

...attack on him to the Criminal
Investigations Directorate (CID) in

his home in Kulambiro, Nakawa
division, as he went to work.

Muhangi suspects the people training

CANCER MACHINE SHIPPED, SAYS GOVT

BY JOHN SEMAKULA

The long awaited new cancer radiotherapy machine has now been shipped, according to the Government.

The Minister of State for Primary Healthcare, Joyce Moriku Kaducu, told Parliament on Thursday that the machine was last week shipped from the manufacturer.

Without mentioning the manufacturer, Moriku said the machine is expected at Mombasa Port in Kenya by July 28 and at the Uganda Cancer Institute (UCI) in Kampala during the first week of August.

But the patients with cancer will have to wait until November when the machine is fixed to access the services. The minister said the commissioning and service re-establishment will

be completed in the first week of November.

The radiotherapy machine kills cancer cells by damaging their DNA (the molecules inside cells) that carry genetic information and pass it from one generation to the next.

Sunday Vision has learnt that the installation of the machine will commence as soon as it arrives in Kampala. But this is not the first time government promises Ugandans that the cancer machine is on its way coming.

Moriku said the process of installing the machine is expected to take four to six weeks if all goes well. "Following the successful installation, acceptance tests will be carried out for one week," she said.

The tests will be conducted by the International Atomic Agency (IAEA). "After the tests, commissioning will commence with the visit and

inspection of the machine by four IAEA missions," the minister said.

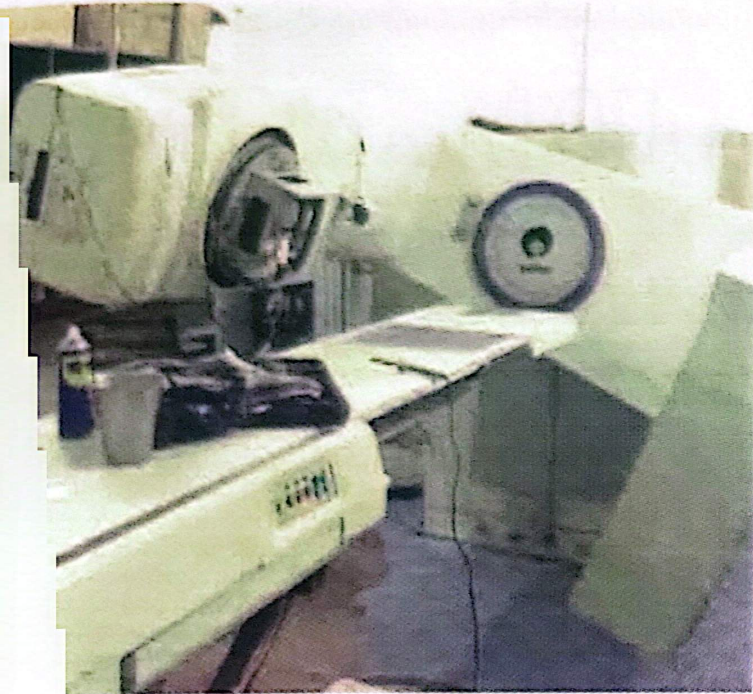
A team comprising IAEA radiotherapy technicians, medical physicists, radiation therapy technicians, and radiation oncologists will come in to assess the safety of the machine, Moriku said.

The agency last year made recommendations that the old bunker needed refurbishment.

The minister said the Government contracted Arab Contractors to refurbish the bunker before IAEA cleared the manufacturer to ship the machine to Uganda.

The machine comes at a time when a number of cancer patients have lost their lives since last year when the old radiotherapy machine broke down, leaving hundreds stranded.

The latest development, therefore, comes as good news to hundreds of cancer patients.



...onal radiotherapy machine for treatment of cancer at Mulago
Government has purchased a new one which will arrive in the