

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 62/39/99

13 December 1999

Further information on EXTRA 163/99 (AFR 62/33/99, 17 November 1999) - Fear for safety / Possible prisoners of conscience

DRC/UGANDA **Kasereka Kihuvi - businessman and vice-president of Federation of small businesses in Butembo**
Lumbu Lumbu - president of Civil Society groups in Butembo
Kanyonyu - vice president of Justice and Peace Commission

The three men named above were freed from detention on 30 November 1999. All had been severely tortured. On 11 December, Lumbu Lumbu, who had been in a coma since his release and had also lost an eye, died in hospital after a brain haemorrhage.

The men had been arrested in November by the Ugandan-backed faction of the *Rassemblement congolais pour la democratie* (RCD), Congolese Rally for Democracy after they had signed a petition criticizing the RCD for the social and political crisis in North-Kivu province - a region which has experienced heightened ethnic tensions and armed conflict for several years. They had then been detained in a town near to the Ugandan border, indicating that they might be transferred to a detention centre in Uganda.

As a result of international pressure on the Ugandan authorities, those responsible for the torture of the men are now believed to have been arrested.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals on their behalf which helped to save the lives of Kasereka Kihuvi and Kanyonyu.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send E-mails/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:

- expressing horror at the death, after severe torture, of Lumbu Lumbu and asking for a full independent and impartial inquiry to be set up to establish the facts surrounding his detention and torture;
- urging a fair and public trial for those arrested in connection with the torture;
- calling for members of the RCD and the Ugandan Army to be made aware that torture of detainees is a violation of international humanitarian law and will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic and Minister of Defence

Mr Yoweri K MUSEVENI
Office of the President
Parliament Buildings
PO Box 7168
Kampala
Uganda

Faxes: + 256 41 235462 / 257986

E-mails: museveni@starcom.co.ug

Salutation: Dear President

Minister of State for Defence

Mr Stephen KAVUMA
Ministry of Defence, PO Box 7069
Kampala
Uganda

Faxes: + 256 41 245911

Salutation: Dear Minister

President RCD

Professor Wamba dia Wamba

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President RCD

Faxes: + 256 41 22 37 08

E-mails: cmadishi@hotmail.com

Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Uganda Human Rights Commission (government body)
PO Box 4929
Kampala
Uganda

Brigadier James Kazini
Army Chief of Staff
Armed Forces Headquarters
PO Box 3798
Kampala
Uganda

and to diplomatic representatives of Uganda accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 January 2000.