As fighting intensified, North Wollo Zone and Woldia city officials were reportedly evacuating their families using ambulances. However, regime forces, including ENDF and riot dispersal units, were said to be blocking these withdrawals, including attempts to evacuate families of regime officials.
- In addition, there were reports of civilian casualties and injuries due to indiscriminate attacks by regime forces and crossfire during active clashes.
- On September 28th, the regime intensified its use of heavy weaponry, launching artillery shelling towards areas surrounding Woldia city, despite the absence of active fighting in those locations at the time.
 - While casualties and damage remain unconfirmed, the shelling is believed to have affected several civilian-populated areas, raising concerns of indiscriminate attacks and potential humanitarian impact. This development comes amid an increasingly volatile security situation in and around Woldia, a strategic city in North Wollo Zone.
 - According to reports, three of the main access routes to Woldia, those from Dessie and Bahir-Dar, are currently under the control of Fano forces, with the

exception of the Hara to Doro-Gibir route, which remains accessible to regime forces.

- Although the intensity of fighting in Woldia itself has decreased, the transportation system within the city has come to a halt, likely due to ongoing military threats and road closures. This has further disrupted the movement of civilians and hindered the delivery of essential goods and services. The current situation indicates a continued state of instability in and around Woldia, with the potential for renewed clashes or further shelling in the coming days.

Gashena City

- On the night of September 24th, armed clashes were reported in Gashena city.
 - Gunfire was heard across multiple parts of the city, indicating an armed confrontation. While the sounds of gunfire suggest a significant exchange, the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed at this time. Following the incident, heightened fear and tension were observed, particularly among regime political and security officials. Reports indicate that several of these officials relocated to nearby regime military camps, seeking protection amid uncertainty and fear of further attacks. This movement reflects growing insecurity within the regime's administrative and security structures in Gashena, as fears of infiltration or renewed clashes continue to rise.
- On September 27th, sources reported that a military helicopter landed at approximately 9:30 am, under tight security conditions, in Gashena city.
 - According to sources, the helicopter landed on the grounds of Gashena Secondary School, where it reportedly evacuated wounded military personnel and then departed toward Bahir-Dar city. Some sources suggest that the landing was part of an urgent operation to airlift severely wounded regime

commanders who had been injured in ongoing battles with Fano forces, particularly around the Kulmesk area. Among the wounded were reportedly Colonel Demewoz, the commander of the 12th Division in the ENDF Northeastern Command, the commander of the battalion's ordnance unit, and combat engineer, and a senior colonel-ranked commander of the 803rd Corps, said to be in critical condition.

- The movement of these injured commanders by road was reportedly impossible due to Fano forces blocking all major routes leading to Gonder and Gojjam Sub-Regions, prompting the use of aerial evacuation. However, conflicting information has emerged regarding Colonel Demewoz. According to a statement from the Degaw-Mebreq Division (operating under the AFPO-AFWPC), Colonel Demewoz had died from his injuries. In this version of events, the helicopter may have been dispatched not to evacuate the wounded, but rather to retrieve his body for burial. The exact purpose of the helicopter's mission remains unconfirmed, as regime outlets have not released a statement regarding the incident or the condition of the commanders.

Lasta Woreda

- On September 28th, the regime intensified its use of drone attacks in Lasta Woreda, amidst reports of Fano forces establishing local governance and public engagement in areas under their control.
 - At approximately 9 am, a drone strike targeted Genete-Mariam Secondary School, located near the historic Genete-Mariam Church (a monolithic structure carved out of solid rock in the 13th century, and situated close to the UNESCO-listed Lalibela rock-hewn churches). While no human casualties were reported in the strike, the school facility sustained structural damage. The targeted area is a civilian zone, and at the time of the attack, no active combat

was taking place in the vicinity. This incident follows another drone strike on September 27th, which targeted a health center, resulting in the deaths and injuries of civilians, including patients and healthcare workers. The increased use of drone strikes by the regime appears to be part of a broader military strategy in response to ongoing pressure from Operation Arbegna Adem Ali led by the AFNF-MC.

– In contrast to the regime’s military escalation, Fano forces under the AFNF-MC have reported significant social and administrative developments in territories they control within Lasta Woreda.

- * According to an official statement released on September 28th, public discussions and the formation of interim governance structures have been underway in several liberated areas. A temporary military-civilian administrative system has been established, aimed at promoting local governance, stability, and service delivery.
- * In this context, the interim administrator of Lasta Woreda, Arbegna Nega Fente, held community meetings with residents of Abune Yosef, Enjafat, Telfetit, Wodebye, and Tadiwos-Amba Kebeles, including religious leaders, elders, youth, and women. Key outcomes of these discussions included a shared understanding that local communities are responsible for organizing and maintaining peace in their areas, commitment to support the popular struggle as key stakeholders and defenders of their rights, emphasis on protecting and preserving public infrastructure as a community asset, and pledging to offer comprehensive support to the Fano resistance, both logistically and morally.
- * In addition to political mobilization, development activities have also resumed. Roads previously rendered impassable by seasonal weather have been reopened and paved, notably the route from Enjafat to Wodebiyo and

the route from Telfetit to Mukwuha.

- * These developments suggest that the Fano forces are attempting to consolidate their presence not only militarily but also through grassroots governance and community engagement, despite ongoing threats from aerial attacks by the regime.

South Wollo Zone

Mekdela Woreda

- On the night of September 19th, intense armed confrontation broke out between Fano and regime troops in Mekdela Woreda.
 - The fighting reportedly began between 1 am and 2 am when regime forces launched a surprise offensive operation, advancing from multiple directions, including Mekdela town, Debrezeyit, Tenta, and Ginba, toward Kebeles 015 and 028 of Mekdela Woreda. The assault was aimed at dislodging Fano units stationed in the area. In response, the Sheikh Hussein Jibril Brigade, operating under the Adem Ali Division of the Nigus Mikael Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC), mounted a counter-offensive, pushing back the attacking forces.
 - According to reports, the regime forces suffered casualties. Up to ten ENDF soldiers and militia members were reportedly killed during the clash. These individuals were subsequently buried by locals and Fano fighters. Numerous regime soldiers were also wounded, and many fled the battlefield in disarray. In addition to casualties, the Sheikh Hussein Jibril Brigade successfully seized several military items, including firearms, military gear, backpacks, and raincoats. Furthermore, three young men who had previously been abducted by regime forces were reportedly rescued and released during or after the operation.

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- As of September 27th, Fano forces took control of several towns in Mekdela Woreda.
 - According to sources, Debrezeyit and Koreb towns have come under full control of Fano forces under the AFNF-MC. The regime troops reportedly withdrew from these areas without offering resistance, allowing Fano units to enter and secure the towns peacefully. Sources in the area confirmed that Fano forces have since established checkpoints in both Debrezeyit and Koreb, signaling the beginning of their administrative and security presence.
 - These checkpoints are reportedly being used to monitor movement and secure the area, suggesting an intention to maintain control over the towns for the foreseeable future. Unlike other fronts where intense fighting has occurred, the situation in Mekdela Woreda highlights a different dynamic, where regime forces are retreating rather than resisting, potentially due to overstretched resources or shifting priorities.
 - As of September 28th, a fierce battle broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Mekdela Woreda.
 - The fighting involved the AFNF-MC and resulted in significant human and material casualties on both sides. The most intense fighting occurred in Kebele 016, where reports confirm that three regime militia members were injured, and that the Woreda Deputy Militia Commander was killed, along with other militia members and personnel from the regime's riot dispersal unit. On the Fano side, sources indicate that at least ten Fano fighters were killed during the engagement. The battle was characterized by close-range combat and high levels of intensity, suggesting that both sides committed substantial forces to this front.

Ambassel Woreda

- Between September 21st and 22nd, sustained fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in Ambassel Woreda and surrounding areas.
 - The clashes were triggered by a multi-directional offensive launched by the regime, aimed at dislodging Fano units entrenched in the Ambassel Mountains, a region of both strategic importance. The fighting began when regime forces, using troops and artillery positioned in and around Dessie, Gishen, Delanta, Kutaber, and Teleyayen, launched a coordinated attack on Fano positions in the Ambassel highlands. According to reports, the regime employed heavy weaponry, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, in an attempt to bombard Fano-held positions from a distance. Much of this artillery support came from Dessie city, directed toward both Ambassel and Teleyayen. The offensive reportedly coincided with a desire by the regime to disrupt the annual Gishen-Debrekerbe religious celebration, which was expected to be observed in solidarity with Fano forces. In response to the regime's aggression, fighters from the Bete-Amhara Division of the Lij Eyasu Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC) mounted a counter-offensive. Over the course of two consecutive days, Fano forces managed to repel multiple regime attacks, particularly those originating from Kutaber and Delanta, maintain control over key mountainous positions, despite continued shelling and troop deployments, and force regime troops to retreat, with reports indicating regime withdrawals took place without achieving any tactical objectives.
- As of September 26th, amidst ongoing sub-regional military offensives Fano forces took full control of Ambassel Woreda, located along the black asphalt road connecting Woldia and Dessie cities.
 - Reports indicate that regime soldiers and officials, overwhelmed by the swift

and coordinated assault launched by Fano forces (operating under the AFNF-MC), abandoned their positions and fled toward Hayk and Dessie. In their chaotic retreat, they left behind both their dead and wounded, further reflecting the collapse of morale and organizational breakdown within regime ranks.

- Amid the military developments, in Wuchale, residents have been searching for loved ones who disappeared in prior weeks, victims of apparent enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings carried out by regime forces. One such case involves Memhir Fikre (last name unknown), a dedicated educator who had travelled from another part of the country with his wife and child to celebrate the new year (Meskerem 2018 EC) with family members in Wuchale. Though his arrival was met with joy, the celebration was short-lived. On the day of his arrival, a sudden battle broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Wuchale. The regime forces suffered heavy losses to Fano mortar fire, and chaos ensued. In the aftermath of the fighting, as calm seemed to return, security personnel called Memhir Fikre to the door, and he was taken away. From that night onward, he vanished. His family searched frantically in local police stations, woreda administration offices, and among local regime units. Each inquiry was met with silence or denial. His grieving mother, pleading for answers, was told “*be quiet. We don’t know what happened.*” Heartbroken and sleepless, she was haunted by dreams of her missing son, while the young child he left behind cried endlessly. On September 25th, Ambassel Woreda fell under Fano control and Memhir Fikre’s mother discovered her son’s body inside the regime forces’ camp. He had been shot, his hands bound, and hastily buried under a thin layer of soil. The scene was described by locals as reminiscent of the “*Red Terror*” era (during the reign of the Derg military junta). Furthermore, this case appears not to be isolated as

residents described widespread enforced disappearances, summary executions, and the systematic denial of information to families as common practices in areas under regime control, particularly in regions that appeared to resist central authority or had shown popular support to Fano.

- Despite the devastation and trauma experienced by the local population, the capture of Ambassel Woreda by Fano forces has been marked by efforts to stabilize the area and restore basic security. As of September 26th, Fano forces have maintained full control of the woreda, with military operations continuing further south.
- As of September 27th, the discovery of unmarked graves within former regime military camp areas has continued in Wuchale town.
 - A new burial site was uncovered by residents on September 27th, inside a former military base used by regime forces. This follows an earlier discovery on September 25th, when the family of a missing man, Memhir Fikru, found his body buried inside the same military compound after regime forces had vacated the area. His family had been searching for him since his disappearance. In the latest case, witnesses reported that the remains appeared to belong to a female victim, based on visible hair and skeletal features. Though the identity has not been officially confirmed, community members expressed shock and fear, with growing concern that more bodies remain buried within or near the former military camp. The discoveries have disturbed the local population, indicating the expansiveness of enforced disappearances in areas under regime control. Residents are calling for an independent international investigation into the killings, disappearances, and the conduct of the regime forces while stationed in the area. Multiple sources within the community have stated their belief that additional graves may exist, and they

are urging authorities and international human rights organizations to intervene.

- In a related incident, the manager of Dashen Bank branch in Wuchale was killed on September 25th, during armed clashes between Fano forces and the regime forces. According to reports, the bank manager had withdrawn a large sum of money and was traveling to Hayk, escorted by ENDF personnel. However, during an unexpected outbreak of fighting, the vehicle was reportedly struck by artillery fire, believed to have been launched from a distant location. The strike killed the bank manager, though the exact source of the artillery remains unclear.

Amhara-Sayint Woreda

- On September 22nd, intense clashes erupted between Fano forces and regime military units across three strategic fronts in Amhara-Sayint Woreda.
 - These coordinated attacks were launched by the Tabor Terara Brigade, part of the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division under the Nigus Mikael Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). At dawn on September 22nd, Fano forces initiated a multi-front operation targeting regime positions in Guameda town, Meles-Sanka-Ber, and Ewa town. Each front was engaged by different battalions within the Tabor Terara Brigade, resulting in significant tactical gains and casualties inflicted on regime forces.
 - Fano forces attacked regime patrols stationed in Guameda using a combination of units including the Wondim Melkenew Battalion, Yamrew Alemu Battalion, and the Qagn unit of the Tabor Terara Brigade. These units jointly destroyed a regime patrol, wounding 15 regime militias in the process. In addition, Fano fighters captured three Kalashnikov rifles.

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- Details on the Meles-Sanka-Ber operation remain limited, but sources indicate that this front was part of the wider coordinated assault, intended to split regime defenses and stretch their lines of communication.
 - A decisive battle took place in Ewa town, where the Satenaw and Nebro Battalions launched a direct attack on regime militias and riot dispersal units who had been encamped in the town. The Fano units successfully overpowered regime forces and took control of the town after heavy fighting. Reports confirm that the regime suffered substantial human losses during this assault, and bodies were still being recovered from the battlefield as of September 23rd.
 - On September 28th, an intense battle took place between Fano forces and regime forces in different areas of Amhara-Sayint Woreda.
 - The fighting involved the AFNF-MC and primarily occurred in the areas of Gua-Meda and Iwa, with hostilities escalating significantly during the morning hours. By the afternoon, however, the situation reportedly calmed, though tension in the area remains high. According to sources, the clash was triggered by a regime military operation aimed at retaking territories currently held by Fano forces as part of Operation Arbegna Adem Ali. These areas had been under Fano control for several days prior to the regime's attempted advance. As of September 29th, human and material casualties resulting from the confrontation are unconfirmed.

Werebabo Woreda

- On September 24th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive under *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali* across multiple fronts in Werebabo Woreda.

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- The offensive was undertaken by the Baleshiritu Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 1) targeted strategic locations surrounding Bistima town, administrative center of Werebabo Woreda, including the Gubisa, Guha, Sekela and Telew-Zuria areas. A notable outcome was the destruction of the Gubisa fort, which had served as a key regime stronghold in the area. Heavy fighting has been ongoing in and around Bistima, as fighting has been underway for control of the town.
 - Sources reported 78 regime combatants killed, 53 others wounded, and seven Kalashnikov rifles captured.

Dessie City

- As of September 25th, ENDF intelligence units have reportedly subjected youths to severe human rights violations including torture in Dessie city.
 - According to sources, the abuses have been taking place in three main detention sites within the city including Buhoro compound, Aytayef Palace compound, and Tosa Terara (Mountain) Radio Station compound. The victims are primarily young men, many of whom were reportedly initially approached by regime intelligence forces and coerced into cooperation under false pretenses. The regime forces approached the youths and demanded that they purchase military equipment and provide money, allegedly to support transportation needs. To manipulate and exploit them further, the regime forces claimed they themselves were being discriminated against because of their Amhara identity, using this narrative as a pretext to gain the youths' trust before later subject them to abuse. After complying in good faith, these youths were detained and subjected to intense interrogation, during which they were accused of being members of “*urban extremist networks*”. Interrogators

reportedly demanded information such as “*who sent you?*”, “*what are your networks?*”, and “*who is giving you orders?*”.

- According to reports victims described severe torture methods used during these interrogations, including hanging a scythe on male reproductive organs, burying victims in a 70-centimeter hole with only the upper and lower torso exposed, electrocution and burning of the inner legs, and forced ingestion of 10 liters of a caustic liquid known as leading to a slow and painful death. Numerous victims reportedly died during torture, while others were extrajudicially executed. Bodies were allegedly disposed of at night, and the whereabouts of many detainees remain unknown.
- A comparable pattern of abuse has also been reported in Woldia city, particularly around Sheikh Muhamed Alamudin Stadium, which has reportedly been repurposed by regime forces as a military detention and torture center.³

Mekane-Selam City

- On September 26th, amidst ongoing sub-regional military offensives Fano forces reportedly captured Mekane-Selam city. Units under the Nigus Mikael Ali Corps (part of the AFNF-MC) were involved in the seizure of the city. According to reports, the operation resulted in the capture of a regime officer with the rank of colonel and eight Kalashnikov rifles. As of September 26th, resulting human and material casualties remain unconfirmed.
- On the night of September 27th (and continuing into the early morning hours of September 28th), intense clashes broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Mekane-Selam city marking the fifth day of Operation Arbegna Adem Ali.
 - According to sources, the engagement involved coordinated action between

³See September 25, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

units from the Engineer Dessalegn Assefa Division and the Mebreq Division (both operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps), in collaboration with the Samuel Aweke (9th) Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The regime had attempted to hold defensive positions in key locations including Ayer-Marefiyaw, Lege-Amhara Wonz, and the city center. However, the Fano forces successfully broke through these lines, ultimately pushing the regime forces into retreat. In a parallel action, Fano units launched an assault on the Borena Prison. This operation led to the release of a significant number of prisoners, though the exact number remains unconfirmed. Despite these tactical gains by Fano forces, reports indicate that they withdrew from Mekane-Selam city on September 28th, and that ENDF have since regained control of the area.

- The fighting resulted in heavy losses for the regime’s 23rd Division, with no fewer than 45 regime soldiers reportedly killed and many others wounded. Sources also reported that both the city militia commander and his deputy were killed during engagements that began as early as September 26th.

Legehida Woreda

- As of September 26th, Fano forces took control of several key areas within Legehida Woreda.
 - Among the most significant developments was the capture of Woyinamba, administrative center of Legehida Woreda. As of September 26th, the city is reportedly under the control of Fano units (operating under the AFNF-MC), marking a strategic gain in South Wollo Zone. This development is seen as further evidence of the significant momentum and territorial expansion of Fano forces, and the weakening control of regime forces in rural and semi-urban areas of South Wollo Zone since the commencement of *Operation Arbegna*

Adem Ali. The fall of Woyinamba not only disrupts administrative operations in the woreda but also potentially cuts off regime logistics and communication lines to surrounding areas. It also reflects a continued shift in control over rural governance structures, which may have long-term implications for political authority and civil-military dynamics in the region.

Dessie-Zuriya Woreda

- As of September 26th, Fano forces have continued fighting against regime forces along multiple fronts in Dessie-Zuriya Woreda.
 - In this sector, the two key fighting units that have led the offensive include the Lij Eyasu Corps' Teworwari Commando unit and Bete-Amhara Division (all operating under the AFNF-MC) which have been actively engaging regime positions across the woreda. As a result of continued fighting, approximately eight kebeles within Dessie-Zuriya Woreda have reportedly fallen under Fano control as of September 26th. These advances reflect a growing pattern of territorial attrition faced by regime forces in South Wollo Zone. Though fighting in this area remains intense and fluid, sources indicate that momentum remains with Fano forces, as they push deeper into areas previously held by regime units.

Kutaber Woreda

- On September 26th, active fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Kutaber Woreda.
 - The clashes were part of the broader Operation Arbegna Adem Ali, initiated by the AFNF-MC. According to sources, the offensive was launched by Fano forces, with the aim of gaining control over key strategic locations, including

Kutaber town. The battle involved direct engagements with regime forces positioned in the area. Beyond the town itself, the fighting continued in other parts of Kutaber Woreda, with confrontations reported in rural and outlying areas. The situation remains fluid, and military activity in the woreda is ongoing.

- Initial reports from the ground indicate that the regime sustained personnel losses during the fighting in Kutaber town. Among the confirmed casualties is a member of the town's traffic police force, who was reportedly killed during the clashes. Additional casualties have been reported, though details and identities remain unconfirmed.

Tenta Woreda

- On September 27th, fierce fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Tenta town.
 - According to sources, Fano forces (AFNF-MC) launched a coordinated, full-scale offensive targeting regime positions in Tenta Woreda on the fourth day of *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali*. In response to the advancing Fano units, regime forces from the riot dispersal and militia reportedly abandoned their positions at the *China Camp* in the morning and regrouped at the Tenta Police Station, which offered a more fortified defensive position. Fano fighters were reportedly able to capture Tenta town, gaining temporary control over key areas. However, after holding the town for a brief period, the Fano forces made a tactical withdrawal, possibly due to strategic considerations or incoming regime reinforcements. As a result of the clashes, transportation in and around Tenta town was severely disrupted. Civilian movement was restricted, and public services were temporarily halted due to the security situation. The

situation in Tenta remains fluid, and further developments are expected as the operation continues across other woredas.

Jama Woreda

- On September 26th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Degolo town.
 - The fighting was undertaken by the AFNF-MC under the ongoing *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali*. According to sources, regime forces suffered significant casualties during the battle. Among those confirmed dead are the Head of the Woreda Militia Office, and Colonel Belete, the Head of Peace and Security for Jama Woreda. On the Fano side, it was also reported that a Fano fighter was killed during the engagement but his identity has not yet been publicly disclosed.
 - Fano forces were reportedly able to capture Degolo town for a short period following the offensive. However, after achieving their tactical objectives, or in response to incoming regime reinforcements, they withdrew from the town later in the day. The exact duration of their control remains unclear, but sources indicate it was brief.

Albuko Woreda

- On September 27th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Albuko Woreda.
 - The clashes took place during the fourth day of *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali*, a large-scale offensive launched by AFNF-MC. According to sources, Fano forces successfully penetrated into the town in the early hours of the day. However, they later withdrew from the town in the afternoon, following the

arrival of regime reinforcements, including additional ENDF units. The withdrawal appears to have been a tactical retreat, possibly in response to the superior firepower or numbers of the newly deployed regime troops.

- As of now, the human and material toll resulting from the fighting remains unconfirmed. As of September 27th, the extent of casualties and property damage within the town remain unconfirmed.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)

- Between September 23rd and 24th, multiple reports indicate that several ENDF soldiers defected to the AFNF-AC.
 - According to sources, at least five ENDF soldiers defected to the Asaminew Tsige Brigade, which operates under the Befikadu Belay Division of Atse Zera-Yaqob (1st) Corps. Four of the defections reportedly occurred on the night of September 23rd, while the fifth soldier defected on the morning of September 24th. These individuals are believed to have defected in protest of the Prosperity Party regime, and in support of the broader objectives of the Fano. The defectors were armed at the time, bringing with them two black and three two-legged Kalashnikov rifles, indicating not only a transfer of personnel but also of military equipment.
 - This development is part of a broader and growing trend of defections from regime forces to Fano units. The increasing number of defections suggests a deepening discontent within sections of the ENDF and points to a possible erosion of loyalty to the central authority among the ordinary rank-and-file.

North Shewa Zone

Efratana-Gidim Woreda

- Between September 22nd and 23rd, fierce battles between Fano forces and regime military units have continued across multiple fronts in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
 - These clashes mark an escalation in armed confrontations in North Shewa Zone, as the regime attempts to dislodge Fano forces from strategic positions. On September 22nd at 6 am, regime forces launched a large-scale offensive targeting various divisions of the Atse Zera-Yakob Corps (operating under the AFNF-AC). The assault was coordinated from multiple locations including Mehal-Meda, Zemero, Molale, Gishe, Wereilu, Ataye, Shewa-Robit, and Chefa-Kemise. The offensive was aimed at seizing Fano-held territories and dismantling defensive positions on several fronts. Intense fighting was reported in Wozed, Karakori, Meskel-Ber, and Kara-Legoma fronts. The regime deployed specialized units across these fronts which fought alongside militia and riot dispersal units.
 - * On the Wozed front, a major battle occurred where regime forces including the 105th Airborne Commando unit, led by battalion commander Gari Tola, were engaged by a joint force from the Atse Zera-Yakob Corps including the Negodguad Division, Sebat-Leseba Division, Nadew Division, and Biruke Demisse Brigade (Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division). These units coordinated a counter-offensive, causing severe losses to the attacking forces.
 - * On the Meskel-Ber front, the 4th Battalion (Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division) engaged in heavy fighting against the 103rd Division, holding ground and pushing back advancing regime troops.
 - * On the Kara-Legoma front, the Demelash Battalion (Sebat-Leseba

Division) and Aselef Teshager Battalion (Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division) launched a counter-offensive against the 104th Commando unit, inflicting substantial damage and forcing regime units to retreat. The regime also deployed units from the 102nd Division in Karakori.

- According to sources, the regime forces suffered heavy losses across all fronts. Over 100 regime troops and allied militia members were killed and more than 150 were wounded, with many more reportedly fleeing the battlefield in disarray.
- The following day (September 23rd), a guerrilla-style ambush was carried out by the Sebat-Leseba Division. The ambush targeted regime militia units attempting to enter Ataye town. The battle took place in the Feres area (Kara-Legoma Kebele), and reportedly succeeded in halting the militia's operation, inflicting additional casualties.
- On September 26th, Fano forces carried out a coordinated assault on regime positions in Fered-Wuha Kebele. The operation was conducted by Fano fighters from the Sebat-Leseba Division's Kagni and Demelash Battalions (which operates under the AFNF-AC 1st Corps). The Fano forces focused their offensive on regime military positions located in Fered-Wuha Kebele. The assault was launched through infiltration tactics, allowing Fano units to penetrate deep into the regime forces' camp before initiating combat. Sources indicate the operation was a success with numerous regime forces casualties.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On September 24th, intense and multi-front battles broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in various parts of Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda.
 - The fighting was triggered by a coordinated offensive from regime forces, who

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- attempted to penetrate Fano-controlled areas by advancing in five separate directions. In response, Fano units (under the AFPO-AFSPC) launched strong counteroffensives across multiple battle zones.
- On the Mekdesa and Arbaratu fronts, the Aste-Guma-Terara Division, part of the Mohammed Bihonegn Corps, played a leading role. The division's Aybegere and Ayalew Mekit Battalions engaged the regime troops. A counterattack was launched without incurring any losses on the Fano side. The regime forces, unable to maintain their offensive, were forced to retreat in disarray, abandoning their formations and withdrawing from the battlefield in scattered units.
 - Along the Afiso, Agamso-Amba, and Zilay axis, regime commando units attempted to advance. In response, the Arbegnaw Shegie Battalion engaged the regime troops with coordinated firepower. Heavy casualties were inflicted on regime forces, halting their progress and pushing them back from these strategic locations.
 - In another coordinated operation, the Abebe Damtew and Fetino Battalions conducted a joint assault against regime forces entrenched in Aselet-Kelebet-Wonber (Ambowuha Kebele 08). The Fano fighters broke through the fortified regime position, which had been heavily constructed, and inflicted significant human and material losses on the regime troops.
 - Across all fronts, preliminary reports indicate major losses for the regime, both in manpower and equipment.
- Between September 25th and 26th, intense and coordinated fighting took place in Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda.
 - On September 25th, Fano forces launched coordinated attacks against regime positions in several locations across Antsokiya-Gemza Woreda. The Ayalew

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- Mekit and Ayibeger Battalions, part of the Aste-Guma-Terara Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Muhamed Bihonegn Corps) engaged in active fighting in areas such as Mekidesa Kebele, 02 Bulesa, Gudaber, Mekoy Railway Station, covering from Arbaratu to 08 Sherefo, Guya, Afiso, Mesk, and Kure-Yegodel. In addition, the Shege, Abebe Damtew, and Fetino Battalions operated in coordination with the Abuara and Ambo-Wuha units covered the area stretching from Kure-Yegodel, through Kebele 08, Shehaydebs Mountain, and up to Segno-Gebeya Railway Station. The Fano forces fought using mortar and artillery fire, effectively halting the regime forces' ability to evacuate their dead and wounded. The regime forces' position on Shehaydebs Mountain was effectively encircled resulting in substantial regime losses. In response, the regime attempted to reinforce its forces with troops from Kemise, who managed to recover three Isuzu trucks, two patrol vehicles, and one ambulance transporting the dead and wounded, before retreating back to their point of origin. Attempts by regime reinforcements coming from Afiso and Arbaratu were unsuccessful. With no support arriving, these forces were forced to retreat toward Mekoy town.
- In a separate development on September 26th, the Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division's Biruke Demisse Brigade (operating under the AFNF-AC 1st Corps) conducted a lightning assault in Shebeto Kebele. The target was units under the 105th Commando unit, which had been deployed from Gishe-Rabel Woreda to Antsokiya-Gemza Woreda. The surprise attack reportedly caused heavy casualties among regime forces. According to sources, numerous regime combatants were killed, including a commander holding the rank of Meto-Aleqa (captain equivalent).

Mojana-Wadera Woreda

- On the night of September 27th (and continuing into the early morning hours of September 28th), Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive against a regime military camp in Sasit town.
 - The operation was executed in joint coordination between the Dejazmach Tessema Ergete Division and the Aste-Guma-Terara Division (both operating under the AFPO-AFSPC), alongside the Abat Arbegnoch unit. The primary target of the operation was a regime airborne division that had been stationed and reportedly besieging Sasit. The offensive was launched around midnight, taking the regime forces by surprise. As a result of the successful attack, Fano forces were able to take control of Sasit, dislodging the regime’s military presence.

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)

East Gojjam Zone

Enarj-Enawga Woreda

- On September 23rd, Fano forces under the Samuel Aweke Division’s Soma Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC) announced the completion of military training of new Fano recruits, after four months. The training, held in Enarj-Enawga Woreda, was reportedly the brigade’s first round of commando force training.⁴

Debre-Markos City

- On September 25th, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in Debre-Markos city. This operation was reportedly executed by the Mebreku Brigade, under the Haddis

⁴See September 24, 2025 [update](#) from Ashara Media.

Alemayehu Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). This operation targeted regime soldiers in Gozamin police station. The Fano fighters covertly infiltrated this area where they executed the explosive detonation. During this operation, sources reported at least two soldiers killed (one police and one militia) and two militias wounded.

Sinan Woreda

- On September 25th, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in the Yedeman area.
 - This operation was reportedly conducted by the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot and Sinan-Abajime Brigades, both under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-TC). The operation targeted regime forces en route from Debre-Markos toward Rebu-Gebeya town for the purpose of logistic transport. The Fano ambush led to an open exchange of gunfire among the combating parties for a protracted duration. Sources reported this fighting expanded to neighboring areas, where Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime forces and disrupted their movement toward Rebu-Gebeya. Fano fighters also launched an attack in Rebu-Gebeya.
 - According to sources numerous regime soldiers were killed and injured, while the surviving soldiers were compelled to retreat to Debre-Markos city.

West Gojjam Zone

Dega-Damot Woreda

- On September 21st, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the neighborhood of Feres-Bet town.
 - The operation was reportedly carried out by the Dega-Damot Brigade, under the Tefera Damte Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The operation

targeted regime forces moving towards the Feres-Bet Mikael area in the early morning. The Fano fighters launched a surprise operation at this time, leading to an open exchange of gunfire. After a brief confrontation, the Fano fighters managed to push the regime forces out of the area to their camp in Feres-Bet.

- Sources reported at least five regime soldiers killed and four others injured in the operation, including one military officer who was critically wounded.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- Between September 21st and 22nd, gunfire exchanges took place in two locations within Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
 - On September 21st, Fano fighters conducted a surprise operation in the Zindib area. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). This operation targeted regime forces on route from Jiga town towards Genet-Abo town (Quarit Woreda). This ambush led to an open firefight that lasted for a brief period. The casualties and final outcome of this firefight remained unreported.
 - On September 22nd, fighting took place in the area surrounding the Leza river, near Jiga. The fighting was initiated by regime soldiers who were attempting to engage the Fano presence. Sources reported that the regime soldiers had mobilized in an attempt to encircle and suppress Fano fighters operating in the area. Although the extent of casualties remains unknown, sources reported that the Fano fighters successfully repelled the regime forces' attack in a counteroffensive.
- On September 25th, Fano forces reportedly facilitated the defection of at least eleven soldiers in the Jiga town. This operation was executed by the

Arenzaw-Damot Brigade from the Ras-Bitwedd Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), which covertly infiltrated into the town and took these regime soldiers overnight. A similar operation was reported in Jawi Woreda, where the Jawi-Metekel Division reported the defection of at least nineteen regime soldiers.

Wemberima Woreda

- On September 23rd, fighting took place in Shindi town.
 - The fighting was initiated by the Shindi-Wemberima Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedd Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). Fano fighters reportedly approached the town over night from three directions and launched an offensive on regime positions. As a result, Fano fighters managed to control the town at some point, while the regime forces were confined to their fortifications. After hours of exchanging fire, the Fano fighters withdrew, and the fighting subsided.
 - Sources reported that both sides suffered casualties, with the regime soldiers suffering particularly significant losses. Confirmed reports indicate six regime militias killed and four critically injured. Sources reported that the regime soldiers carried out physical abuses against civilians after the cessation of the fighting to prevent them from observing the extent of the regime's casualties during this operation.

Dembecha Woreda

- On September 22nd, the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), celebrated the graduation of new commando forces in Dembecha Woreda. The military training,

reportedly provided over a period of several months, was reportedly completed by the members that day.⁵

Awî Zone

Ayo-Guagusa Woreda

- On September 24th, fighting took place in Ambela town.
 - The fighting was initiated by the combined Fano units under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), which included the Werkabay Brigade, Bure-Damot Brigade, and the division's commando unit. Fano forces reportedly launched the offensive in the early morning, which led to an open confrontation with the regime soldiers over a period of at least three hours. After hours of confrontation, Fano forces overwhelmed the regime forces, pushing them out of Ambela, and prompting them to retreat to Ehudit town.
 - During this operation, Fano fighters reportedly inflicted considerable human and material losses. Reports indicate at least 13 regime soldiers were killed and 25 others were injured in confrontation. In addition, the Fano forces also captured more than ten firearms and a heavy machine gun.

⁵See September 22, 2025 [update](#) from Black Lion Media.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)

South Gonder Zone

Tach-Gayint Woreda

- On September 21st, Fano forces launched a surprise attack on regime forces in Agat-Medhanialem Kebele.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the Gebriye Division (operating under the APFO-AFGPC). The ambush resulted in fatalities and critical injuries among the regime soldiers who were traveling through the area. These regime forces had been deployed to the region with the intention of engaging the Fano fighters. As a result of the attack, the surviving regime soldiers were compelled to retreat back to Arb-Gebeya town.
 - In the aftermath, while tending to their dead and wounded, the regime forces reportedly killed a 15-year-old shepherd boy in the area as a retaliatory measure.
- On September 24th, Fano forces successfully infiltrated Arb-Gebeya town.
 - The infiltration was carried out under the cover of darkness by the Gebriye Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC). Once inside, the Fano units launched a surprise offensive against the regime's security forces stationed there. The unexpected attack resulted in significant casualties for the regime's joint forces, and the Fano fighters were able to seize a considerable quantity of weapons from the defeated regime troops. The fighting was particularly intense in the villages of Ayneto-Mesk and Gebetta-Dingay, where the bulk of the engagement took place.

Farta Woreda

- Between September 23rd and 24th, regime forces carried out a series of offensives against regime forces in Farta Woreda.
 - On September 23rd, Fano forces initiated a surprise attack against regime forces in Maynet Kebele. The operation was undertaken by the Guna Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The ambush occurred in Maynet Kebele, near Gasay town, as regime forces were en route from Debre-Tabor city to Estie Woreda. At the time of the offensive, regime forces were transporting military supplies destined for troops stationed in Estie Woreda.
 - On September 24th, Fano forces conducted a surprise attack against regime forces near Tetar village, located in close proximity to Mahderemaryam town. The offensive targeted regime forces traveling from Debre-Tabor city to Mahderemaryam town near Tetar village. In both surprise attacks, regime forces suffered significant casualties. In an apparent retaliatory measure following the ambush near Tetar village, regime forces reportedly attacked and killed two students, aged 10 and 12, in the same village.
 - Later that same day (September 24th), the Fano forces launched another surprise attack, this time targeting regime forces in Gena-Memcha Kebele. This offensive targeted regime forces as they were returning from Mahderemaryam town towards Debre-Tabor city, resulting in further heavy casualties for the regime.
 - Also on September 24th, Fano forces infiltrated Gasay town and launched a full-scale offensive against the regime's military camp located in Madeya-Sefer. This camp served as a base for riot dispersal units and militia forces. The militia and riot dispersal forces sustained substantial casualties and were ultimately forced to abandon the camp. The Fano forces seized all

military equipment and supplies within the camp before setting it ablaze and withdrawing from Gasay.

Central Gonder Zone

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On September 25th, Fano forces carried out an ambush against regime forces in Dinzaz Kebele. The surprise attack was carried out by the Tiquir Anbesa and Fanaye Wube Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) as regime forces were traveling from Degoma town to Gonder city, resulting in significant casualties for the targeted regime troops.
- On September 28th, Fano forces launched a surprise offensive targeting a unit of the regime's forces in Bahir-Ginb.
 - The offensive was carried out by the Gondere-Begashaw Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) targeting a regime vice-campaign leader, which had been dispatched to Bahir-Ginb with a mission to coerce local residents into “*pressuring their children to surrender*” (referring to Fano members). However, before they could carry out their objective, they were ambushed by the Fano forces.
 - The attack resulted in the death of the campaign leader and several soldiers, forcing the remaining regime troops to retreat to Tseda sub-city (Gonder city).

West Gonder Zone

Qwara Woreda

- On September 21st, Fano forces initiated a significant offensive against regime forces stationed in Shinfa town. The offensive was undertaken by the

Qwara-Omedla Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps). Under the cover of darkness, the Fano fighters infiltrated Shinfa and launched a coordinated surprise attack on the regime's military encampments. The ensuing battle raged throughout the night, resulting in substantial casualties for the regime forces. With the arrival of dawn, the Fano forces withdrew from Shinfa town, concluding their operation.

North Gonder Zone

Telemt Woreda

- On September 27th, Fano forces launched a series of coordinated surprise attacks targeting regime military encampments in various locations in Telemt Woreda.
 - The offensive was carried out by the Semien Birqiye Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 3rd Corps). The first attack struck a military camp situated in Derba Kebele, while a second, simultaneous attack targeted a separate camp in Betel Kebele. These coordinated assaults resulted in substantial casualties for the regime forces.
 - Initial reports confirm that over 50 regime soldiers were killed in action, with more than 35 sustaining physical injuries ranging in severity from minor to critical. Following the engagements, the Fano forces were able to seize approximately 50 Kalashnikov assault rifles from the regime troops.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

East Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Debre-Zeyit City

- As of September 24th, reports indicate that regime forces have launched a wave of arbitrary arrests targeting civilians, including prominent religious figures, in Debre-Zeyit city.
 - Among the detainees was a highly respected monk from the Debre-Zeyit Qidus Mikael Church. According to accounts, the monk was taken into custody at around 1 pm, without any formal charges or explanation provided by authorities.
 - This incident has sparked widespread fear and concern among residents, who view the arrest of a religious leader as part of a broader pattern of intimidation and repression. Many community members have expressed alarm over what appears to be deliberate targeting of religious institutions and community leaders, who have traditionally played a stabilizing role in the community.

Addis-Ababa City

- As of September 27th, regime security forces have reportedly intensified mass arrests of civilians in Addis-Ababa city, amid growing tensions linked to the war in Amhara Region.
 - According to sources, the regime appears to be using recent public events, such as the *Meskel* and *Irreecha* celebrations, as well as the heightened military offensive by Fano forces in Amhara Region, as pretexts to carry out widespread arrests, particularly targeting Amhara youth. Reports indicate that

police stations in several areas, including Shola Police Station under Yeka Sub-City, have become overcrowded, prompting the use of informal and makeshift detention centers to hold additional detainees.

- Reports indicate that youths carrying identification cards issued from Amhara Region have been disproportionately targeted in arrests. The arrests are reportedly being carried out without due process, raising concerns about ethnic profiling, violations of human rights, and the abuse of state security powers. These developments suggest a further erosion of civil liberties in the capital and reflect a broader pattern of politically and ethnically motivated repression.

About the Amhara Association of America (AAA)

The Amhara Association of America (AAA) is a non-profit civic organization based in Charlotte, North Carolina that investigates and documents human rights violations in the context of conflict, violence and political repression in Ethiopia. AAA seeks to inform U.S. policymakers, international human rights organizations, journalists, researchers, and all Ethiopian stakeholders to pressure Ethiopian leaders to change laws, policies, and practices in Ethiopia so perpetrators are held accountable and victims receive justice. AAA also collaborates with Amhara organizations in the U.S., supports independent Amhara organizations in Ethiopia, and provides humanitarian aid for Amharas impacted due to targeted ethnic attacks. AAA's funding comes directly from members and supporters; the organization is not affiliated with any Ethiopian or American political or governmental entities.

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