



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – February 16th to 22nd, 2026

Updated February 23rd, 2026

Overview

For the week of February 16th to 22nd, 2026, fighting between the *Amhara Fano self-defense force* (Fano) and *Oromo 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 36 woreda/city administrations across 10 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included Wag-Hemra, North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder and West Gonder Zones.

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 largely organized under a unified structure called the *Amhara Fano National Movement* (AFNM) organized under subregional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major subregional commands include the Menelik Command (MC), Belay Zeleke Command (BC), Tewodrose Command (TC), Asaminew Command (AC), Shewa Province Command (SPC), and Gonder Province Command (GPC).

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- Civilian casualties were recorded in 15 woreda/city administrations across 7 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Gubalafto, Mekdela, Wegdi, Efratana-Gidim, Minjar-Shenkora, Kewet, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Gozamin, Finote-Selam, Jabi-Tehnan, Wemberima, Quarit, North Mecha, Bahir-Dar-Zuriya and Alefa Woredas in North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, North Gojjam and Central Gonder Zones.
 - Arrests were recorded in Kobo City and Raya-Alamata Woredas of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region. Arrests in Raya-Alamata Woreda were undertaken by *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces targeting religious figures affiliated with the *Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church* (EOTC). Abductions were recorded in Korem and Alamata cities of North Wollo and Wag-Hemra Zones of Amhara Region. Abductions in Korem and Alamata cities involved TPLF forces conducting forced military conscription of local residents.
 - Drone attacks resulting in civilian casualties were reported in Kewet, Antsokiyana-Gemza and Alefa Woredas of North Shewa and Central Gonder Zones in Amhara Region.
 - Ongoing telecommunications blackouts were recorded in various woredas in East Gojjam, Awi and Central Gonder Zones in Amhara Region.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Subregion)

- On February 17th, Fano forces announced continued efforts to establish administrative structures on the West Wollo front.
 - According to the reports, the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps initiated the formation of an interim administrative structure in territories where regime forces were dislodged. The process reportedly involves the election of kebele,

subworeda, and woreda-level officials tasked with overseeing administration, legal, security, and other public service sectors. The corps indicated that community mobilization and organizational activities have been undertaken to enable local populations to participate in governance structures across several districts. It further stated that political and capacity-building trainings were provided to selected leaders, who pledged to serve their communities with accountability and commitment.

- In connection with these developments, a corps representative visited Bili, a rural district near Mekaneselam City, where they addressed representatives from six kebeles and leaders of the Bili subworeda administration. During the visit, he emphasized the objective of restoring stability and alleviating suffering experienced by local residents.
 - Similar restructuring initiatives have taken place in other newly contested or captured areas.
- Between February 17th and 19th, numerous defections of regime soldiers to Fano forces occurred following the AFNM's amnesty proclamation.
 - Between February 17th and 18th, ten ENDF soldiers defected to the Maregu Temare Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Lasta-Asaminew Corps) in North Wollo Zone. These individuals were said to have defected with military equipment, including Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition, hand grenades, and pieces of chest and waist body armor. Between February 18th and 19th, nine regime strike forces operating in Albuko Woreda (South Wollo Zone) defected to the Yegof Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Lij Eyasu Corps).

Wag-Hemra Zone

Dehana Woreda

- On February 16th, Fano forces carried out an ambush in Dehana Woreda.
 - According to reports, the operation was conducted by a veteran member of the General Hailu Kebede Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Lasta-Asaminew Corps). The ambush targeted a regime police unit that was reportedly traveling in an ambulance along the Dehana route from Chila to Azila. The attack reportedly took place in the Kinaba-Mariam area targeting Inspector Worku Bayen, a resident of Kebele 02 (Sekota Woreda), and Mirtu Alemu, a police officer assigned to Kebele 12 (Sekota Woreda).
 - Sources claim that the police vehicle sustained damage during the ambush and that two Kalashnikov rifles were captured.

Korem City

- As of February 20th, TPLF forces intensified forced military conscription in Korem City.
 - According to reports, civilians have increasingly fled the area in response to these activities. Residents allege that the militants conducted repeated conscription campaigns without the consent of those targeted. These operations reportedly include house-to-house searches as well as apprehensions in public spaces, with individuals being taken for military service against their will.
 - As a result of the ongoing raids and fear of forced recruitment, significant numbers of civilians are said to have fled the city. Displaced residents have reportedly sought refuge in nearby areas, including Sekota and Kobo, as well

as other areas. Sources describe a sharp decline in daily economic and social activity, stating that many neighborhoods now appear largely deserted due to the mass movement of people.

North Wollo Zone

Alamata City

- On February 15th, TPLF forces attempted to organize a pro-TPLF public demonstration in Alamata City.
 - According reports, TPLF forces under the Tigrayan Settler Administration conducted house-to-house visits, instructing residents to participate in the demonstration organized to inaugurate the TPLF's formation in the city. However, many residents, reported to be predominantly ethnic Amhara, declined to take part. In response, a significant number of residents reportedly chose to remain indoors rather than attend the event. Sources further claim that the inauguration proceeded with the participation of individuals described as ethnic Tigrayans brought from other areas, alongside the militants themselves.
- As of February 17th, TPLF forces have continued forced military conscription in Alamata City.
 - TPLF forces have been conducting forced recruitment operations across multiple neighborhoods of the city, allegedly targeting young people and, in some instances, daily laborers. Fearing forced enlistment, many youths are reported to have fled the city, seeking safety in nearby areas such as Kobo City, as well as in other parts of the country and abroad, including migration toward the middle east. Observers claim that the remaining population largely consists of elderly residents, who are living under heightened anxiety amid the

possibility of renewed confrontations. Sources further allege that symbolic and administrative changes have been introduced in the city, including the replacement of national and Amhara Region flags with Tigray Region symbols, along with adjustments in institutional representation.

- As of February 19th, TPLF forces carried out forced military conscription in Alamata City.
 - The campaign targeted ethnic Amhara adults, marking a shift from earlier patterns that primarily targeted youth. Militants have been conducting house-to-house searches across neighborhoods in the city to identify and detain men for compulsory enlistment. With many young people having fled the city to avoid recruitment, the focus has expanded to include middle-aged and older men. Residents describe a climate of fear, with men avoiding public spaces and, in some cases, abandoning their homes to evade capture.

Bugna Woreda

- On February 16th, intense fighting reportedly took place between Fano forces and regime forces near Ayina town.
 - According to reports, units under the Lasta-Asaminew Corps (operating under the AFNM-MC) launched *Operation Aser-Aleqa Habib (Habibo) Yesuf* with fighting beginning at approximately 4 am in the Meskel-Kristos-Sora-Meda area, located southwest of Ayina. The confrontation in the vicinity of Ayina was described as intense, with sustained exchanges of fire between Fano fighters and regime forces across multiple positions. The Fano forces reportedly destroyed four regime military outposts during the operation. Following this, regime forces were compelled to withdraw from their positions in the area.

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- As a result of the operation, over 82 regime forces were killed, and over 25 Kalashnikov rifles were captured along with ammunition, 32 hand grenades, and 26 pieces of waist and chest body armor.

Raya-Alamata Woreda

- On February 16th, TPLF forces carried out arrests of clergy in Raya-Alamata Woreda.
 - The detained individuals were both religious leaders with ties to the EOTC. Their names were Liqe Siyuman Kahsay Meresa, administrator of Kilisha Debreselam Medhanealem Church, and Priest Beyene Wudu, administrator of Tao Abune Gebre Menfes Kidus Church. Sources indicate that the two religious leaders were taken into custody by TPLF forces and their whereabouts were not immediately disclosed.
 - These incidents were reported to have occurred amid ongoing tensions in Raya-Alamata and surroundings, where accounts describe forced recruitment of youth into armed groups and continued arrests of civilians. Community members have expressed concern over what they characterize as a pattern of detentions affecting both laypersons and religious figures.

Gubalafto Woreda

- On February 19th, an intense armed confrontation took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - According to reports, the clashes erupted after regime forces attempted to move officials through the area. In response, units under the Asaminew Division (operating under the AFNM-MC) launched an offensive against the advancing forces. The engagement reportedly occurred along the route

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- stretching from Gedober toward the Sanka entrance, with heavy fighting concentrated in a locality known as Zendo-Jirat. The fighting ultimately resulted in the withdrawal of regime forces toward Woldia City.
- Regime forces sustained significant casualties during the confrontation, including both fatalities and injuries. Reports further indicate that the retreating forces were unable to evacuate all of their dead and wounded from the battlefield.
- On February 19th, regime forces carried out killings of civilians following a Fano operation in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - According to reports, three civilians were killed in the Tikur-Wuha area, located near Woldia City. The incident occurred after regime forces sustained significant human and material losses during clashes with Fano fighters and were retreating toward Woldia. Witnesses stated that the soldiers, while fleeing, expressed anger toward local residents, reportedly accusing them of supporting Fano forces and saying, “they are your people; they are killing us.” Among the identified victims were Abebe Yalew, Yimer Wasihun, and Getahun Dejen, who were all members of the same family. According to testimonies, the three were stopped by soldiers at Tikur-Wuha while traveling from Woldia to their home in Alagedo Kebele, a short distance from the city. The victims reportedly presented legal identification documents confirming that they were civilians. Despite this, and following an alleged order from a military commander, the three were executed.
 - After the shooting, the soldiers stabbed the bodies multiple times. Witnesses described the act as excessive and intended to instill fear among the local population. In addition, soldiers were reportedly seen assaulting young boys who were swimming in the nearby river, allegedly using shell casings or metal

objects to beat them. After the soldiers departed toward Woldia, local laborers who had been working along the riverbank reportedly collected bodies of the victims, wrapped them in cloth, and handed them over to their families for burial.³

Kobo City

- On February 21st, regime forces carried out mass arrests in Kobo City.
 - According to reports, regime security forces conducted sweeping arrest operations in multiple parts of the city. The operation primarily targeted daily laborers gathered around the Segno-Gebeya area. However, other civilians who happened to be present in the vicinity, including non-daily laborers, were also reportedly detained. Sources indicate that security forces filled at least two vehicles with detained civilians and transported them to undisclosed locations. As of the time of reporting, the whereabouts of those arrested remain unknown, raising concerns among families and local residents.
 - While authorities reportedly justified the arrests by claiming that TPLF agents had entered the area, sources suggest that the operation may be linked to ongoing forced military conscription.

South Wollo Zone

Amhara-Sayint Woreda

- On February 16th, heavy fighting took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Amhara-Sayint Woreda.
 - The clashes began when regime forces attempted to advance into Gua-Meda using heavy weaponry, including one ZU-23 system, two mortars, and six

³See February 20, 2026 [report](#) from Mereb Media.

tanks during the attempted advance. The advancing troops reportedly moved toward the Meles-Sanka-Ber area. In response, units under the Amhara Sayint-Mekdela Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) launched a counteroffensive. Fighting was described as intense, involving the use of heavy weapons on both sides. Fano forces conducted coordinated attacks from both frontal and rear positions, including engagements near Goda, reportedly targeting regime units approaching from the direction of Ajibar. Following these clashes, federal forces were said to have withdrawn from the immediate area.

- Preliminary reports indicate combatant deaths and injuries. In the aftermath of the fighting, sources reported the defection of an individual described as a guard attached to a regime commanding officer. According to these accounts, the individual cited alleged abuses against civilians, low morale among regime troops and the recent amnesty declaration by Fano forces.

Wereilu Woreda

- On the night of February 16th, coordinated clashes were reported in multiple areas in Wereilu Woreda.
 - According to reports, the offensive involved units under the Lij Eyasu Corps (operating under the AFNM-MC) and the Atse Zerayakob Corps (operating under the AFNM-AC). The fighting reportedly began at around 6 pm and continued for several hours until 1 am, targeting fortified regime positions in Wereilu and Segno-Gebeya. The regime joint forces overran key defensive positions and inflicted significant casualties on federal troops and allied militias. Both rank-and-file soldiers and senior officers were among those killed or wounded. It was further reported that injured personnel were transported to Dessie City for medical treatment, including via ambulance.

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- In the aftermath of the clashes, reports indicate that regime forces conducted security sweeps in and around Wereilu. Some sources allege that forested areas near the town were set on fire, reportedly due to suspicions that Fano fighters were using the terrain for concealment.

Wegdi Woreda

- On February 15th, regime forces reportedly escalated human rights violations and property looting in Wegdi Woreda.
 - According to reports, recent regime operations in several parts of the woreda have resulted in harm to civilians, including children, as well as the destruction and confiscation of private property. Specific allegations include sexual violence, shooting of minors, arson, and large-scale looting.
 - On February 15th, multiple incidents were reported across different localities. In the Sekuru area, a minor was sexually assaulted by a soldier said to be affiliated with the 105th ENDF Division in the Abera-Sheleqo area, while she was returning from delivering food to her father. The child is reportedly receiving medical treatment at a health center.
 - In Merdini, under the Menebeti locality, a six-year-old child was shot in the leg during gunfire by members of the 87th Division, who reportedly opened fire citing fears of an approaching Fano presence. The child was sent for medical treatment.
 - On the same day, a forested riverbed area on Tulu-Yegurba Mountain was reportedly set on fire by security forces, allegedly on suspicion that the area was being used as a hiding place by Fano fighters.
 - In addition, allegations of widespread looting have emerged. In Zemid (Kebele 025), ENDF soldiers were seen removing grain and other goods from farmers’

storage facilities. Sources estimate that more than 125 quintals of grain were taken in this kebele alone.

Kelela Woreda

- On February 21st, intense fighting reportedly broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Kelela Woreda.
 - The confrontation began at approximately 9 am after regime forces launched an operation targeting Fano fighters positioned in the Lincho area. In response, units under the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFNM-SPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps) and Aba Nadew Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) engaged in a coordinated counteroffensive with fighting in the Korke and Lincho areas, located along the border between Kelela and Deger. The clashes were sustained and involved heavy exchanges of fire. Following the intense fighting, units under the 84th ENDF Division retreated toward Kelela.
 - According to preliminary reports, regime forces suffered significant casualties, while asserting that their own forces have not faced any losses. During the fighting, a mortar shell fired by regime forces struck and killed a donkey belonging to a local farmer.

Mekdela Woreda

- On February 22nd, indiscriminate artillery shelling by regime forces resulted in civilian casualties and property destruction in Bazura Kebele.
 - According to sources, repeated artillery strikes targeted Bazura resulting in civilian deaths and injuries, as well as significant damage to residential houses and other civilian properties. The attack resulted in the confirmed death of two

civilians, along with the killing of two oxen and the destruction of additional, unspecified property. Residents reported that artillery shelling and the burning of residential houses have been repeatedly carried out in the area, and at the time of the shelling, there was reportedly no active fighting taking place in Bazura, raising concerns about the indiscriminate nature of the attack.

Borena-Sayint Woreda

- On February 22nd, intense fighting reportedly took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Borena-Sayint Woreda.
 - According to reports, coordinated offensives were carried out in Kebele 31 (Mudellala), near Mekane-Selam City. The operation was conducted by units under the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela and Engineer Dessalegn Assefa Divisions (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps). The Fano launched an attack on Mudellala, where regime security forces, including police, militia, and special strike units, were stationed. The clashes resulted in significant casualties among regime forces, with more than 20 reported casualties (including fatalities and injuries). In addition, the Fano seized numerous firearms and related equipment.
 - In a separate but related engagement, fighting also occurred in the Segno-Gebeya and Tewa-Megenteya areas. This offensive led to direct confrontation with regime forces, resulting in further casualties. Sources reported that regime forces later withdrew from the scene, transporting their dead and wounded in at least one ambulance, while Fano forces reportedly maintained control of their positions.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Subregion)

- Between February 15th and 16th, multiple regime combatants defected to Fano forces following a public call for clemency.
 - According to reports, the personnel which accepted the clemency appeal integrated into various units under the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps (operating under the AFNM-SPC). On February 15th, a ganta commander from the 104th ENDF Airborne Division’s 4th Battalion defected to the Menilik Division, bringing firearms and military documents. On February 16th, a militia member defected to the 7-70 Division.
- On the morning of February 17th, defections from regime defense forces to Fano forces were reported in the Shewa Subregion.
 - According to reports, several ENDF members responded to the AFNM’s recent call for amnesty. Among those reportedly defecting were two team leaders from the 5th Battalion of the 15th (Gasha) Division. The individuals are said to have departed from Gundomeskel town (Dera Woreda) before joining units under the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFNM-SPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps).
 - Sources presented the development as part of a broader trend of defections attributed to low morale within regime ranks and the impact of the movement’s amnesty outreach.
- On February 20th, Fano forces announced a public discussion with local residents.
 - The discussion was held in Getem-Gojo-Wuha Kebele and was attended by representatives from the Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division (operating under the AFNM-AC Atse Zera-Yacob Corps). The meeting aimed to engage the community, clarify organizational objectives, and address local concerns.

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- During the discussion, several key issues were presented and deliberated:
 - * Community members were provided with a detailed explanation of the history and evolution of AFNM since its establishment, including the current stage of its organizational development.
 - * Leaders emphasized the importance of avoiding confusion regarding individuals who deviate from or betray the organization's principles.
 - * The organization stated that it would take necessary military and diplomatic measures to consolidate operational lines and strengthen its position.
 - * Explanations were given regarding the collection and allocation of resources, including how contributions would be utilized. Challenges encountered in the process were also assessed, and proposed solutions were discussed.
 - * AFNM representatives assured participants that Fano forces would provide protection and support to enable farmers to cultivate lands that had previously remained uncultivated due to ethnic conflict, without fear of insecurity.

 - Community members who took part in the discussion reportedly expressed that a lack of unity had been their primary concern. They welcomed recent efforts aimed at strengthening cohesion and called for sustained unity within the movement. Participants also expressed a desire for the organization to establish clearer justice mechanisms and administrative guidelines to better manage the area.

North Shewa Zone

Kewet Woreda

- On February 17th, regime forces conducted a drone strike in Ayaber Kebele. The strike reportedly targeted the Ayaber Health Center, a public health facility serving the local community. According to reports, the attack left three civilians killed, and five others with serious injuries. Those affected are said to include women and children. The health facility also suffered damages, impacting access to essential services in the area.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On February 14th, regime forces conducted a drone strike in Washa-Niget Kebele. The strike reportedly targeted Washa-Niget Primary School. The attack struck the school compound, destroying a hall used by students, teachers and kebele residences for meetings and school-related activities. No confirmed civilian casualties were reported.

Mida-Woremo Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces carried out coordinated attacks against regime security forces in Mida-Woremo Woreda.
 - According to reports, the operation was conducted by units under the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFNM-SPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps). The attack reportedly targeted regime forces that were moving from Rema town toward Mejit Kebele at approximately 6 am. The confrontation took place in the China Camp area. Reports indicate that regime forces sustained casualties during the fighting however the exact casualty numbers were not specified.

Efratana-Gidim Woreda

- Since February 19th, regime aligned Oromo militants carried out violent attacks against civilians in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
 - According to reports, the attacks were carried out by ethnic Oromo militants from the Oromo Special Zone (Amhara Region) were equipped with military-grade weapons, including heavy arms, obtained from regime forces. Sources indicate that while these militants were being armed and mobilized, state security forces were simultaneously disarming ethnic Amhara residents in the woreda under the pretext of anti-Fano operations. Residents report that individuals which previously possessed legally registered firearms for self-defense were forcibly disarmed. In some instances, community members were reportedly prohibited from carrying even basic traditional implements for personal protection while moving within their localities, including to markets and public spaces.

- Between February 19th and 20th, a series of attacks took place between in Arso-Amba and Zenbo Kebeles.
 - According to accounts, the militants launched coordinated assaults beginning in the afternoon of February 19th and continuing into February 20th. Sources claim that the militants entered the affected areas after regime security forces withdrew. Sources allege that the attackers operated with mission directives and operational cover.
 - Preliminary reports indicate that numerous civilians were killed or injured during the attack. Some sources claim that at least four civilian farmers were confirmed dead. In addition, residential homes and stored agricultural produce were reportedly set on fire, resulting in significant property destruction.

Survivors are said to be fleeing toward Shewa-Robit City and surrounding areas in search of safety.

- Following the assault, sources reported the presence of organized groups accompanying the militants on foot, looting grain, livestock, and other household properties. These items were reportedly loaded onto vehicles and transported toward Kemise (Oromo Special Zone, Amhara Region). Residents further allege that army elements facilitated the operation by providing food supplies, modern weapons, and cover support to the invading militants.
- This incident follows a pattern of previous violence in the area.
- Since February 3rd, network and electricity services in the region were shutdown for several consecutive days. During that period, large numbers of commando forces, along with combat helicopters and drones, were reportedly deployed. Armed militants from the same special zone were mobilized to support operations in the woreda.
- On February 6th, over 14 farmers were killed after attempting to defend themselves against attacks by militants in Zenbo. The victims were then buried at a local church.
- Over the past seven years, residents claim that repeated military operations in Ataye and other parts of Efratana-Gidim Woreda have resulted in civilian casualties, property destruction, and displacement. Community representatives assert that recurring violence, destruction of livelihoods, and insecurity have significantly contributed to increased irregular migration of youth from the area, particularly toward the middle east.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On February 20th, regime forces carried out execution of civilians in Minjar-Shenkora Woreda.
 - According to reports, regime forces entered Debre-Tsehai Kebele and forcibly removed seven farmers from their homes. Reports indicated that victims were civilians with no involvement in armed activities. Witnesses reported that during the operation, the farmers expressed their refusal to leave their homes, telling the soldiers that they would not abandon their property. Shortly thereafter, the seven individuals were reportedly executed. The incident has heightened fear among residents of the area, with concerns that civilians are being targeted amid ongoing security operations.⁴

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Subregion)

- On February 21st, Fano forces announced completion of a new batch of special commando units. The announcement was made by the 44th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 105th Corps).⁵
- As of February 21st, telecommunications service blackouts persisted in several woredas within the Gojjam Subregion. Among others, Enarj-Enawga, Enbise-Sar-Midir, and Jawi Woredas were experiencing complete communication blackout. Many other kebeles and woredas reportedly experienced occasional restrictions, with rapid fluctuations in quality of service.

⁴See February 21, 2026 [report](#) from Roha TV.

⁵See February 21, 2026 [update](#) from Ashara Media.

East Gojjam Zone

Debre-Markos City

- On February 15th, Fano forces conducted a surprise attack inside Debre-Markos City. This operation was reportedly carried out by units under the 206th Corps (operating under the AFNM-TC). The Fano employed an explosive detonation targeting a regime security patrol vehicle. The incident took place in the Beg-Tera area of Kebele 01, in Abima Subcity. The attack targeted a patrol vehicle carrying ten riot dispersal force members, all of whom are reported to have been killed.

Hulet-Eju-Enese Woreda

- On February 17th, fighting was reported in the neighborhood of Motta town.
 - At dawn the regime army, equipped with mechanized units, departed from Motta and moved toward the Agam-Wiha area. In response, units under the 54th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 201st Corps) carried out an ambush in Agam-Wiha targeting regime convoys carrying soldiers and heavy weaponry. This ambush led to an open confrontation involving heavy artillery shelling and close-quarters firefights.
 - As a result of this engagement, the regime forces suffered substantial fatalities and injuries. During and after the operation, regime troops persistently employed heavy artillery shelling towards surrounding hillsides while they retrieved the bodies of their fallen. This shelling resulted in destruction of property belonging to farmers.
- On February 18th, numerous regime soldiers defected to Fano forces in Hulet-Eju-Enese Woreda.
 - The defectors were identified as members of the 25th ENDF Division

including operations leader, Habtamu Addis, along with Amare Shita and Mamaru Mellesse of the riot dispersal police and militia Gebre Bele, which left their posts at Motta and Mertolemariam towns. The defecting soldiers reportedly joined units under the 54th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC) with their full armaments.

Gozamin Woreda

- Between February 15th and 16th, regime forces withdrew from Chertekel Kebele.
 - Between February 9th to 10th, the regime army moved toward Chertekel and after a six-day deployment, the regime army withdrew and returned to Debre-Markos City. During this period, regime troops targeted civilian residences with heavy weaponry, resulting in injuries to several civilians, including children. The regime troops also engaged in extensive destruction of essential community infrastructure. Regime forces reportedly broke into the Amarit village Primary School bookstore to destroy educational materials, medical equipment and supplies at veterinary clinics in both the Chertekel and Amarit localities.
 - The regime troops engaged in the destruction of private livelihoods and local traditions, as troops participated in significant looting and property damage. This included the total destruction of sugarcane crops and the ruining of food and beverage supplies that local families had prepared for upcoming wedding ceremonies.

Aneded Woreda

- On February 21st, a firefight was reportedly conducted in Jama town. The firefight was initiated by units under the 34th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC)

206th Corps) targeting regime troops stationed in the area. The offensive led to a confrontation with regime joint troops deployed to the area. After a brief firefight, the regime forces completely withdrew from Jama and retreated toward Amber town. Sources confirmed at least one militia member confirmed killed.

Awabel Woreda

- On February 21st, fighting took place in the vicinity of Lumame town. The fighting was initiated by the regime army, which deployed forces toward neighboring rural kebeles. In response units under the 34th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 206th Corps) conducted strikes starting from the exit of Lumame. The Fano confronted the advancing regime troops. Sources reported hearing the sound of gunfire in the town.

West Gojjam Zone

Quarit Woreda

- On February 14th, regime forces conducted a raid on Weybeyign Kebele.
 - The regime forces mobilized from the directions of Bir-Adama and Dega-Damot Woreda to raid Weybeyign. In response, units under the 33rd Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 102nd Corps) confronted regime forces however the troops managed to enter the area. While deployed in Weybeyign, the regime soldiers reportedly executed two civilians in the area. The deceased victims were identified as Ato Habesha Semegn and Ato Belay Zeleke. After remaining deployed for a period, the regime forces withdrew and returned toward their point of departure.

Wemberima Woreda

- On February 15th, regime forces killed a civilian (a minor) in the Koki area.
 - Regime forces departed from Shindi town and moved toward Koki to conduct a military operation. The regime forces reportedly entered Koki during the afternoon without facing resistance. During the movement regime soldiers shot and killed a nine-year-old girl identified as Weyhager Werku Andualem, who was reportedly killed while guarding cattle.

- On February 22nd, fighting took place in Shindi town and neighboring rural kebeles.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces that departed from Shindi town and advanced through Burafer and Dend Kebeles toward Heret Kebele. The regime forces mobilized ground and mechanized units. In response, units under the 88th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) conducted a preemptive strike on the moving regime troops. The Fano inflicted casualties among the regime soldiers during this preemptive strike. Despite the Fano attack on their route, regime troops managed to pass and subsequently entered Heret Kebele. The Fano forces then regrouped and reportedly conducted further attacks within Heret. Reports indicated that the Fano confronted the regime forces in close-quarters combat that lasted for hours. During this confrontation, Fano forces claimed they inflicted numerous casualties among the regime soldiers, though specific figures remain unreported. During their deployment in Heret, regime troops reportedly destroyed local civilian infrastructure. Among others, regime troops targeted and completely burned the administrative office and the community clinic, resulting in the total loss of all medical supplies and equipment.
 - Another Fano unit launched an attack on regime positions within Shindi town. According to sources, these units were deployed into the center of town to

conduct targeted operations. During this encounter, a key militia commander, identified as Endalkachew Mekonnen, was killed alongside several others, and Fano forces reportedly captured three Kalashnikov rifles during the operation.

Dega-Damot Woreda

- On February 16th, fighting took place in the Arefa-Debtera locality.
 - The fighting was initiated by the regime army, which mobilized from nearby bases as part of an offensive operation. Sources reported that units under the 99th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps), confronted the regime army as it advanced. Reports indicate an intense confrontation in the area, though the specific outcome and resulting casualties were unreported.
- On February 18th, fighting took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Feres-Bet town.
 - The fighting was initiated by units under the 99th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps). Fano forces reportedly conducted this offensive against the regime forces' main presence in the town. The operation appeared to be a response to the regime forces' extensive movement toward rural neighborhoods across Dega-Damot Woreda. The Fano offensive led to an intense confrontation involving HMG shelling and close-quarters firefights. The regime's indiscriminate shelling reportedly resulted in civilian casualties and damage to properties belonging to local residents. The firefight lasted for nearly five hours, starting at 11:30 am and continuing until 4:30 pm. Sources reported that this engagement resulted in casualties on both combating sides, with considerable human and material losses particularly on the regime side.
- Between February 19th and 20th, regime army were deployed in rural neighborhoods within Dega-Damot Woreda.

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- The regime army deployed heavy ground mechanized forces for consecutive days in the Dama-Markos, Arefa-Debtera, and Chat-Warka areas. According to sources, regime forces could not locate the Fano fighters however units under the 99th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) later confronted regime troops in Dama-Markos, where sources reported casualties from both sides. During this fight, at least two Fano fighters were killed and a few more were injured during this confrontation, while casualties on the regime side were described as numerous. Brief confrontations were also reported in other localities where regime forces entered, though specific outcomes and resulting casualties remain unreported.
 - In a related development, regime forces committed civilian abuses and engaged in property looting in rural localities they entered. The regime troops targeted civilian residential areas with HMGs and looted and destroyed properties used for livelihoods, as well as legal firearms belonging to local farmers. Ultimately, reports indicated that the regime troops withdrew from rural localities and reentered Feres-Bet town on February 20th.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On February 16th, fighting took place in multiple locations within Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
 - On the night of February 15th (extending into the early morning hours of February 16th), the regime army reportedly departed from the towns of Jiga and Genet-Abo and mobilized toward Maksegnit town. In response, units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps), fiercely confronted the advancing forces from three directions in the Maksegnit neighborhood. During this confrontation, at least seven regime soldiers were

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- killed and more than ten were wounded. Eventually the regime army managed to enter Maksegnit despite facing heavy resistance from Fano forces.
- On the morning of February 16th, Fano forces regrouped and relaunched an attack on regime forces that had entered Maksegnit. This confrontation reportedly lasted for hours, with reports of casualties from both sides. Sources also reported that regime soldiers killed at least one civilian.
 - In the late afternoon, at approximately 5 pm, Fano forces conducted an operation in the suburbs of Finote-Selam City. The operation targeted joint regime forces including militias, police, and riot dispersal units. The sudden operation led to an open confrontation which lasted for nearly an hour. Fano forces reported further casualties during the engagement. Sources also reported two civilians were found killed in the aftermath of the confrontation.
- On February 18th, fighting took place in the Maksegnit neighborhood.
 - The firefight was launched by Fano fighters following the regime army's previous deployment in Maksegnit Kebele. Units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) reportedly conducted an attack on regime forces moving toward the Maksegnit area. This attack took place in the afternoon and led to an open confrontation that lasted for a brief period.
 - During this confrontation, sources reported that Fano forces inflicted a few casualties among the regime soldiers, with no known casualties reported among the Fano fighters.
 - As of February 19th, fighting continued in and around Maksegnit town.
 - According to reports, regime forces began a withdrawal from Maksegnit after being deployed there for the past few days. During this movement, units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) launched

gunfire targeting the departing troops. This gunfire led to an open and intense confrontation, which lasted over two hours. Reports indicate that the Fano forces, who had previously established tactical positions for an ambush, initially managed to hinder the movement of regime troops. During this confrontation, between 10 - 20 regime soldiers were killed, with an undisclosed number wounded. The regime forces were eventually able to leave the area after mobilizing reinforcements from neighboring bases.

- On the evening of February 18th, Fano forces conducted an operation in Finote-Selam City. This operation was conducted by units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) at approximately 8:30 pm. The Fano infiltrated the city that evening, where they apprehended two militia personnel. Although the militia members opened fire in an attempt to evade capture, the Fano managed to capture them along with their firearms and took them out of the city. The detainees were identified as Fetene Alemu and Yalew Yeshaneh, who were allegedly involved in the recruitment of youth for regime military training and the seizure of over 80,000 ETB from local residents.

Bure-Zuriya Woreda

- On February 19th, a firefight took place in the vicinity of Bure town.
 - According to reports, the firefight occurred in the Nigusta area of Wundigi Kebele. The fighting was initiated by units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) after regime militias and administrative units moved to this locality with the intent of seizing and dividing agricultural land among militias and regime cadres for private use. In response, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation, leading to an open engagement with the

regime militias. As a result of the operation the regime forces suffered casualties while regime troops were forced to retreat to Bure.

- On February 21st, fighting took place in Quchi-Aksiwon Kebele.
 - The firefight was initiated by the regime army, which advanced from neighboring bases in three directions, including Sontom, Quchi, and Bir-Sheleko. In response, units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) engaged the advancing regime force leading to an intense confrontation, beginning at dawn and continuing until midday. During the heavy fighting, the regime troops were forced back to their points of departure.
 - According to reports, regime forces sustained 15 fatalities and numerous injuries. Following the engagement, the retreating forces burned down a private residence of a family, under accusation of familial ties with Fano, before withdrawing from the area.

North Gojjam Zone

North Mecha Woreda

- On February 15th, regime soldiers reportedly killed civilians in Merawi town.
 - According to reports, the regime soldiers encountered civilians while patrolling the Kidanemihret-Mewcha area of Kebele 02. The regime forces, specifically riot dispersal and militia units, reportedly carried out the extrajudicial killing of two civilians. The victims were brothers identified as day laborers. The regime soldiers stopped these individuals at approximately 5:30 pm, claiming they had refused to be taken to an unknown location. Following the killing, regime forces prevented the families from retrieving the

bodies from where they fell until nightfall. It was not until the following day (February 16th), that families were permitted to collect the bodies.

Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda

- Between February 14th and 15th, regime forces were deployed in the Wojir-Wolamenta area (Loma Kebele).
 - These forces mobilized to this locality overnight indicating that regime forces were unable to locate Fano forces, and in response, they conducted an extrajudicial killing and disarmament campaign targeting civilian farmers. According to reports, the soldiers entered residential homes under the pretext of searching for firearms and reportedly executed two civilians during these operations. The deceased victims were identified as Ato Gebeyaw Tena and Ato Bihonegn Ademe. It is reported that the regime soldiers engaged in property looting and seized firearms from several local farmers.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Subregion)

- As of February 18th, there is a large military contingent in Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone and Telemt Woreda counted around 50,000 soldiers.
 - According to reports, war is inevitable between Ethiopia, Eritrea and TPLF forces. More than 200 tanks have been deployed from the TPLF side through the Eritrean border and have been deployed to Endabaguna, Tselimoy and Shire and Shiraro fronts. It seems that soldiers from all directions are waiting for initiation of gunfire.

South Gonder Zone

- On February 21st, regime joint forces comprising mechanized units, infantry, regular police, and militia launched a large-scale, coordinated offensive against Fano positions in Farta, Guna-Begemidir, and Lay-Gayint Woredas.
 - The primary strategic objective of the regime forces, operating out of Debre-Tabor City and Nefas-Mewcha town, was to break the Fano blockade and regain control of the vital highway connecting Debre-Tabor to North Wollo Zone. Reports indicate that Fano units repelled these advances across multiple fronts, leading to intense urban and rural combat.
 - The most significant initial engagement occurred in Zebera Kebele, located near Gasay town in Farta Woreda. Units under the Teraraw Ras Guna Division (operating under the AFNM-GPC) confronted a regime column consisting of mechanized and infantry units. Over 30 regime soldiers were confirmed killed, with a high number wounded. The majority of the injured were reportedly evacuated to Debre-Tabor Hospital. During this fighting the Fano destroyed a regime ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun, and captured four heavy weapons, 27 Kalashnikov rifles and one M14 rifle. Despite the initial setback, the regime reportedly deployed additional reinforcements from Debre-Tabor toward Zebera in the afternoon to stabilize the front.
 - A second major axis of fighting developed around Gobgob town and its surrounding kebeles as regime forces attempted to link up their units. Forces based in Nefas-Mewcha were deployed into Guna-Begemidir Woreda with the intent of meeting a separate regime column moving from Debre-Tabor toward Kimir-Dingay town. This maneuver was intercepted by the Anbesaw-Gayint Division (operating under the AFNM-GPC) with combat reported in Tariya-Giyorgis, Mekuabiya, Madeya, and Urael Kebeles. Simultaneously, the

Gebriye Division (operating under the AFNM-GPC) engaged regime forces in Krecher and Yedero villages, located on the outskirts of Nefas-Mewcha. Reports indicate more than 35 regime personnel killed and 55 wounded (ranging from minor to critical in severity). During this operation the Fano captured ten regular police and militia personnel. In addition, they captured over 20 Kalashnikov rifles and a significant cache of ammunition.

- A third fierce engagement took place in Amba-Maryam Kebele (in Lay-Gayint Woreda), situated near Checheho-Medhanialem. This front saw a concentrated effort by units under the Yedegaw-Mebreq Corps (operating under the AFNM-MC) launching a counter-offensive operation. The regime joint forces reportedly sustained heavy casualties.

Simada Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces released POWs previously captured in Simada Woreda.
 - The action was undertaken by the General Haile Melesa Zewubante Division (operating under the AFNM) involving individuals captured during recent engagements. The Fano forces announced that a significant number of captured riot dispersal, militia, and regular police were released. Their release was reportedly secured through a reconciliation process involving community leaders. A total of more than 49 POWs were released after pledging that they would not engage in any future hostilities against Fano forces. These individuals had previously been captured in the Sheref-Gode Mountain area. Prior to their release, they underwent a week-long education period and were required to complete an amnesty form, wherein they formally promised to refrain from fighting against Fano forces. Additionally, some which expressed willingness to join the Fano movement were formally admitted. They have

been ordered to receive comprehensive military training and political indoctrination as new members. The announcement specified that political cadres which served the regime would not be released under the current amnesty.

Central Gonder Zone

Tegede Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces conducted a surprise offensive against regime military units in Shenbeqo Kebele. The ambush involved units under the Arbegnoch Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) targeting a convoy of regime forces that was reportedly in transit from Gonder City towards Dansha. As a result of this operation regime forces sustained heavy casualties.

Central Armachiho Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces conducted a surprise offensive against regime forces in Ashere Kebele. The engagement involved units under the Wawa Gobbe Melke Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) targeting a military convoy that was in transit toward Dansha. During the ambush, a regime heavy military truck capsized, resulting in the deaths of all soldiers on board. Reports indicate that those killed in the operation included top military commanders.

Alefa Woreda

- On the afternoon of February 22nd, a fierce engagement erupted in Shawra town.
 - Units under the Adwa, Karamara, Qwara-Omedla, and Fitawrari Gebeyew Divisions (operating under the AFNM-BC) launched an offensive against regime joint forces entrenched within Shawra, administrative center of Alefa

Woreda. The operation commenced at approximately 7 pm local time and continued for five hours with unrelenting intensity. The coordinated assault successfully overwhelmed the regime's defenses. Fano forces were able to breach and neutralize at least seven heavily fortified military entrenchments within the town. Reports indicate that regime joint forces present in Shawra were largely killed or compelled to abandon their positions. The remaining regime personnel reportedly withdrew from Shawra, leaving the town under Fano control. Following the capture of Shawra, individuals previously detained by illegal means were reportedly released. In response, the regime imposed a complete blackout on all telecommunication services within Alefa Woreda, effective February 23rd.

- According to reports, there were a high number of casualties on both sides however the exact number of killed and injured regime soldiers was reportedly impossible to ascertain due to the sheer scale of the losses, with reports describing the area as strewn with dead combatants. In relation to this operation, a substantial quantity of weapons and ammunition was seized including two DShK HMGs, three Bren LMGs, one sniper rifle, and over 315 Kalashnikov rifles, along with a large volume of ammunition for various weapon systems.
- By the evening, regime aerial forces conducted drone strikes in response to the heavy ground combat and shift in control of town. Reports confirmed at least two distinct drone strikes targeting specific residential quarters within Shawra, Gonder-Ber and Takusa-Ber. The strikes occurred in the aftermath of military engagements and preliminary reports indicate two confirmed civilian fatalities.

West Gonder Zone

West Armachiho Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces launched a surprise offensive against regime military units in Shimelegara Kebele.
 - The engagement began when Fano forces ambushed regime troops while they were in transit through the area. The offensive involved units under the Karamara Division (operating under the AFNM-BC). The initial ambush transitioned into a fierce and sustained battle that lasted for five consecutive hours. In an effort to repel the Fano offensive, regime forces utilized heavy weaponry, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and mortars. Beyond the immediate site of the ambush, the regime conducted continuous heavy artillery shelling that impacted multiple locations, specifically Addisalem, Qutir 1 located in Metemma Woreda and Shimelegara Kebeles.

Metemma Woreda

- On February 19th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime forces in Qutir 1 Kebele (Delelo). A column of regime forces were reportedly en route from Metemma to Humera when they were attacked. The operation was conducted by units under the Karamara Division (operating under the AFNM-BC). Reports indicate that the attack resulted in heavy casualties for the regime forces. In response, regime forces reportedly shelled the area extensively using ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns.

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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