

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 62/002/2001

11 January 2001

Further information on UA 381/00 (AFR 62/31/00, 18 December 2000) and follow-up (AFR 62/01/01, 9 January 2000) - Fear of torture/"disappearance"/execution

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Commander Anselme Masasu Nindaga; Commander Vincent Madjaga; Colonel Madoadoa; Colonel Kasongo; General Sebalende; police officer Bernard Munogolo; police officer Jimmy Katende; police officer Batesema Mastaki; ANR member Guillaume Rugumbira Lwagunja; ANR member Odon Mweze; Ngalamulume Mukwege

Jeanine Mukanirwa, human rights activist
Aimée Ntabarusha Mungu, civil servant, and her baby
At least 100 others from the Kivu region of eastern DRC

Released: Jean-Marie Rusimbuka, UN staff member

Jean-Marie Rusimbuka, a staff member of the United Nations Human Rights Field Office for the Congo (HRFOC), was released without charge on 10 January. It is believed that diplomatic pressure on the DRC government, from the UN and others, helped secure his release.

He had been held since 3 January at a detention centre run by the security service known as *Détection militaire des activités anti-patrie* (DEMIAP), Military Detection of Unpatriotic Activities. He was reportedly questioned about his involvement with the family of Anselme Masasu Nindaga, one of the suspected ringleaders of an alleged coup plot against the government, but he was not ill-treated. He is now required to report to DEMIAP three times a week until further notice, and his passport has been confiscated.

None of the others detained in connection with the alleged coup plot are known to have been released, and Amnesty International is concerned that they remain at risk of torture while they are held incommunicado. Some have reportedly "disappeared".

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

- welcoming the release of Jean-Marie Rusimbuka, but expressing concern that over 100 others are still held without charge, including Jeanine Mukanirwa of PAIF;
- expressing alarm that Aimée Ntabarusha Mungu and her baby have reportedly "disappeared", and urging the authorities to reveal where she and all the other detainees are held;
- expressing concern that the detainees are at risk of torture while held incommunicado, and calling for them to be granted immediate access to their families, lawyers and medical care;
- asking what formal charges, if any, the detainees face, asking that any legal proceedings against them conform to international fair trial standards, including the right to legal representation of choice, adequate time to prepare defence and the right to appeal before a higher court.

APPEALS TO:

President
Président Laurent-Désiré KABILA

Président de la République, Présidence de la République
Kinshasa-Ngaliema, Democratic Republic of Congo

Telegrams: President, Kinshasa, DR Congo

e-mails: UPP@ic.cd

**Fax: + 243 88 02120 (It may be difficult getting through to this number - please
be patient and keep trying)**

Salutation: Monsieur le Président de la République / Dear Président

Minister of the Interior

Monsieur Gaëtan Kakudji

Ministre de l'Intérieur

Ministère de l'Intérieur

Kinshasa-Gombe, Democratic Republic of Congo

Telegrams:Ministre Kakudji, Kinshasa, DR Congo

Salutation:Monsieur le Ministre

Minister of Justice

Monsieur Mwenze KONGOLO

Ministre de la justice

Ministère de la justice

BP 3137 Kinshasa-Gombe, Democratic Republic of Congo

Telegrams:Ministre Justice, Kinshasa, DR Congo

Salutation:Monsieur le Ministre

COPIES TO:

Minister of Human Rights

Professeur Kakez

Ministre des Droits humains

Ministère des Droits humains

Kinshasa-Gombe, Democratic Republic of Congo

e-mails:mininfordc@ic.cd

Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre

and to diplomatic representatives of the Democratic Republic of Congo accredited
to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 22 February 2001.