

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 47/13/92

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Further information on UA 443/91 (AFR 47/16/91, 16 December 1991) and follow-ups AFR 47/01/92 of 2 January 1992, AFR 47/03/92 of 10 January 1992 and AFR 47/07/92 of 13 February 1992) - Legal/Ill-treatment concern

RWANDA:

Jean-Pierre Mugabe - Editor-in-Chief of Le Tribun du peuple newspaper

André Kameya - Editor-in-Chief of Rwanda Rushya newspaper

Théoneste Muberantwari - Editor-in-Chief of Nyabarongo newspaper

Adrien Rangira) journalists of Kanguka

Obed Bazimaziki) newspaper

Antoine Mbarushimana, journalist of Le Soleil newspaper

Vincent Shabakaka, director of Kaberinka newspaper

Théotime Kamanayo, journalist of Kaberinka newspaper

Edouard Mutsinzi, journalist of Le messenger (Intumwa) newspaper

Amnesty International has just learned that Jean-Pierre Mugabe, Editor-in-Chief of Le Tribun du peuple newspaper and André Kameya, Editor-in-Chief of Rwanda Rushya newspaper were granted provisional releases on 3 April 1992.

Jean-Pierre Mugabe, first arrested on 31 December 1991 in the capital, Kigali, was released on 1 January 1992 and rearrested the following day. He remains under provisional release pending an appeal against his sentence and conviction. His appeal will be heard by the Kigali Appeal Court (*Cour d'appel*) on 23 May 1992.

After issuing the previous update on this group of journalists, Amnesty International discovered that André Kameya and Théoneste Muberantwari were arrested on 24 and 25 February 1992 respectively. André Kameya was accused of publishing an article which reportedly alleged that the Parti pour la libération du peuple Hutu (PALIPEHUTU), a prohibited political party formed by Burundi exiles, had a training base in Rwanda.

He was charged with endangering the security of the state (*atteinte à la surêté de l'Etat*) and remains under provisional release pending his trial. Théoneste Muberantwari, who had been in hiding for two months, was arrested for publishing cartoons which "insulted" the Head of State and is still being held.

No further appeals are necessary on behalf of the other six journalists named above, thank you to all those who took action on their behalf.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters, in FRENCH if possible:

- welcoming reports that Jean-Pierre Mugabe and André Kameya have been released, calling for the charges against Jean-Pierre Mugabe to be dropped and requesting details of the charges against André Kameya;

- expressing concern that Théoneste Muberantwari is still being held apparently because he exercised his right to freedom of expression in pursuit of his profession as a journalist;

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- urging the authorities to release Théoneste Muberantwari without undue delay or, if he has been charged with a recognizably criminal offence, to ensure that he is promptly given a fair trial.

APPEALS TO:

1) Prime Minister and Minister of Justice:

Monsieur Sylvestre NZANZIMANA
Premier Ministre et Ministre de la
Justice
Ministère de la Justice
BP 160, Kigali, République rwandaise
**Telegrams: Ministre Justice, Kigali,
Rwanda**
Telexes: 22502
Faxes: + 250 74583

**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier
Ministre /
Dear Prime Minister**

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs:
Monsieur le Docteur Casimir BIZIMUNGU
Ministre des Affaires étrangères
et de la coopération
Ministère des Affaires étrangères
BP 179, Kigali, République Rwandaise
Faxes: +250 72902 or +250 72904
and the following newspapers:

Monsieur le Rédacteur-en-Chef
Kinyamateka
BP 761, Kigali
République rwandaise

Monsieur le Rédacteur-en-Chef
La Relève
Office rwandaise d'information
BP 83, Kigali, République rwandaise

2) Minister of Defence and Security:

Le Colonel Augustin NDINDILYIMANA
Ministre à la Présidence pour
la Défense et la Sécurité
BP 15, Kigali, République rwandaise
**Telegrams: Ministre Defense et
Securite, Kigali, Rwanda**
Telexes: 22517
Faxes: + 250 74583

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre /
Dear Minister**

Secretary General of the National
security service:
Monsieur Donat HAKIZIMANA
Secrétaire général
Service central de renseignements (SCR)
BP 125, Kigali, République rwandaise

Monsieur le Rédacteur-en-Chef
Isibo, Bureau central
BP 2258, Kigali
République rwandaise

Monsieur le Rédacteur-en-Chef
Le Tribun du Peuple
BP 2314, Kigali
République rwandaise

and to diplomatic representatives of Rwanda in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 28 May 1992.