

National News

Who is who in Among probe?

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BY BENSON TUMUSIIME

The ongoing investigations into former Speaker of Parliament Anita Among have brought together some of Uganda's most powerful security and investigative agencies in a coordinated operation targeting suspected corruption, illicit enrichment and possible money laundering.

Since Saturday operatives drawn from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), Defence Intelligence and Security (DIS), Police Crime Intelligence, Special Forces Command (SFC), and the Directorate of Forensic Services (DFS) have conducted searches on properties linked to Ms Among in Nakasero, Kololo and Kigo.

Yesterday, detectives extended the operation to Parliament where CID and police forensic officers conducted another search linked to the widening probe.

Security sources say investigators are examining property acquisitions, financial transactions, communication records and digital evidence as part of efforts to establish whether there were irregular dealings connected to the former Speaker's wealth.

The investigations are being handled jointly before a final report is submitted to President Museveni for further guidance.

The raids also come amid growing pressure after the United States and United Kingdom sanctioned Among over alleged corruption and abuse of office.

Below are some of the key figures and agencies leading the high-profile investigation and the roles they are playing in the probe.

Tom Magambo Rwabudongo: Director of CID

Maj Tom Magambo, the director of Criminal Investigations, is leading the overall probe into the allegations against the outgoing Speaker of Parliament.

Maj Magambo became the first non-police officer to head CID after he was promoted from private to major in the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) and appointed to replace Assistant Inspector General of Police Grace Akullo.

Born in Masindi District in 1978, Maj Magambo studied Development Studies at Makerere University before joining the Internal Security Organisation (ISO), where he rose through the ranks over nearly two decades.

During his intelligence career, he served as director of analysis, head of regional affairs and head of counterintelligence and policy analysis.

He also coordinated the Eastern African Fusion and Liaison Unit based in Entebbe after its establishment in 2018.

Maj Magambo undertook intelligence and security courses in Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. He holds a Master's Degree in Busi-



Maj Gen David Mugisha, Commander of Special Forces Command

AGENCIES AND ROLES

- CID - Leads the investigations, records statements and prepares case files.
- DIS - Gathers intelligence to support the probe.
- Crime Intelligence - Conducts surveillance, tracks movements and provides operational intelligence.
- SFC - Provides security during raids, searches and movement of exhibits.
- DFS - Analyses phones, documents, CCTV footage and other forensic evidence

ness Administration from the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (Esami), a Master's Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from Makerere University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Peace and Security Studies from Uppsala University in Sweden. He is currently finalising a PhD in Mediation and Conflict Resolution.

In the current investigations, CID is responsible for conducting searches, recording statements, recovering exhibits, preparing criminal files and coordinating with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

CID detectives are also tasked with consolidating evidence gathered by other agencies to avoid duplication.

Maj Gen Richard Otto: Chief of Defence Intelligence and Security

Maj Gen Richard Otto heads the Defence Intelligence and Security (DIS), formerly known as the Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence (CMI).

He was appointed Chief of Defence Intelligence and Security on April 16, 2025, after serving as commander of the UPDF Mountain Division and of Operation Shujaa against the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Before that, he chaired the South Sudan Peace Mechanism under the Inter-governmental Authority on Development (Igad), where he monitored adherence to peace agreements among the South Sudanese parties.

He also previously served as commander of the UPDF Third Division, which is headquartered in Moroto.



Maj Gen Christopher Ddamulira, Director of Crime Intelligence



Maj Gen Richard Otto, Chief of Defence Intelligence and Security

DIS conducts military intelligence operations and often collaborates with police in investigations involving terrorism, kidnappings, armed robberies and organised crime.

In the probe involving Ms Among, DIS is responsible for gathering intelligence both within and outside Uganda.

Security sources say the agency is verifying whether the former Speaker

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

The investigations are being guided by several laws related to corruption, illicit enrichment and financial crime. Under Section 11 of the Anti-Corruption Act, 2009, abuse of office and illicit enrichment attract penalties that include imprisonment and confiscation of unlawfully acquired assets. The Leadership Code Act requires public officials to fully declare their assets, liabilities and sources of income. The Anti-Money Laundering Act also gives investigators powers to trace suspicious financial transactions, digital communications and records believed to be linked to proceeds of crime.



Maj Gen David Mugisha, Commander of Special Forces Command



Andrew Mubiru, Directorate of Forensic Services

owns properties abroad or assets that may not have been declared to the Inspectorate of Government as required by law.

DIS is also monitoring movements and intelligence linked to the ongoing investigations.

Maj Gen Christopher Ddamulira: Director Crime Intelligence

Maj Gen Christopher Ddamulira heads the Police Crime Intelligence Directorate, which is supporting the investigations through intelligence gathering and surveillance.

Maj Gen Ddamulira joined the police force in 2019 after being appointed by President Museveni to lead Crime Intelligence.

Before joining police, he served as deputy director for counter-terrorism under the then Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence.

His security career started in 1995 when he enrolled as an officer cadet at the School of Infantry in Jinja.

Over the years, he rose through military ranks while specialising in intelligence operations and counter-terrorism.

In the ongoing investigations, Crime Intelligence is collecting and analysing information related to property ownership, financial transactions, vehicle movements and communication records.

Detectives say the agency is also assisting in surveillance operations, phone

tracking and background checks on sets linked to the former Speaker.

"Crime Intelligence is supporting CID and DIS with surveillance information, tracking movements and gathering operational intelligence," a detective familiar with the probe said.

Maj Gen David Mugisha: Commander of Special Forces Command

Maj Gen David Mugisha heads the Special Forces Command (SFC), the elite unit of the Uganda People's Defence Forces responsible for specialised security operations.

SFC played a central role in securing the raids conducted on Ms Among's residences and coordinating deployment of security forces during the searches.

Maj Gen Mugisha has been a key figure in shaping military operations and strategic initiatives within the UPDF.

He has consistently emphasised continuous military training as critical to building a capable and resilient force.

Sources involved in the operation say SFC officers led ground security during searches and coordinated the movement and protection of recovered exhibits.

"SFC commanded the operation during the raids. They secured the premises, supervised recovery of exhibits and escorted the exhibits to designated locations," a detective said.

The elite force was particularly visible during operations at the Nakasero, Kololo and Kigo residences.

Andrew Mubiru: Directorate of Forensic Services

The Directorate of Forensic Services (DFS) is handling scientific and digital analysis of evidence recovered during the investigations.

The unit is headed by Acting Director of ACP Andrew Mubiru, a forensic science expert trained at King's College London, where he obtained a Master's Degree in Forensic Science.

He also holds a postgraduate diploma in Management Science from Uganda Management Institute and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Chemistry from Makerere University.

DFS comprises several specialised departments including cybercrime, criminal identification, questioned documents, ballistics and tool marks examination.

In the current investigations, forensic experts are examining mobile phones, laptops, tablets, CCTV systems and other electronic devices recovered during searches.

The cybercrime department is analysing WhatsApp messages, financial transaction records, communication systems and CCTV footage.

The questioned documents department is examining land titles, company documents, bank cheques and tax records.

Sources said forensic teams are also attempting to recover deleted messages and trace financial trails linked to the investigations.

"Joint cyber experts from police and DIS are analysing electronic communications and bank transaction statements recovered from the residences," another detective said.

Security sources say investigations are still ongoing and more searches and interrogations could follow as detectives continue analysing the recovered evidence.