

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 01/03/96

6 March 1996

Further information on UA 49/96 (AFR 01/02/96, 27 February 1996) - Attempted extrajudicial execution / Fear for safety

RWANDA / KENYA Seth Sendashonga, former Rwandese Interior Minister
Simeon Nsengiyumva, his nephew

Amnesty International has learned that the Administrative Attaché at the Rwandese embassy in Nairobi was arrested by the Kenyan authorities soon after the attack on Mr Sendashonga and his nephew. The Kenyan authorities have said that he was found to have in his possession a 9mm pistol fitted with a silencer, and 13 rounds of ammunition. The Kenyan Attorney General, Mr Amos Wako, has asked the Rwandese authorities to lift the arrested man's diplomatic immunity, to enable the Kenyan authorities to prosecute him. The Rwandese government is not known to have responded to this request. The Kenyan authorities have reportedly stated that they intend to charge the Administrative Attaché with attempted murder, wounding, and unlawful possession of firearms.

The Rwandese government has denied involvement in the attack against Seth Sendashonga, and the Rwandese embassy in Nairobi has protested against the Administrative Attaché's detention.

As reported in UA 49/96, Seth Sendashonga, a former Rwandese Interior Minister, survived an assassination attempt in Nairobi, Kenya, on 26 February 1996. He was shot and wounded by two Rwandese men in a Nairobi suburb, after having been lured there by another Rwandese man known to Sendashonga as a member of the Rwandese Patriotic Army. His nephew, Simeon Nsengiyumva, who was with him at the time, was injured in the attack.

Seth Sendashonga was discharged from hospital on 29 February. His nephew remains in hospital in a critical condition.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters:

Appeals to Kenya (in English or your own language):

- welcoming the fact that the Kenyan authorities have opened an investigation into the assassination attempt on Seth Sendashonga and his nephew Simeon Nsengiyumva, and asking to be kept informed of developments;
- urging the Kenyan authorities to ensure that the case is fully investigated, and that those found responsible are brought to justice;
- urging the Kenyan authorities to ensure the protection of Seth Sendashonga while he is living in Kenya, as well as the protection of other Rwandese who may be at risk of human rights violations.

Appeals to Rwanda (in English, French or your own language):

- appealing to the Rwandese Government to cooperate fully with the Kenyan authorities in establishing responsibility for the attempted assassination, and ensuring that those responsible are brought to justice;
- repeating calls on the government to publicly condemn the attempt on Seth Sendashonga's life, and to make clear to members of the Rwandese Patriotic Army that the Rwandese authorities will not tolerate or condone human rights abuses and that those found responsible will not be allowed to enjoy impunity, regardless of their positions inside or outside the government.

APPEALS TO KENYA:

Mr Amos Wako
Attorney General
PO Box 40112, Nairobi, Kenya
Telegrams: Attorney General Wako, Sheria, Kenya
Faxes: +254 2 211 082
Salutation: Dear Attorney General

President Daniel arap Moi
Office of the President
PO Box 30510, Nairobi, Kenya
Telegrams: President Moi, Nairobi, Kenya
Telexes: 22003 FOREIGN ROB/22796 FOREIGN RB
Faxes: +254 2 337340
Salutation: Your Excellency

Mr Shadrack Kiruki
Commissioner of Police
Kenya Police Headquarters
PO Box 30083, Nairobi, Kenya
Telegrams: Commissioner Kiruki, Police, Kenya
Salutation: Dear Police Commissioner

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of KENYA accredited to your country.

APPEALS TO RWANDA:

Major General Paul Kagame
Vice-Président et Ministre de la Défense
Présidence de la République, BP 15, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: + 250 83980; 84769; 72431
Telexes: 22502
Telegrams: Vice-President Kagame, Kigali, Rwanda
Salutation: Monsieur le Vice-Président / Dear Vice-President

Mme Marthe Mukamurenzi
Ministre de la Justice
Ministère de la Justice, BP 160, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: +250 86509
Telegrams: Ministre de la Justice, Kigali, Rwanda
Salutation: Madame le Ministre / Dear Minister

Anastase Gasana
Ministre des Affaires étrangères
Ministère des Affaires étrangères, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: +250 72934
Telegrams: Ministre des Affaires étrangères, Kigali, Rwanda
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of RWANDA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 April 1996.