

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 16/18/00

1 December 2000

Further information on UA 343/00 (AFR 16/17/00, 8 November 2000) - Fear of ill-treatment/prisoners of conscience

BURUNDI Jean NZIGIRABARYA

New name: Cyprien SINDAYIGAYA

Jean Nzigirabarya was released without charge on the morning of 23 November, but was rearrested in the afternoon shortly after the arrest of Cyprien Sindayigaya. Cyprien Sindayigaya was arrested apparently because he was suspected of helping Jean Nzigirabarya pass information on human rights violations perpetrated by the armed forces to the National Assembly, where he works as a security guard.

Both men are detained at the Kanyosha *cachot*, a single-cell detention centre in Bujumbura. Conditions here amount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and there have been regular reports of torture and ill-treatment.

Jean Nzigirabarya, a local government official, was first arrested on or around 30 October after publicly accusing the military of killing a number of people, whose bodies were reportedly found in the Kizingwe *colline* (administrative unit) in Kanyosha district, Bujumbura (formerly Kanyosha commune, Rural Bujumbura province). There has been no investigation into the allegation.

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

- calling for Jean Nzigirabarya and Cyprien Sindayigaya to be released immediately and unconditionally from Kanyosha, and for them to be protected from reprisals or further intimidation from the military or other units of the security forces;
- calling on the authorities to guarantee their safety for as long as they are in custody;
- calling for an investigation into reports that an unknown number of civilians were extrajudicially executed in Kizingwe colline on or around 30 October and, if these reports are substantiated, for those responsible to be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO: (Please note it can be difficult to get faxes through. You may be told by the operator that the line is not working or the number is wrong. Please keep trying.)

Minister of Defence

Colonel Cyrille NDAYIRUKIYE
Ministre de la Défense Nationale
Ministère de la Défense Nationale
BP 1870 Bujumbura
Burundi

Telegram: Ministre Defense, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 22 39 59 / 21 75 05

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre/Dear Minister

Chief of Staff of the Gendarmerie

Colonel Salvator NDAYIYUNVIYE
Chef de l'Etat-major général de la gendarmerie

Etat-major général de la gendarmerie
Ministère de la Défense nationale
BP 1870 Bujumbura
Burundi

Telegram: Chef Etat Major Gendarmerie, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 22 39 59 / 21 75 05

Salutation: Monsieur le Chef de l'Etat-major / Dear Gendarmerie Chief of Staff

Minister for Internal Affairs and Public Security

Col. Ascension TWAGIRAMUNGU

Ministre de l'Intérieur et de la Sécurité Publique

Ministère de l'Intérieur

Bujumbura

Burundi

Telegram: Ministre interieur, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 22 19 82

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

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, Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 21 38 47

State public prosecutor

Monsieur Gérard NGENDABANKA, Procureur Général de la République

Bujumbura, Burundi

Fax: + 257 24 15 03

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 12 January 2001.