

Uganda domestic radio and newspapers, November 1st, 2010 (covering October 25th to October 31st 2010)

By Laura Schülke, MIGS reporter for Uganda

1) State-owned media

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. October 29, 2010, in English

"Col. Besigye rejects campaign plan" by Barbara Among

- Opposition parties FDC [Forum for Democratic Change] and UPC [Uganda People's Congress] yesterday rejected the campaign program released by the Electoral Commission.
- FDC wanted its candidate Col Kizza Besigye to hold rallies throughout Wakiso district on the last day of the campaign. However, Norbert Mao of the DP and independent candidate Samuel Lubega are also expected to hold rallies there on the same day.
- NRM's Yoweri Museveni, Mao and Besigye will hold final rallies in Kampala on 16 February 2011. However, only Museveni will do so in the Central Division.

Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. October 31, 2010, in English

- Uganda Youth Platform for Peace has called on the police to provide security to all candidates in the February 2011 elections.
- The government is planning to close down Bulucheke camp for the internally displaced.
- The police have warned presidential candidates against forming illegal youth groups.

2) Privately owned media

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 25, 2010, in English

"Museveni appoints new NRM electoral commission" by Emmanuel Mulondo

- President Museveni has appointed a new electoral commission for the ruling NRM party. The commission will be headed by Uganda's permanent representative to the United Nations Organization, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda.
- Some 500 petitions were submitted to the electoral body led by Ms Felicitus Magomu that presided over the controversial primaries, challenging the conduct of the elections. Candidates complained of bloated voters' register, outright rigging, intimidation and ballot stuffing.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 25, 2010, in English

"40 bodies of suspected warriors found in bush" by Steven Ariong

- The army yesterday discovered 40 bodies of suspected cattle rustlers in the bushes of Kalosarich near the border between Moroto and Kotido Districts [eastern Uganda].
- The army said the bodies were of some Jie warriors who escaped with bullet wounds after a three-hour battle in Nadunget Trading Centre on October 20th. The suspected warriors had attempted to rustle the animals in the area.
- The discovery of bodies comes barely five months after the Uganda Human Rights Commission said its investigators in Karamoja had found evidence of army culpability

in human rights violations. The UPDF was on the spot at the time for allegedly killing unarmed Karimojong and looting their cattle. However, the army denies any wrongdoing.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 26, 2010, in English

"Eight cleared for 2011 presidential elections" by Sheila Naturinda and Emmanuel Mulondo

- The final day for nomination of presidential candidates saw the Electoral Commission accept another three individuals, bringing the number of contenders in the 18 February 2011 polls to eight.
- The race, which officially kicks off tomorrow, will be between President Museveni, Dr Kizza Besigye, Mr Norbert Mao, Mr Jaberu Bidandi Ssali, Ms Beti Olive Kanya, Dr Abed Bwanika, Mr Olara Otunnu and Mr Samuel Lubega.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 27, 2010, in English

"UBC TV warned over bias" by Ismail Musa Ladu

- MPs have warned the Uganda Broadcasting Corporation to steer clear of biased coverage during this year's election campaign. The legislators noted that as a public broadcaster, UBC is funded by the tax payers' money and is bound by law to be fair in dispensing its duties.
- Yesterday, MPs said the national broadcaster did not only give President Museveni much more time than his opponents, but went ahead to cover his nomination and post-nomination rally live, thereby giving him more mileage than his opponents.
- On the other hand, the MPs praised NTV for its coverage.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 28, 2010, in English

"Army, youth MPs' future uncertain" by Yasiin Mugerwa

- Speaker Edward Ssekandi yesterday said there will be no nomination for the army, the youth, the women and other interest groups represented in parliament until legislators evaluate the relevance of their continued stay in the House. This potentially offers the opposition an opportunity to argue for their long-stated desire to eject the army, presently represented by 10 members, out of parliament. Under the current law, army officers are not supposed to be partisan or take partisan decisions.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. October 29, 2010, in English

"Investigate arbitrary arrests, parliament demands" by Ismail Musa Ladu

- The Parliament has directed Internal Affairs Minister Kirunda Kivejinja to produce a detailed statement explaining the torture and disappearance of several people recently.
- The directive follows a complaint from Mukono North MP Betty Nambooze that two people in her constituency have disappeared after being tortured by security personnel.
- "Ms Pamela Wasagali, a student [...] is being held and tortured on suspicion that she is a terrorist and one Bole Isaac, has also disappeared. Nobody including the police knows where he is," Ms Nambooze said.
- A couple of years ago, Rubaga North MP Beti Kanya submitted a list of 200 people whom she said either disappeared or were being detained in illegally. The front bench has promised to produce a detailed report on the matter next week.