

# Nakivale camp victims discharged

By Fred Turyakira

The four victims who were shot by suspected armed robbers who raided Nakivale refugee settlement camp in Isingiro district, have been discharged from health facilities where they were receiving treatment.

This was revealed by Samson Kasasira, the Rwizi region Police spokesperson said.

The suspected armed robbers on Sunday at around 9:00pm raided Augustine Muhizi's shop in

Nakivale Refugee Camp at Juru A, Kakingi parish, Ngarama Sub County in Isingiro district. They shot dead Deo Kyuzuzo Ishimwe, 16, and injured four others.

Muhizi, 45, a Rwandan national and a businessman dealing in produce was shot on the left arm and robbed of sh58m. Christine Tumwakire, 38, a Burundian refugee was shot on the left arm.

Others who were injured are Syndrine Murakatete, 7, and Ronald Mujuni, a Ugandan national.

Kasasira said Mujuni was injured at the back when he tried to intercept the thugs and was taken to Juru health centre together with Tumwakire and Muhizi.

Murakatete was rushed to Mbarara referral hospital because she was hit badly on the thigh and needed an operation but others sustained minor injuries.

"All are now out of danger and were discharged on Tuesday though still on medication," Kasasira said.

He added that after the shooting and robbery, the thugs sped off on a motorcycle and police is still hunting for them.

"A case of aggravated robbery was registered at police as CRB 1774/2017 and investigations

are going on. I appeal to the community to work hand in hand with police during the investigations," he said.

Walter Omondi, the western region refugees desk officer from the prime minister's office, said the situation has since normalised in the camp.

We have beefed up security and sensitised the community to be vigilant and report suspicious people to the authorities.

Uganda is host to over 1.3 million refugees. Nakivale camp is one of the biggest settlements in Uganda sitting on 71.3 square miles of land. It has a population of 106,000 refugees.

***"A case of aggravated robbery was registered. I appeal to the community to work hand in hand with Police." Kasasira***

It hosts refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo which has the biggest population; others are from Rwanda, Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea and Burundi according to Omondi.

Earlier, there were contradicting accounts over a helicopter that allegedly landed

near the camp hours before the attack on Sunday.

Herbert Muhangi, the Isingiro resident district commissioner, on Monday told *New Vision* that security agencies were investigating allegations that there was a helicopter that

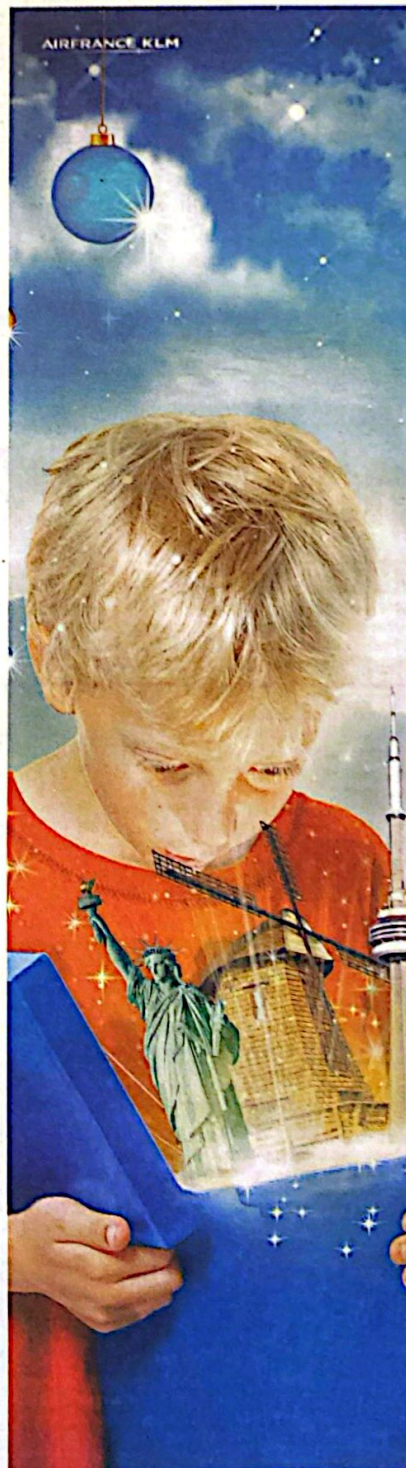
landed near the refugee camp hours before the attack.

The helicopter allegedly landed at about 1:00pm with three occupants on board, including two Rwandan nationals and one European. The pilot of the helicopter

had reportedly requested for permission to make an emergency landing at Juru Primary School after experiencing a mechanical fault. They serviced the helicopter and later proceeded with the flight to Kigali,

according to the Civil Aviation Authority.

However, Apollo Kazungu, the commissioner for refugees in the Office of the Prime Minister, said the helicopter was in no way linked to the attack.



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