

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 16/35/99

2 December 1999

Further information on UA 303/99 (AFR 16/33/99, 23 November 1999) -
"Disappearance"

BURUNDI Tharcisse Havyarimana (note corrected spelling)

Amnesty International is still seriously concerned for the safety of Tharcisse Havyarimana, who "disappeared" from police custody on or around 18 November 1999.

After his arrest on 29 October, Tharcisse Havyarimana was detained at the headquarters of the *Police de sécurité publique* (PSP), Public Security Police, in Kigobe, a district of the capital, Bujumbura. The PSP, which reportedly originally denied he had been held there, despite the fact that investigations by a magistrate into his case had been started, have now confirmed that he was detained at their headquarters but that he has since been transferred. He is reported to have been taken away by soldiers, though there is no record of him being transferred or any information about the unit which took him away.

Amnesty International and other human rights groups are currently investigating scores of recent cases of "disappearance" in Bujumbura.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in French or in your own language (please check whether there is a postal service to Burundi from your country):

- expressing grave concern for the safety of Tharcisse Havyarimana;
- calling for an immediate investigation into the circumstances of his transfer, and for his current whereabouts to be publicly disclosed;
- calling on the authorities to take immediate steps to ensure that he is not ill-treated if he is found;
- calling for those found to have committed or condoned a human rights violation in this case to be brought to justice.

APPEALS TO (please note that fax numbers to Burundi are difficult to obtain):

Minister of Defence

Lieutenant-Col. Alfred NKURUNZIZA
Ministre de la Défense Nationale
Ministère de la Défense Nationale
BP 1870 Bujumbura, Burundi

Telegrams: Ministre Défense, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes: + 257 22 39 59 / 21 75 05

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

Director of the Police de sécurité publique (Kigobe)

Directeur de la PSP (Kigobe)
Police de sécurité publique
Bujumbura, Burundi

Telegrams: Directeur, PSP, Kigobe, Burundi

Faxes: + 257 22 55 53

Salutation: Monsieur le Directeur/Dear Sir

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

Telegrams:Ministre Intérieur, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes:+ 257 22 19 82

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister

State Public Prosecutor

Gerard NGENDABANKA,

Procureur Général de la République

Bujumbura

Burundi

Telegrams:Procureur général, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes: + 257 24 15 03

Salutation:Monsieur le Procureur général de la République / Dear State Public prosecutor

COPIES TO:

Minister for Human Rights

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, Bujumbura, Burundi

Faxes: + 257 21 75 49

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 10 January 2000.