

PUBLIC

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28 June 1999

Further information on UA 22/99 (AFR 47/03/99, 9 February 1999) -
"Disappearance" / Fear for safety / Health concern

RWANDA Ignace Kanyabugoyi, aged 50

Amnesty International is concerned for Ignace Kanyabugoyi whose health is believed to be very poor and who has reportedly been unable to walk.

The organization has received reports that he is currently detained in Mulindi military detention centre in Kigali. Relatives who tried to visit him on 19 June were told by military guards that they could leave food for him but they were not allowed to see him as he was apparently too sick to have visitors.

Ignace Kanyabugoyi "disappeared" in Kigali in August 1998. Armed soldiers searched his home two days later and produced a gun which they claimed belonged to him. His wife was then questioned for some hours about whether her husband was a member of a political party and whether he knew how to use guns.

Attempts by his family to ascertain his whereabouts were unsuccessful until early February when they heard he was being held at the psychiatric centre at Ndera, Rubungo *commune* (district), in Rural Kigali *préfecture* (region). It is not known when he was transferred to Mulindi.

Since 1997 hundreds of people have "disappeared" in Rwanda. Some of these are thought to be in unofficial detention centres or military camps, where ill-treatment is common and where they rarely have access to visits from their families, human rights or humanitarian organizations.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in French or English or in your own language:

- asking the authorities to confirm reports that Ignace Kanyabugoyi is detained at Mulindi detention centre in Kigali;
- expressing concern at reports that he is in poor health;
- asking for a statement on his current state of health and for assurances that he has unrestricted access to medical care;
- appealing for him to be allowed to receive visits from his family and from human rights and humanitarian organizations;
- asking for assurances that he will not be ill-treated and that his safety will be guaranteed;
- asking why he is detained;
- asking that he be released unless he is to be officially charged with a recognizably criminal offence.

APPEALS TO (please note that telephone lines to Rwanda can be erratic. If you do not reach a fax tone the first time please try again later):

President Pasteur Bizimungu
Office of the President
BP 15, Kigali, Rwanda

Telegrams: President, Kigali, Rwanda

Faxes: +250 84390

Salutation: Monsieur le Président / Dear President

Major General Paul Kagame

Vice-President and Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
BP 23, Kigali, Rwanda
Telegrams:Major General Kagame, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes:+ 250 76969 / 72431
Salutation:Monsieur le Vice-Président / Dear Vice-President

Jean-de-Dieu Mucyo
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
BP 160, Kigali, Rwanda
Telegrams:Minister Justice, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes:+ 250 86590 / 87051
Salutation:Dear Minister / Monsieur le Ministre

Ezechias Rwabuhiri
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health
BP 84, Kigali, Rwanda
Telegrams: Minister Health, Kigali, Rwanda
Faxes: +250 76853
Salutation:Dear Minister / Monsieur le Ministre

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Rwanda accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 9 August 1999.