

UPDF soldier shoots one dead

Reason. The soldier is said to have killed the suspect in self defence.

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KASESE. One person alleged to be a member of the Kirimiramutima group has been shot dead after he reportedly stabbed a UPDF soldier who had taken cover in a nearby bush at his home.

Kirimiramutima is a militia group loyal to the Rwenzururu Kingdom. Matayo Bwanzire was allegedly shot dead by Pte Wycliffe Amany after he stabbed him in the shoulder several times during

an operation at Kasangali Village, in Bwesumbu Sub-county, Kasese District.

The 2nd Division Army spokesperson, Maj Peter Mugisha, confirmed the incident and described it as "unfortunate".

"It is true Bwanzire was shot dead in the wee hours of Friday by our officer. We had been trailing him and others at large following the attack on Mr Arthur Mbarage a fortnight ago," Mr Mugisha said during a phone interview.

Maj Mugisha said the army began hunting Bwanzire after Mr Mbarage, the Bwesumbu Sub-county councillor, pinned him among the

suspects who allegedly ambushed and stabbed him to near death.

He said Pte Amany was with his colleagues from Kasangali Army Detach during the operation.

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MAJ PETER MUGISHA, SECOND DIVISION ARMY SPOKESPERSON

"Our officers had waylaid the deceased at his home, he jumped through the window with knives before grabbing one of them who

later killed him in self-defence," the army spokesperson said.

About the group

He said Kirimiramutima militia group have been re-grouping and training other people in Bunyangabu District.

"We are aware of their operations and movements. They move at night crossing River Mubuku to Kasangali and then Bunyangabu to terrorise innocent people. Their target is government sympathisers," he added.

Maj Mugisha however, assured residents of security and asked to be vigilant of any wrong elements.



Speaking out. Speaker Rebecca Kadaga (left) addresses stakeholders during the commissioning of classroom blocks in Kamuli District last week. The district inspector of schools, Mr Ibrahim Kanakulya (centre), and Education ministry's Herbert Ahimbilisibwe (right) look on. PHOTO BY SAM CALEB OPIO

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KAMULI. The Speaker of Parliament, Ms Rebecca Kadaga, last Thursday accused officials and bureaucrats of sabotaging government programmes, restraining service delivery and reducing her roles to supervising 'latrine projects'.

Ms Kadaga while commissioning classroom blocks in the five primary schools of Kamuli Boys, Kavule, Bulondo, Mpakitonyi and Kibeto, all constructed under her Emergency School Construction Fund (ESCF), vowed to deal with the officials accused of tamishing and frustrating government projects.

Without mentioning names, Ms Kadaga said some ministry of Education officials allegedly 'swindled' Shs100m of the Shs2b which she sought under ESCF to improve education in Kamuli.

The Speaker said had it not been her swift intervention, there would have been no work done apart from construction of pitlatrines.

"Those ministry bureaucrats are thieves. I sourced money for 32 schools and they 'chopped' Shs100m claiming it was for inspection and

Kadaga accuses Education officials of failing govt projects

KEY ISSUES

Funds. Ms Kadaga said some Ministry of Education officials allegedly 'swindled' Shs100m of the Shs2b which she sought under ESCF to improve education in Kamuli.

Projects. The Speaker said she sourced funds for 32 schools but only 28 were included.

Way forward. Ms Kadaga has vowed to deal with the officials accused of tamishing and frustrating government projects.

wanted me to change from construction of classrooms to pit-latrines," Ms Kadaga said.

This was in response to a Shs35m shortfall which was meant for the construction of 32 schools but Speaker Kadaga said some officials in the Education ministry reduced the schools to 28.

Ms Kadaga's anger was further stretched by the revelation that the technical engineer of the project was a native of the area, who after being summoned, saw his successor use the same funds meant for the pitlatrines to construct classroom blocks.

"There is something wrong with our people. Imagine the person who connived to defraud and deprive Kamuli schools was a Musoga. People doing shoddy work are our very own NRM members. This is impunity," she regretted.

However, she also commended JOFAH Associates, a company in charge of plumbing and other construction activities, for delivering the work in time and ensuring value for money. The Resident District Commissioner, Mr Moses Dumba, however urged Ugandans to emulate the Speaker's efforts towards developing the education sector especially considering the girl-child.

briefly

Man fined over assault

GULU. Gulu Grade One Magistrate's Court has ordered a 62-year-old man to pay his daughter-in-law Shs 100,000 and also serve a 30-day community service at a nearby health facility for assaulting and injuring her. Nelson Ogaba, a resident of Onyona Village in Ongako Sub-county Omoro District last Friday while appearing before Magistrate Julius Mwesigye was charged with causing bodily harm to the victim contrary to section 236 of the Penal Code Act. Prosecution alleges that on April 22 at Onyona village the convict attacked and injured Ms Joska Acayo. [James Owich]

TASO enrolls 400 on ARVs

GULU. At least 412 people have been enrolled on Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) at The AIDS Support Organisation (Taso) Gulu Centre in the last one month. According to Mr Bernard Kizito, the centre manager, the new clients are part of more than 8,000 people who tested in the month of July. Currently, the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate for Gulu stands at 7 per cent higher the national figure which is 6.3 per cent. Mr Kizito said since 2004, at least 20,000 people have been enrolled on ART by TASO. Speaking during the 14th Taso annual general meeting in Gulu town last Friday, Mr Kizito said the new clients enlisted for treatment are grouped under the test and treat campaign. [James Owich]

Suspect cries for help

GULU. There was drama at Dire Market in Laroo Forest sub-ward at the weekend when a suspected thief attacked by a mob cried out for Jesus Christ to save his dear life. The suspect was being assaulted for allegedly snatching a handbag belonging to unidentified woman who is reported to be a student of Gulu University. The bag had Shs3,100, in her it and 10 banana fingers. The suspect is alleged to have snatched the student's bag while at Gulu Central Reserves. Hardly had a group of energetic men got hold of the suspect before pouncing beatings on him, he started crying out to Jesus to spare his life. [James Owich]