

URGENT ACTION

TWELVE DETAINED SOLDIERS THREATENED

Twelve male soldiers have been detained without charge in a military barracks in Conakry, the capital of Guinea, for more than six months. They are at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. On 13 July, one of the 12 was beaten, and the others were threatened with death. Their lives are in danger.

The 12 were arrested by soldiers in January 2009, soon after a group of military officers led by Moussa Dadis Camara seized power in Guinea following the death of Guinean President Lansanna Conté. The 12 are held without charge in the Alpha Yahya military barracks in Conakry. They are allowed some family visits but have not had access to a lawyer.

On 13 July, six soldiers entered the room where one of the 12, Captain Ibrahima Sory Bangourah, is held. They seized his personal belongings, and while two soldiers held him, another soldier hit him in the face with his fists, while a fourth man beat him and kicked him. They insulted him and accused him of passing information about his detention to newspapers in Guinea. Before they left, the six assailants threatened the other detainees, saying, "We will come back to kill you if something happens outside" (nous viendrons vous tuer s'il arrive quelque chose à l'extérieur).

The 12 detainees are **Colonel Fodé Bacar Sylla, Colonel Soryba Yansané, Lieutenant Colonel David Syllah, Commander Issiaka Camara, Commander Pathio Bangourah, Captain Mamadou Bah Syllah, Captain Ibrahima Sory Bangourah, Captain Lansinet Keita, Lieutenant Ibrahima Kadja Barry, Sub-Lieutenant Alpha Oumar Diallo, Sub-Lieutenant Hassiniou Pendessa, and Sergeant Moussa Sylla.** Amnesty International understands that they had worked for Guinea's former President, Lansanna Conté. It is not known why they are being held.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in French or your own language:

- Calling on the Guinean authorities to release the 12 detainees immediately if they are not to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- Calling for guarantees that the detainees are not tortured or otherwise harmed, following the death threat against them on 13 July;
- Calling on the authorities to ensure that while in custody, the 12 have regular access to their families, lawyers, and any medical treatment they may need;
- Urging the authorities to investigate the death threats against the 12 and the attack on Captain Ibrahima Sory Bangourah, and bring those responsible to justice.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 09 SEPTEMBER 2009 TO:

General Mamadouba Toto Camara
Minister of Security and Civilian
Protection
Ministry of Security and Civilian
Protection
Republic of Guinea
**Salutation: Dear Minister/ Monsieur le
Ministre**

General Sekouba Konate
Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
Republic of Guinea
**Salutation: Dear Minister/ Monsieur le
Ministre**

Colonel Siba Lohalamou
Minister of Justice and Keeper of the
Seals
Ministry of Justice
Republic of Guinea
**Salutation: Dear Minister/ Monsieur le
Ministre**

PLEASE SEND COPIES TO THE FOLLOWING NEWSPAPERS IN GUINEA: Le Lynx Email: le-lynx@afribone.net.gn, L'indépendant
Email: Lindépendant2000@yahoo.fr

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

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