

Rwanda Domestic Media Report (November 16-21, 2010)

By Paula Cook-Dinan, MIGS Monitor for Rwanda

State-Owned Media Sources

*The New Vision website (Ugandan state-owned daily) – 17 November 2010: **Jailed***

Ugandans yet to be released

- The Rwandan government has yet to release two Ugandans arrested in September; the two men were arrested at the Cyanika border post just inside Rwanda.
- “The matter is being handled by the foreign affairs ministries of Uganda and Rwanda”, said Maj-Gen Frank Mugambage, Rwanda high commissioner to Uganda. There is no word on when the two would be produced to face charges in court.

Privately-Owned Media Sources

*RNA (Rwanda News Agency) – 16 November 2010: **Military court summons exiled officers to face charges***

- The Military High Court of Rwanda has called upon various exiled officers to face charges that include forming a terrorist group, ethnic divisionism, threatening national security, undermining state authority, and spreading harmful propaganda.
- Individuals charged include ex-army chief Lt-Gen Faustin Kayumba Nyamwasa, ex-Col Patrick Karegeya, and ex-prosecutor Gen Gerald Gahima.
- The accused allegedly co-authored a document in September condemning Paul Kagame of being authoritarian, corrupt, and driving the country toward conflict. They are required to respond to the summons before December 15th, or be sentenced in absentia, labeled army deserters, and labeled fugitives of the law.

*RNA (Rwanda News Agency) – 17 November 2010: **FDLR rebels kill 23 in DR Congo***

- Rwandan FDLR (Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda) rebels have killed 23 people in an ambush 100km north of the volatile Walikale region of the DR Congo.
- The attack was made on a truckload of passengers, according to Radio Okapi of the UN peacekeeping mission in DR Congo.
- The Walikale region is currently in the spotlight, as it has been the location of the mass rapes reported in recent months.

*The New Times website – 20 November 2010: **Rwandan court alleges US connections shielding Rusesabagina from investigations***

- According to a group of lobbyists in the United States, there is a powerful group in Washington looking to prevent the investigation and prosecution of Rwandan Paul Rusesabagina.

- Rusesabagina is accused of funding a terrorist organization, the FDLR; evidence held by the prosecution includes payment receipts from Western Union on September 4th and 22nd, 2009, which he allegedly sent from San Antonio, Texas.
- According to the New Times website, the majority of Rusesabagina's supporters are connected to the Hotel Rwanda Paul Rusesabagia Foundation, including Sean Tenner, a former member of President Barack Obama's campaign team.
- Rusesabagina has allegedly left the U.S. and is now in hiding in Belgium.