

third-country nationals in the US who may seek protection against return to

Kampala to the US of their home country/another country.
In response to our inquiries about the

in 2025, the United States and the government of Uganda signed a Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA), which al-

ticulars of the STCA are in full cooperation.

...we said. ...erna-

BY MONITOR REPORTER

KAMPALA. His touchpoints with the public pipelined through speaking for the army, an institution that undergirds state stability, national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Then from May 2025, stronger winds blew under Col Deo Akiiki's wings, lifting him to orbit in the inner sanctums of Chief of Defence Forces Gen Muhoozi Kainerugaba as his military aide.

Being a First Son suits Gen Muhoozi's as a CDF of a different pedigree, incomparable in power and influence to predecessors.

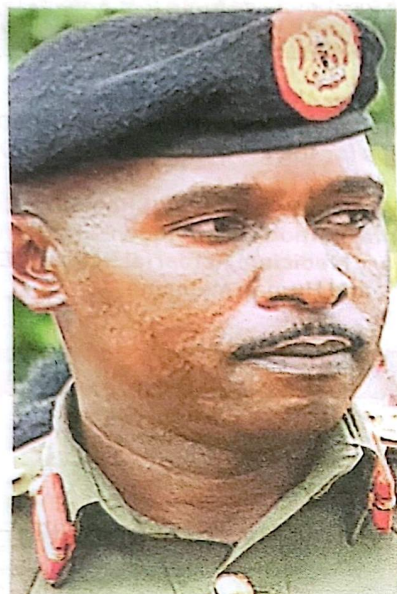
By default, some of that might has rubbed on Col Akiiki and it projected, by recognisable margins, in bravado in his posts on socials.

His previously friendly and persuasive tone on public and military affairs while a spokesperson mediating civil-military relations, gained a layering of abrasiveness and finality.

Nonetheless Col Akiiki remained alive to his limits, bullet-proofing himself with absolute loyalty to his boss and diligent work.

And on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, Lady Luck smiled on him. The CDF

Col Deo Akiiki: From altar to military diplomat



Col Deo Akiiki. PHOTO/FILE

snapped up the ex-seminarian, alongside a dozen other senior officers, to take up diplomatic posting.

The new military attachés are one-star generals Paul Muwonge, heading to Kinshasa; former UPDF Spokesman Paddy Ankunda, posted to Belgium; Julius Rubakuuba and Johnson Niwamanya, assigned to neighbouring Tanzania and Burundi, respectively; and, Russia-bound Richard Rubongoya.

Colonels Steve Mulindwa (Saudi Arabia), Victor Rukonge (Somalia), Godfrey Kyomuhendo (Algeria), Alex Tumushabe (United Arab Emirates) and Albert Nomwesigwa (Beni, DRC) are the other appointees.

Col Akiiki is designated as military attaché to Uganda's embassy in Washington DC. This appointment places him at the intersection for direct engagement with the Pentagon, which has substantial military cooperation with Uganda including on terrorism and regional security.

It is such an upswing for the 49-year-old son of Kyenjojo District, born Deo-

OTHER ATTACHÉS

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gratias Akiiki Asimwe, who diverted from a possible call to the altar to the gnawing demands of the military.

He was deployed and worked in various capacities, mostly as spokesperson, for the UPDF in Gulu, Kitgum, Lira, Pader, Karamoja, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Somalia.

After taking secondary education

at St Mary's Seminary, Virika in present-day Fort Portal City, Col Akiiki obtained a diploma in religious and philosophical studies.

Then he immediately pursued undergraduate degree in Philosophy in Rome before snapping up three master's degree; in human rights and local governance, defence and security and strategic security studies.

Now a Diplomacy and International Relations doctoral student, Col Akiiki arrives in Washington DC not as a novice in issues of foreign relations. Rather, his backpack will bulge with an elite credential and solid military experience and training.

His professional trainings have included a National Defence Course, Past Staff Course (psc), cadet and other commands courses.

The many deployments, including as UPDF political commissar and arms officer, suggest Col Akiiki is in pole position to engage on matters of military interests, strategy and logistics.

His closeness with the CDF Muhoozi signals direct links to Uganda's state, military and political command centres, setting himself up for higher expectation and tighter scrutiny on deliverables.