

URGENT ACTION

FOUR SOLDIERS RELEASED

Four soldiers held in Guinea since January 2009, were released on 7 April after 15 months of detention. No charge was ever held against them.

Colonel Soryba Yansané, Lieutenant Colonel David Syllah, Commander Pathio Bangourah and Sergeant Moussa Sylla were released without charge on 7 April 2010 after 15 months of arbitrary detention.

In August 2009, they were transferred to a secret detention centre on the island of Kassa, a few miles off the west coast of Guinea, where they were held for almost 5 months. They were beaten when they were transferred to Kassa and the standards of hygiene and food were very poor in the detention centre. They didn't have access to doctors at any point during the 15 months in detention

After their release, a member of the government apologized for their detention, and granted them two weeks leave before returning to work. They were never charged or tried for any offence.

Eight other soldiers were arrested at the same time as Colonel Soryba Yansané, Lieutenant Colonel David Syllah, Commander Pathio Bangourah and Sergeant Moussa Sylla. All 12 were arrested soon after a group of military officers led by Moussa Dadis Camara seized power in Guinea following the death of Guinean President Lansanna Conté. All of the men have now been released.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the fifth update of UA 204/09 (AFR 29/001/2009). Further information:

www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR29/001/2009/en, www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR29/002/2009/en,
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR29/003/2009/en, www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR29/005/2009/en,
www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR29/005/2010/en.

Further information on UA: 204/09 Index: AFR 29/008/2010 Issue Date: 07 May 2010

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