

Rebels in Ivory Coast besiege Abidjan

Rebel forces loyal to Ivory Coast's democratically elected president, Alassane Ouattara, are besieging the main city of Abidjan – after seizing a key seaport and the administrative capital, Yamoussoukro – in a sweeping offensive aimed at ousting entrenched ruler Laurent Gbagbo



◀ **Alassane Ouattara:** Backed by UN and African Union as country's legitimate president, after winning last November's election

Laurent Gbagbo: Refuses to ▶ accept he lost election. Many fear his troops will make final stand in Abidjan, de facto capital where presidential palace is located

