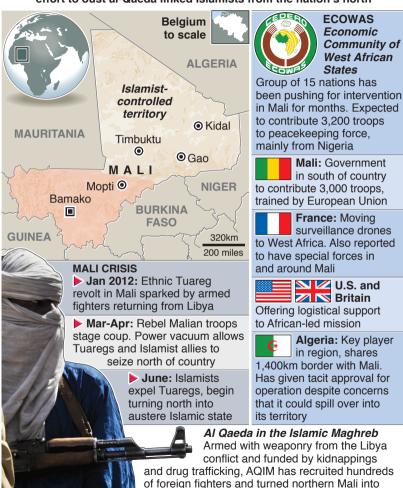
Mali intervention plan gathers pace

The international community is moving forward with plans to deploy a 6,000-strong force of African peacekeeping troops to Mali in an effort to oust al-Qaeda linked Islamists from the nation's north



a militant stronghold

Source: Wire agencies Picture: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS