

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 138/93 (AFR 62/05/93, 27 April 1993) - "Disappearance"

**ZAIRE:KENGE Mukengeshayi, Editor-in-Chief of Le Phare newspaper
and new names:
KANDOLO Mulumba, journalist working at Le Potentiel newspaper
BABIBANGO, court clerk
MUBOYAYI, Editor of Le Phare newspaper**

Amnesty International has received reports that Mukengeshayi Kenge, previously believed to have "disappeared", is being held at Makala prison in the capital, Kinshasa.

According to new information Mukengeshayi Kenge was arrested at home by agents of the Service national d'intelligence et de protection (SNIP), Zaire's security police, on the night of 23 April 1993. After being held for five days in a secret detention centre at the SNIP headquarters his case was referred to the public prosecutor on 28 April 1993. The grounds for his arrest were apparently *propagation de faux bruits* (spreading of false rumours) but the exact charge is unknown. On 30 April 1993 the court decided he should be released immediately but the Procurator General went against the judgement and signed a warrant for his provisional arrest and is now apparently in detention.

Another journalist, Mulumba Kandolo, from Le Potentiel newspaper, was arrested on 28 April 1993 accused of having stolen a letter from the chambers of the Procurator General of the Republic. He is also detained at Makala prison along with a court clerk, Babibango, from the Kasai region like Kandolo, who is suspected of having handed over the letter to him. Kandolo is known to have been presented before a judge but it is unclear on what grounds he is being held.

Amnesty International is also concerned for the safety of M. Muboyayi, the editor of Le Phare newspaper, who is reportedly being sought by the security forces and is currently in hiding.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/express and airmail letters either in French, English or in your own language. (Please note that communication with Zaire is very difficult and we have had reports of letters being returned. However, please do try to send appeals by any means you can or ask Zairian diplomatic representatives accredited to your country to arrange delivery for you):

- requesting to know why the Procurator General did not abide by the court's decision to release Mukengeshayi Kenge and asking if Mulumba Kandolo and Babigango have been charged formally;
- seeking assurances that they are not being subjected to torture or other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

- explaining that if they are being held solely because of the views they expressed, they are considered to be prisoners of conscience detained for exercising their right to freedom of expression and that they should be released immediately and unconditionally if they are not to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence and promptly brought to a fair trial;
- expressing fears for the safety of M. Muboyayi.

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APPEALS TO:

1) President:

Son Excellence Monsieur Maréchal

MOBUTU Sese Seko

Président de la République

Kinshasa-Ngaliema

République du Zaïre

Telegrams: Président Maréchal Mobutu, Kinshasa, Zaire

Salutation: Monsieur le Président/Dear President

2) Chief of Staff of the Armed forces

Monsieur le Général

ELUKI Monga

Chef d'Etat-Major Général des Forces

armées zaïroises (FAZ)

Ministère de la Défense nationale

Kinshasa-Ngaliema

République du Zaïre

Telegrams: Chef d'Etat-Major Eluki, Kinshasa, Zaire

Salutation: Monsieur le Chef d'Etat-Major/Dear General

3) Head of the national security service

Général LIKULIA Bolongo

Administrateur général du Service

national d'intelligence et de protection

BP 3060

Kinshasa-Gombe

République du Zaïre

Telegrams: General Likulia, Kinshasa, Zaire

Salutation: Monsieur l'Administrateur Général

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Commander of the Presidential Guard

Monsieur le Général de Brigade

NZIMBI Ngbale

Commandant de la Division spéciale

présidentielle (DSP)

Présidence de la République

Kinshasa-Ngaliema

République du Zaïre

Human Rights organization:

Ligue zaïroise des droits de l'homme

20 rue Draily

6000 Charleroi
Belgium

and the following newspapers:

Le Potential
2 Avenue Msi-Manimba
BP 11338
Kinshasa 1
Zaire

Elima
BP 10017
Kinshasa-Limete
Zaire

and to diplomatic representatives of Zaire accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 June 1993.