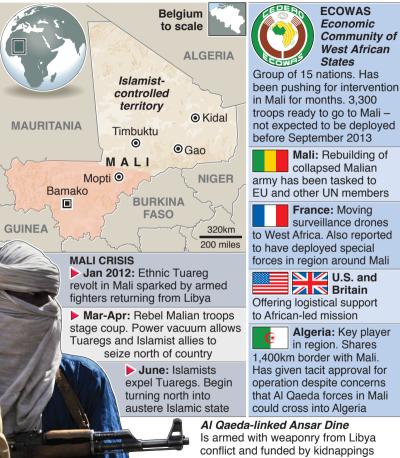
Mali intervention plan gathers pace

The UN Security Council has authorized military action to wrest northern Mali from the control of Al Qaeda-linked extremists - but not before the Malian army is rebuilt and elections are held to reunify the country



and drug trafficking. Has imposed strict Sharia law in northern Mali, including public executions, stonings and amputations of hands

Source: Wire agencies Picture: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS