

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 16/032/2001

2 May 2001

Further information on UA 105/01 (AFR 16/030/2001, 24 April 2001) and follow-up (AFR 16/031/2001, 27 April 2001) - Fear of torture / Incommunicado detention

BURUNDI Lieutenant Pasteur NTAKARUTIMANA

Raphaël MANIRAKIZA, PARENA member

Ildéphonse NDAGIJIMANA, PARENA member, trade union representative at ONATEL

Over 130 members of the armed forces

Released: 28 members of PARENA

Twenty-eight members of the opposition *Parti pour le redressement national* (PARENA), National Recovery Party have been unconditionally released. All others arrested in connection with the coup attempt on 18 April remain in incommunicado detention and continue to be at risk of torture.

The 28 PARENA members were detained on 26 April when they attempted to visit Raphaël Manirakiza and Ildéphonse Ndagijimana, both PARENA members detained at the *Brigade Spéciale de Recherche* (BSR), a gendarmerie special investigation unit in the capital, Bujumbura. After their arrest, the 28 men were transferred to three military camps in Bujumbura. They were released on 30 April. They were not ill-treated during their detention, but were held in harsh conditions.

On 27 April, Amnesty International reported that 52 soldiers of the Gakumbu military camp were detained in Gakumbu camp itself. In fact they are also held incommunicado at the BSR in Bujumbura. The 72 paratroopers from the *Battalion Para* continue to be held at the *Société de Transports du Burundi* (STB), Burundi Transport Company, a depot used as a military training venue. It is still not known where the nine student officers from the *Institut Supérieur des Cadres Militaires* (ISCAM), Higher Institute of Military Officers, are held.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in French or in your own language (please check whether postal services to Burundi are functioning):

- urging the authorities to guarantee the safety and physical well-being of the soldiers and civilians arrested following the apparent attempted coup of 18 April;
- calling on the government to confirm and make public their whereabouts, and to allow them immediate access to their families, lawyers and appropriate medical care, as well as to humanitarian and human rights organizations;
- calling on the Commission of Inquiry to order the immediate release of any detainee against whom there no substantiating evidence or who cannot be promptly charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

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

Minister for Internal Affairs and Public Security
Colonel Ascension TWAGIRAMUNGU
Ministre de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité Publique
Ministère de l'Intérieur
BUJUMBURA, Burundi

Telegrams: Ministre interieur, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 22 19 82

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

State Public Prosecutor
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

President of the Commission of Inquiry
Monsieur Pierre Ndayisenga
Procureur général près la Cour d'Appel
Bujumbura
Burundi

Telegrams: Procureur général cour d'appel, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: c/o Procureur général de la République, + 257 24 15 03

Salutation: Monsieur le Procureur général près la Cour d'Appel / Dear 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 13 June 2001.