

Uganda domestic radio and newspapers, March 29th, 2010 (covering March 22nd to March 28th 2010)

By Laura Schülke, MIGS reporter for Uganda

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. March 24, 2010, in English

"Campaign on to end wife-beating" by Juliet Kigongo

- A nationwide campaign to end violence against women has been launched. The five-year campaign in Uganda seeks to establish a network with a cross-section of organizations and institutions spearheaded by the "We Can" partners.
- "We Can" refers to a global campaign to end Violence Against Women (VAW) and hopes to engage at least 10,000 men and women as change-makers and reach out to five million Ugandans.
- According to the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (2006), 68 per cent of married women in Uganda have experienced domestic violence. The Uganda Law Reform Commission (2007) also reports that 78 per cent of women are subjected to violence.
- Ms Alyssa Boulares, Oxfam's country director said most of the violence starts from homes and it is often considered as a private matter; a reason why the habit is spreading. Studies show that 70 per cent of violence against women is within their homes, where violent attitudes and behavior are adopted by children.

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. March 26, 2010, in English

"Terrorism suspect needs to be found" [Author unknown]

- Had it not been for the arrest and trial of two Kenyan businessmen in the border town of Busia [western Kenya], Uganda would never have known about the presence of a wanted international terrorist in the region.
- The businessmen were charged with helping terrorist suspect Hashi Hussein Farah escape from Kenyan custody. Farah, an Australian of Somali origin, is believed to have links with hardline Al-Shabab in Somalia. According to Kenya's Anti-Terrorism Police Unit, the suspect is wanted in Australia for planning suicide attacks on a Sydney army base in August last year.
- Farah was arrested as he entered Kenya through the Ugandan border on 13 March but disappeared from custody hours later in what authorities now believe to be collusion with police officers. Officials checking his details had found him to be on an international terrorism watch list.
- Army spokesman Felix Kulayigye blamed Kenya for not informing them that the man, who had lived in Uganda for over a year, was a terrorism suspect. "What happened to our information-sharing agreements?" he wondered. Contrary to media reports, Kulayigye denied that the man is currently in Uganda.
- The incident raises many questions. Why did Kenyan security not alert their Ugandan counterparts about the man's disappearance? How come Uganda does not have access to the international terrorism watch list Kenya has? And how does the army know for a fact that the suspect is not in Uganda? The matter is the more serious since Al-Shabab has recently threatened to attack Kampala.

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. March 27, 2010, in English

"Zuma opens Tambo leadership school" by Anne Mugisa

- South African President Jacob Zuma yesterday officially opened the Oliver Tambo Leadership School at Kaweweta in Nakaseke District. The school, whose construction was funded by both the Ugandan and South African governments, will be a regional leadership and ideological training institute. It has been training UPDF, Police and Prisons officers. Earlier, it had trained different African revolutionary armies, including the ANC's military Umkhotho we Sizwe, (Spear of the Nation) and Uganda's National Resistance Army.
- Zuma thanked Uganda for hosting and training ANC fighters, saying at that time, few countries wanted to be associated with them. He said when Museveni allowed them into Uganda in 1988, the UN had passed a resolution, which ensured they were thrown out of Angola, where they had been training. By 1994, the number of ANC soldiers in Uganda reached 3,000, making it the biggest concentration of “Umkhotho we Sizwe” soldiers in a single camp.
- President Museveni said he and his fellow freedom fighters refuse to see tribes and sub-groups of Africa, but see Africans. He added that the ANC has had a great role in stabilizing the security situation in the Great Lakes Region. He enumerated the initiatives to broker peace in the DR Congo and Burundi by ANC leaders, including Zuma. Museveni added that while Africans fought for freedom from colonialists, the continent's problems are in many cases self-imposed. He said instead of working together to ensure development, wealth creation, transformation and integration, some Africans work for balkanization.
- The president said the Kaweweta School would enhance African capacities to acquire real independence. The school, according to Museveni, is a symbol of African freedom struggle.