



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE & VETERANS AFFAIRS
UGANDA PEOPLES' DEFENCE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE DEFENCE SPOKESPERSON
MoDVA Headquarters



Our Ref:.....UPDF/INFO/C23.....

Your Ref:.....

17th September 2020

PRESS STATEMENT

OPERATION TO PURSUE ESCAPEES FROM SINGILA GOVERNMENT PRISON IN MOROTO

Yesterday, 16th September 2020 at around 4:30pm prisoners at Singila Government Prison in Moroto district broke through the prison gates after overpowering the guards.

Two hundred nineteen (219) prisoners escaped. UPDF under the direct command of the 3Division Commander Brig Joseph Balikudembe was called upon to support the efforts of UPF and UPS. Employing both infantry and air power UPDF pursued the escapees who had climbed towards Mountain Moroto in areas of Tapach. **Seven (7)** of the escapees were captured.

In hot pursuit, an exchange of fire ensued leaving **three (3)** escapees dead and **one (1)** of our soldiers gunned down. His struggle was not in vain as he died fighting to restore peace and justice in his motherland. We celebrate his life and heroism.

Fifteen (15) riffles were grabbed from the prison and are not yet recovered. The pursuit to re-arrest the escapees and recovering the guns is still ongoing.

UPDF calls for calmness as we pursue these escapees. The people in general areas of Moroto, Napak, Matany, and neighboring districts are called upon to be vigilant and inform leaders, police or the military, of anybody they suspect to be alien in their area.

Some escapees are armed and have fused with the community abandoning the prison uniforms. Security calls upon collaboration with the public in this effort. UPDF and sister security agencies will continue the search to re-arrest the prisoners.


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For DEFENCE SPOKESPERSON