

## Six poachers, 15 elephants killed in northeastern Kenya

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—Poachers in northeastern Kenya have killed at least 15 elephants since September, and police and rangers have killed at least six of the gunmen, the Kenya Wildlife Service said yesterday.

In a statement, KWS said anti-poaching forces have arrested 10 poachers suspected of killing elephants for their ivory and have seized eight firearms in the last two weeks.

"Despite the intensification of anti-poaching activities, which include surveillance, the poachers have continued to search for ivory," the statement said.

Three tusks were also seized in the town of Garissa, and two ivory dealers arrested in a separate incident in the last two weeks, the agency said.

KWS blamed the increased poaching on the relaxation of a 10-year-old international ban on all trade in ivory and other elephant products.

Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia have been permitted one-time limited sales of the products.

The statement said Kenya's elephant herds have not fully recovered from the horrors of massacres in the 1980s, and many small populations could be wiped out completely if this pressure returns.

Kenya and other seven African countries maintain that the reopening of ivory trade was premature because conditions to protect elephants have not been met.

Kenya has already submitted a proposal to return the elephant to the most protected status at an April 16-20 conference in Nairobi of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Britain's Environmental Investigation said Jan. 16 that between April and December, 1999, their information showed customs officers seized at least seven illegal shipments of ivory including 1.8 tons of African ivory at Dubai airport, 221 pairs of elephant tusks shipped to southern China and about a half ton of ivory seized from a North Korean diplomat at Nairobi's international airport.

**"Despite the intensification of anti-poaching activities, the poachers have continued to search for ivory."**

—Kenya Wildlife Service

## Rightist rampage follows rebel attacks

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Suspected rightist militias dragged seven unarmed villagers from their homes and executed them in the town plaza Tuesday, police said, as political violence surged in Colombia.

The rampage followed bombings of electrical towers and bloody weekend clashes between guerrillas and government troops. The fresh fighting had been expected following the expiration last week of a temporary, year-end truce.

In another attack Tuesday, two hand grenades thrown at a small police post in the capital, Bogota, killed a girl and wounded five people at an adjacent school, authorities said.

In yet another episode, about 100 armed men wearing the armbands of Colombia's national paramilitary organization burst into three adjoining villages in Antioquia State and began shooting people, witnesses said. Soldiers and police were headed to the villages late Tuesday to try to confirm the reports.

In a village near the town of Beceril

in Cesar state, about 350 miles north of Bogota, gunmen lined the seven men up and shot them to death, state police said. The gunmen arrived with a list of names—a trademark of rightist paramilitary groups, who have killed thousands of people they accuse of collaborating with leftist guerrillas.

The violence coincided with a visit to a rebel stronghold Tuesday by a U.N. envoy, who nonetheless expressed optimism in the country's fledging peace process.

On Monday, bombs planted by suspected rebels damaged or toppled 22 electrical towers, mostly in Antioquia state, cutting off power and forcing many schools to close.

The state capital, Medellin, was under severe electricity rationing Tuesday, and more than 650,000 students were unable to go to school, officials said. In neighboring Choco State, 14 towns were without any power.

Officials suspect the bombings were carried out by the Leftist National

Liberation Army, or ELN, which routinely sabotages oil pipelines and electrical towers.

Both the ELN and the paramilitary groups have complained about being excluded from peace negotiations begun a year ago between President Andres Pastrana and Colombia's largest rebel band, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

Those talks are moving slowly amid ongoing fighting.

FARC attacks over the weekend killed 75 rebels, twelve soldiers and police and eight civilians, the army reported. They were the bloodiest clashes since a 20-day truce expired on Jan. 10.

Despite the latest violence, U.N. envoy Jan Egeland of Norway said Tuesday he sees ample "political will" to make peace in Colombia.

Accompanied by presidential peace commissioner Victor G. Ricardo, Egeland made the statement after meeting with Manuel Marulanda, the founder and legendary chief of the FARC.

## Serbian war criminal Raznatovic gunned down in Belgrade

..also known as Arkan

When Serbian war criminal Arkan, real name Zeljko Raznatovic, was gunned down in Belgrade, Jan. 15, any chance that he could implicate Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and Serb officials in atrocities committed during the bloody breakup of the former Yugoslavia died. All are under indictment by the U.N. war crimes tribunal at The Hague, Netherlands.

Arkan's long criminal record:

- **1970s and '80s:** Wanted for bank and jewelry robberies in Western Europe.
- **1981:** Escapes police custody in Frankfurt; Interpol issues arrest warrant; reportedly recruited by Yugoslavia's secret service as hitman to kill dissidents living in the West.
- **1990:** Reportedly in charge of recruiting soccer fans to cause trouble at stadiums in Croatia, which was seeking independence.
- Reputed to deliver arms to Serbs living in Croatia.
- Arrested in 1990 in Croatia. His mysterious release is rumored to have come from a deal with Yugoslavia's President Slobodan Milosevic.
- **1991:** Enters war in Croatia with his Tigers paramilitary unit, which is soon accused of massive atrocities against civilians.
- **Nov. 20, 1991:** Allegedly participates in massacre of 250 men taken from Vukovar hospital and buried in a mass grave in Ovcara during Croatia's war for independence.
- **Sept. 30, 1997:** Indicted for war crimes in Bosnia and Croatia in 1991, but the indictment is kept under wraps until March 1999.
- **1999:** Suspected of atrocities during the Kosovo conflict; denies any involvement.



Arkan and Tigers, Nov. 1991



Remains of victims are exhumed from a mass grave in Ovcara, near Vukovar, April 28, 1998.



Svetlana Ceca Raznatovic

### PERSONAL LIFE

- Built a fortune as a smuggler and war profiteer.
- Marries popular Serbian folk singer Ceca in 1995 and has two children with her, and seven with two previous wives.
- Owns first-division soccer club, Obilic.



Croat civilian forced from his hiding place in Vukovar by Yugoslav forces, Nov. 18, 1991.

Source: Compiled from AP wire reports

AP/Wm. J. Castello

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