

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 16/035/2001

5 July 2001

Further information on 154/01 (AFR 16/034/2001, 20 June 2001) - Ill-treatment / Fear of torture / "Disappearance"

BURUNDI Salvator NDAMUHAWENIMANA, aged 14
Juvénal NDAYISENGA, his brother, reappeared and released

New names: Celestin HATUNGIMANA, aged 20
Olivier NSABUKUNGIZA, aged 25

Salvator Ndamuhawenimana is now reported to be held at the *Brigade spéciale de Recherche* (BSR), a gendarmerie special investigation unit, in the capital, Bujumbura. It is not known when he was taken there from Ruziba military position, Rural Bujumbura where he was previously held.

Two men, Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza, are now known to have been arrested with Salvator Ndamuhawenimana on 15 June 2001. The three lived in the same compound. They are also being held at the BSR.

Torture and ill-treatment is routine at the BSR and Amnesty International remains concerned for the safety of Salvator Ndamuhawenimana, Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza.

All are apparently accused of involvement with an armed opposition group, the *Forces nationales pour la libération* (FNL), National Liberation Forces. In particular, Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza are accused of taking food to the FNL which have bases close to Bujumbura. Salvator Ndamuhawenimana is also reportedly accused of involvement in the murder of a local government official, *chef de quartier*, in the Kamenge district of Bujumbura, attributed by the government to the FNL. Other sources have accused members of the armed forces of being responsible, alleging that he was killed following a dispute over looted property.

Following their arrest, Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza were reportedly held in Muha military camp and the *groupement d'intervention*, a para-military unit in Bujumbura which has no legal power to detain suspects. Both are reported to have been tortured with electric shocks under interrogation. They were transferred to the BSR on 2 July 2001.

Juvénal Ndayisenga, who was arrested on 20 June, when he took food to his brother, was taken to an unknown location following his arrest. He was subsequently found at the *groupement d'intervention* and released after several days. He is reported to have been tortured while he was held there.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in French or in your own language (please check that postal services are operating to Burundi from your country):

- calling for the authorities to guarantee the safety and physical well-being of Salvator Ndamuhawenimana, Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza and for them to be given immediate access to their families, medical care and to humanitarian and human rights organizations;
- reminding the authorities that Salvator Ndamuhawenimana is aged 14, and therefore particularly vulnerable in detention;

- calling on the authorities to clarify the basis for their arrest and for them to be released if they not to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence for which there is substantiating evidence;
- welcoming the release of Juvénal Ndayisenga but expressing concern at his reported torture at the *groupement d'intervention* in Bujumbura, as well as the reported torture of Celestin Hatungimana and Olivier Nsabukungiza, and asking for these reports to be investigated, and if confirmed, for those responsible to be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO (Please note, it can be difficult to get through on the numbers given below, and you may be told by the operator that they are temporarily out of order. Please be patient and keep trying):

Head of State

Son Excellence

Major Pierre BUYOYA

Président de la République

Présidence de la République

BP 1870 Bujumbura, Burundi

Telegrams:President, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes:+ 257 22 74 90

Salutation: Monsieur le Président de la République / Dear President

Minister of National Defence

Colonel Cyrille NDAYIRUKIYE

Ministre de la Défense Nationale

Ministère de la Défense Nationale

BUJUMBURA, Burundi

Telegrams:Ministre Defense, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes: + 257 22 56 86

Salutation:Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

Chief of Defence Staff

Général Major Vincent NIYUNGEKO

Chef de l'Etat-major général des Forces armées

Etat-major général des Forces armées

Ministère de la Défense nationale

BP 1870 Bujumbura, Burundi

Telegram: Chef Etat Major, Forces armées, Bujumbura, Burundi

Saluation: Monsieur le Chef de l'Etat-major/Dear Chief of Defence Staff

Fax: + 257 22 39 59 / 21 75 05

Procureur Général de la République

Monsieur Gérard NGENDABANKA

Procureur Général de la République

Bujumbura

Burundi

Telegrams:Procureur general, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 24 15 03

Salutation:Monsieur le Procureur général de la République / Dear State Public Prosecutor

COPIES TO:

Minister for Human Rights, Institutional Reform and Relations with the National Assembly

Eugène NINDORERA,
Ministre des droits de la Personne humaine, des réformes institutionnelles,
et des relations avec l'Assemblée nationale,
Ministère des droits de la Personne humaine, des réformes institutionnelles,
et des relations avec l'Assemblée nationale,
Bujumbura, Burundi
Fax: + 257 21 38 47

and to diplomatic representatives of Burundi accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 August 2001.