

Probe: Original data on land survey missing

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KAMPALA. Some of the original survey information has gone missing from the Lands ministry, the commissions of inquiry into land matters have discovered.

During the raid on the Ministry of Lands, investigators attached to the Justice Catherine Bamugemereire-led commission recovered 224 out of the 250 microfilms.

The three-hour afternoon raid saw commission investigators accompanied by armed police personnel storming the office of the permanent secretary, Ms Dorcas Okalany, to demand for the documents.

The move compelled Ms Okalany to direct the acting commissioner in charge of records information system at the land information centre to provide the microfilms.

Land probe officials who declined to be mentioned intimated that the move to storm the Lands ministry followed defiance and refusal of the Lands officials to handover the required information.

Information before the commission shows that ministry officials reported that they handed over 250 microfilms to the consulting firm, IGN FI that was contracted to implement the digitalization process of the land titles in 2015.

However, at the recovery, the investigators recovered only 224 out of the 250 purportedly given to the consultant and less by the handover report which indicates 240 films.

The microfilms, according to ministry of Lands officials contain titles, maps and other crucial documents related to original surveys carried before independence from the different parts of the country.

Principal land officer Grace Kagoro said the films were captured around the 1904 as backup of surveys by the early administration, adding that they await to be scanned to have digital copies and information system on computer.

the Court of Appeal from 2013. Prior to her appointment to the Court of Appeal, she was Makerere University Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

by Opio Aweri: Justice Opio joined the