

EXTERNAL

AI Index: AFR 62/11/96

4 September 1996

Further information (1) on EXTRA 117/96 (AFR 62/09/96, 26 July 1996) - Fear of torture/prisoners of conscience

ZAIREDidi Mwati Bulambo

new names:Kyalosho Kalunda, aged 39

Donatien Mazambi, aged 30

Lambert Mbunganyi, aged 30

all workers at the *Collectif d'action pour le developpement des droits de l'homme* (CADDHOM)

Amnesty International has received further information on the arrest of Didi Mwati Bulambo, a prisoner of conscience arrested on 25 July 1996, and is concerned by the related arrests of Kyalosho Kalunda, Donatien Mazambi and Lambert Mbunganyi, who are being held in the prison at Kamituga in Mwenga Zone of Zaire's South Kivu region. Amnesty International has confirmed reports of torture, in particular whippings, being used regularly in the prison.

Didi Mwati Bulambo was transferred from the prison at Kamituga to Bukavu town, the capital of South Kivu region, under military escort on 30 July. The following day, he was released pending trial on a bail of 5 million Nouveau Zaires (about \$US 120) under the orders of the Public Prosecutor (*procureur général*). He is forbidden to leave Bukavu town, and is charged with several offences, including "outrage" for having insulted the Public Prosecutor's office, an offence that carries a maximum sentence of six months in Zaire.

Three other workers at CADDHOM were arrested on 21 August at Kamituga when they published an edition of the organization's newsletter *Mwangaza* after defying a summons forbidding them to publish or distribute copies of the newsletter. They are currently being held in the prison at Kamituga and are reportedly being beaten. The office of CADDHOM has been closed down by members of the armed forces and the motorbike used by CADDHOM's workers has been impounded by the authorities.

Didi Mwati Bulambo has been undergoing hospital treatment for injuries and illnesses sustained as a result of whippings and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment whilst he was detained in the prison at Kamituga.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/express or airmail letters in French/Swahili/English or in your own language:

- expressing concern about the allegations of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment taking place at the prison in Kamituga;
- urging that an immediate inquiry be launched into the allegations and that steps be taken to identify those responsible and bring them to justice;
- calling for all charges against Didi Mwati Bulambo to be dropped;
- calling for the immediate and unconditional release of the three other CADDHOM workers; stating that all three are prisoners of conscience, held solely for having exercised their right to freedom of expression in a non-violent manner.

APPEALS TO:

President

Son Excellence Maréchal MOBUTU Sese Seko
de la République

Président

Présidence de la République
Mont Ngaliema
Kinshasa, ZAIRE
Telegrams: President MOBUTU, Kinshasa, ZAIRE
Telex: 21368
Salutation: Monsieur le Président

South Kivu Governor
Pasteur KYEMBWA Walumona
Gouverneur
Région du Sud-Kivu
Hôtel de ville
Bukavu, République du Zaïre
Telegrams: Gouverneur Kyembwa, Bukavu, Zaire
Salutation: Monsieur le Gouverneur

Minister of Justice
Monsieur Joseph Nsinga Udju
Ministre de la Justice et Garde des sceaux
Ministère de la Justice
BP 3137
Kinshasa-Gombe, ZAIRE
Telegrams: Ministre Nsinga, Kinshasa, Zaire
Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre

COPIES TO:

Prime Minister
Monsieur Léon KENGO Wa Dondo
Premier Ministre
Hôtel du Conseil Exécutif
Avenue des 3Z
Kinshasa - Gombe, ZAIRE
Fax: + 243 88 42062

Armed Forces Chief of Staff
Grand amiral ELUKI Monga
Chef d'Etat-major général des
Forces armées zairoises (FAZ)
Ministère de la Défense nationale
Kinshasa-Ngaliema
République du Zaïre

and to diplomatic representatives of Zaire accredited to your country (or the Zairian Ambassador in Belgium: 30 Rue Marie de Bourgogne, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, **Fax: 32 2 514 0403**).

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