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Convoy Attacked in Congo

By REUTERS

KINSHASA, Congo, Feb. 4 — Armed militiamen opened fire Wednesday on a United Nations boat convoy in northeastern Congo, forcing the peacekeepers to abandon a mission checking reports on the killing of more than 100 people in the area last month.

Five boats escorted by United Nations troops had been dispatched to the area to investigate a suspected massacre in the town of Gobu, about 31 miles northeast of Bunia, headquarters for the United Nations troops in Ituri Province.

A United Nations spokesman, Leocadio Salmeron, said the convoy was attacked and troops fired back in a gun battle that lasted 15 minutes.

"There were no casualties on our side, and as far as I know, none on their side either," he said.