

# Army accuses Gashumba of forgery

**Allegation.** The army says the businessman and his brother had been meeting foreign firms, claiming that the Defence ministry had outsourced them to buy trucks.

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**KAMPALA.** The army yesterday paraded businessman Frank Gashumba with what they claim were fake passports in his names which were recovered from his brother's home.

Mr Gashumba was arrested by the Military Intelligence on Monday when he went to the Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence (CMI) headquarters in Mbuya to check on his brother Innocent Kasumba who had earlier been arrested at the weekend for impersonating Ministry of Defence officials.

Lt Col Deo Akiiki told a press conference that Mr Gashumba and his brother had been meeting foreign companies, claiming that Ministry of Defence had outsourced them to procure hundreds of trucks for UPDF.

"The arrest of the duo followed a whistleblower's report to the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Defence about a group that was planning to fleece an investor disguising as Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs [officials]," he



**Arrested.** A UPDF soldier escorts businessman Frank Gashumba (centre) to the Ministry of Defence headquarters in Mbuya, Kampala, yesterday.

PHOTO BY ABUBAKER LUBOWA

said. After Mr Kasumba's arrest, a search was later conducted at his home and recovered Mr Gashumba's forged passport in the name of Frank Ssentongo Disans.

The UPDF also paraded cocaine, marijuana, 20 stamps in names of Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Fisheries and Stanbic Bank from Mr Kasumba's home.

He had earlier escaped a siege by the Joint Anti-Terrorism Task

Force at Tulip Hotel in Nakasero where he was meeting the said investor.

"As luck would have it, on October 29, Frank Gashumba turned up at CMI with his lawyer friend one Nsamba Geoffrey to follow up his brother and was arrested to explain the reason and source of multiple identification documents under his name, and relationship with Flagship Group under which

the investor was to be defrauded," Lt Col Akiiki said.

The Military intelligence also later searched Mr Gashumba's office where they recovered his second passport in the names of Franko Gashumba Malimungu.

Lt Col Akiiki dismissed earlier reports that Mr Gashumba's arrest was connected to the case of the police officers who were charged in court martial on Friday for kidnapping Lt Joel Mutabazi, the former bodyguard of President Paul Kagame, in 2013.

Mr Gashumba runs Sisimuka Uganda, a civil organisation where he sensitises Ugandans about government excesses and failures.

## RUN-INS WITH THE LAW

In February 2011, Mr Gashumba was convicted for conspiracy to defraud DFCU Bank. Eight months later, he was arrested for trying to defraud EYG Group a Turkish company dealing in fire tenders of \$28m (Shs79.9b) on pretext that they wanted to buy fire trucks on behalf of the government of Uganda. In April 2008, he was arraigned before Buganda Road Court and charged with obtaining money by false pretence from a one Abdul Ssali.