



# Tarehe Sita

*The 6th of February*



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# TRIBUTE INDEPENDENCE

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this  
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Day**  
Issue

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## Consolidation of **National** **Unity,** **Security,** **Freedom** and **Prosperity**



*Brig Richard Karemire  
Defence Spokesperson*

It has been 57 years of Independence, 57 years of a journey not always smooth - on occasions characterised by hurdles requiring efforts to overcome them. What is life without such hiccups, anyway? You may not rise and keep walking if you have not fallen! In any case, these hurdles have had an impact on the endeavours to achieve national unity, total security and freedom, and the attainment of prosperity for all Ugandans. Nevertheless, recent trends have witnessed a reversal of chaotic episodes of political, economic and social downturns of the early days after Independence through the 70s and the first half of the 80s. But even in the period following the take-over of government by the NRM, it has not been a smooth ride. Some elements strived to deter development strides for their own selfish aims - such as the numerous rebel groups that tried to sow seeds of discord, insecurity, retrogression and hatred - under the guise of fighting for freedom. It is, therefore, of paramount importance that we all, as Ugandans, guard jealously the gains achieved to date in the areas of national unity, security, freedom and prosperity.

Uganda is blessed with diversity - a mosaic of ethnicities and their rich cultures and languages; diverse faiths; diverse political affiliations, to mention but a few. It is a unique opportunity to reap from the wealth of such diversity and obtain the best of all 'worlds', rather than the reverse. Every Ugandan, therefore, is duty-bound to contribute towards shaping our shared values of a culture, to come up with a sense of national unity, irrespective of our ethnic, religious or political backgrounds. As earlier noted, our differences be it at individual, communal or regional levels will only propel the enrichment of the shared national values, hence, giving credence to the notion of unity in diversity.

Those of us who were around in the 60s, 70s, early 80s nationally; as well as into the 2000s for the Greater North (especially in Acholi, Lango, Teso and Karamoja) can tell the difference between then and now with regard to security. There may still occur episodes of insecurity here and there as was the case in the Rwenzori region (2014 and 2016), the Greater Masaka region (2016/2017), Entebbe and Wakiso (2016/2017), and isolated cases elsewhere. However, never before have Ugandans enjoyed peace and security of persons and their property as it is the case today. Guarding this peace and security is not a role of only the army, the police and other security agencies. It is the responsibility of you and I as Ugandans. Each one of us ought be our brother's keeper if this peace and security are to outlive us and generations yet to come. In this regard, we shall have consolidated this peace and security into an everlasting circumstance rather than take it for granted.

Similarly, Ugandans are today enjoying unprecedented freedom - freedom of movement, freedom to undertake business venture or trade and so many other freedoms. Nevertheless, on some occasions some people seem to think that their freedoms override other people's freedoms - thus risking episodes of violence. Such cases notwithstanding, the current freedom has permitted Uganda and Ugandans to take giant leaps in advancement. Once again, it is people like you and I who can safeguard this freedom for ourselves, our children and posterity.

The peace and security ushered in by the NRM administration have been the cornerstone of the ever-increasing prosperity prevalent in Uganda. National statistics on indicative elements such as the per capita income and increased life expectancy bear testimony to this continuous growth. Issues such as the expansion of infrastructure and extension of services such as running water and electricity to rural and urban areas are all evidence of a Uganda on a steady move towards a prosperous future. But like all components and requirements for development, it is each Ugandan's duty to jump at opportunities offered by progress and change so as to maintain the momentum.

**Happy Independence Day - 2019!**



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# NEWS BRIEFS

## Govt *Rewards* former ADF Rebels

About 50 of the 106- Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) ex-combatants in Mahango sub-county, Kasese District received vanilla seeds to help boost their socio-economic status.

Government through the Amnesty Commission noted that this is a way of demobilizing, rehabilitating and reintegrating those who denounced rebellion.

Commissioner Thomas Kisémbó from the Amnesty Commission observed that the demand-driven intervention is targeting 800 returnees from Kasese and Bundibugyo Districts in Rwenzori Sub-region. He called upon those engaged in rebel activities in DR Congo to surrender to Amnesty Offices in Beni so that they can receive certificates.

Kasese has about 600 ex-rebels who have surrendered out of the 7000, pending reintegration in the whole country. The ADF is a rebel outfit linked to Islamic extremists and operates mainly in DR Congo and Western Uganda. It is accused of throwing bombs in Kampala in 2001 and also blamed for executing several assassinations from 2012.

## Civilians *Overwhelm* Bombo Military Hospital

Bombo General Military Hospital Director Col Dr. Ronald Nuwagaba observed that the budget constraints at the facility are a result of the overwhelming number of initially unbudgeted for civilians (not hospital's primary consumers), who drain its stock forcing the army to refer its officers to private facilities.

He said this while appearing before the Parliament's Public Accounts Committee (PAC), on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019, to explain audit queries raised in the June 2018, audit report.

He added that besides pressure from civilians, Mulago Hospital where they would refer their patients has been undergoing refurbishment and a number of services, like the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scans, were not provided by the cancer and heart institutes at Mulago.

## Uganda, EU to Continue supporting Somalia

**2** 7<sup>th</sup> August 2019: The Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige met the head of the European Union (EU) delegation in Uganda H.E Amb Attilio Pacifici at the Defence Ministry's headquarters in Kampala.

The two leaders discussed matters of common interest and particularly the need to continue supporting the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the people of Somalia.

The meeting was also attended by the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs Under Secretary Finance and Administration Mrs. Edith Buturo who represented the Permanent Secretary Mrs. Rosette Byengoma, UPDF Joint Chief of Staff (JCOS) Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu and the Military Advisor at Uganda's Permanent Mission to the UN Maj Gen Silver Kayemba, among others.

## Skilling *the* Girl Child

**S** eptember: President Museveni while speaking at the graduation ceremony of 8480 female graduands at Kololo Independence Grounds advised girls to use the acquired vocational skills to meet peoples' needs. The girls, from the July-December 2018 Intake; obtained practical skills in bakery, hair dressing, knitting, tailoring and shoe making.

They were drawn from the areas of Katanga, Kigowa, Luzira, Mutundwe, Nankulabye and Wandegeya in Kampala district. Museveni also promised to train more youths in making cement blocks, oil from sim sim seeds and pavers from stones, among other new skills.

## More skills for UPDF Legal Officers

**T**wenty-two (22) legal officers successfully completed their training in prosecution and investigation at the Legal Training College at Gadaffi barracks in Jinja.

The two-week training was facilitated by legal officers from the Netherlands and Belgium armies in partnership with Uganda.

The Chief Instructor of the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy, Lt Col Ivan Rwanyaga, while officiating at the pass-out noted that the course aimed at raising the armies' standard in prosecution and investigation and mainly targeted officers deployed in the conflict areas of South Sudan and Somalia.

Maj Vink Jos, the head of the trainers' delegation and judge with the Netherlands armed forces, said the course aimed at capacity building on national and international law since UPDF soldiers are deployed in other African countries.

Maj Victor Chemususu, the acting commandant of the Legal Training College, observed that participants acquired skills in international law, appreciating field operations, interpretation of the penal code, case file management, cyber crimes and political education, among other topics.



## Gen Museveni Reminisces NRA Bush War Memories as he Retires Generals

Alex Joel Masereka

*H.E President Museveni (C), Hon Charles Engola with the family of Gen Joram Mugume.*

**P**resident Yoweri Museveni has expressed his pride at belonging to the Uganda Peoples’ Defence Forces (UPDF).

His Excellency Museveni made the remarks while officiating the retirement of 19 generals from the army at a function held at State House Entebbe.

“When it comes to NRA/UPDF I tell people to “put off their shoes”, to go slow because of the sacrifice of these people. **I’m very happy to belong to this institution. No matter what people say,**” Museveni said.

**Below is his statement posted on his Facebook page**

I hosted retiring UPDF Generals to dinner at State House Entebbe yesterday. This event was somewhat a recapitulation of the stories I captured in the Mustard Seed about the army. Where we started small, galvanized and determined, but later ‘hatched’ into something big.



*A cross section of retiring UPDF Generals and their families at State House Entebbe.*

The NRA grew into something bigger because of its foundation on Unity and Sacrifice. We neither had food nor clothes, but bullets and ideology.

While in the bush, there was no pay and when we had just captured power, the pay was so low but these gallant men and women accepted to provide their services. These officers suppressed some of their interests to work for no or low pay to defend the country.

Immediately after the bush war, the country had no money and many people didn't want to serve in the army, yet there was a need for the provision of security.

If your country is still poor or disorganized, who do you ask to provide security when everyone does not want? We were, however, able to provide security under personal discomfort, for businesses to grow and civilians to become rich.

**I hope the country will remember our gallant officers for sacrificing for so many Ugandans.**

I remember Gen Joram Mugume, when we wanted to attack Kabamba but had no food, he got his uncle to give us a cow to eat and we came back to life. Then the Lt Col Walter Ochora (RIP), who was one of the young soldiers sent to fight us when we were in the Bush, however, he later switched sides and joined us. Some of these individual stories should be recorded. These stories are good to inspire others.

Just like the story of the burning bush in the bible where God told Moses to take his shoes off because it was a holy ground. When it comes to NRA/UPDF I tell people to "put off their shoes", to go slow because of the sacrifice of these people. **I'm very happy to belong to this institution. No matter what people say.**



## The **Retired Generals** did their **Work** and left a **Vibrant Army**

By Opiyo Oloya

**J**ust before 11:00pm on Monday night, inside the State House Entebbe, general officers and senior officers of the UPDF lined up both sides of the driveway. Further inside the driveway was a neat formation of 19 generals who had just retired from the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF). Accompanied by family members, they were preparing for their walk in uniform.

Then the military band struck out an uplifting tune and began marching towards the gates followed closely by the retirees and their families.

As they marched proudly past the colleagues they were leaving behind to carry on service to the nation, the retired men waved. Their colleagues waved back, some saluted and still others clapped their hands in appreciation for the work well done. It was the most proper military ending to the night celebrating the careers of the general officers of the UPDF, some of whom had enlisted in the army in the 1970s and others during the bush war that liberated Uganda in January 1986.





*President Museveni (white shirt) with retired Generals, and Defence Leaders at State House Entebbe.*

They had served their country in various positions of leadership and command within the UPDF, each contributing to the building of the UPDF as an army of the people and each had seen the UPDF develop into a professional force recognized globally.

During the formal ceremony officiated by the Commander-in-chief of the UPDF, President Yoweri Museveni, it was only appropriate that starting with the most senior, each was called out by name, his particulars read out loud including date of birth, names of parents, education and career achievements.

General Joram Mugume. Maj General Nathan Mugisha. Major General Jim Willis Byarugaba. Major General Samuel Turyagyenda. Major General Engineer Timothy Mutebile Sabiiti. Brigadier General George Gyagenda Kibirango. Brigadier General Mathias Sewankambo. Brigadier General John Baptist Mulindwa. Brigadier General David Kaboyo. Brigadier General John Mary Kaganda. Brigadier General Dr. Kenneth Ocen Obwot. Brigadier General John Mugogo Tumwebaze. Brigadier





President Museveni (white shirt) awards Brig Gen Gyagenda Kibirango with a discharge certificate.

General Charles Wacha Angulo. Brigadier General Ramadhan Kyamulesire. Brigadier General Adolf Serwada. Brigadier General Sam Kakuru. Brigadier General John Charles Anywar. Brigadier General Emmanuel Musinguzi. Brigadier General Francis Achoka Ongom.

It took time, an hour and half for the formalities and the citations to be read out. Each general officer stepped forward with his family to receive the recognition plaque and other artifacts including a framed certificate, a ceremonial walking stick and ceremonial sword.

But the distinguished send-off meant to cap years of dedicated public service was more than a simple retirement party.

Foremost, it was a demonstration of the continuity and resiliency of the UPDF as a force.

Gen Mugume who spoke on behalf of the retirees captured this observation when he remarked that he, like other retirees, had heeded the dream for a better country, a dream to achieve the mission, which they did. He also

observed that retirement is good for the institution, keeping it healthy and strong.

The same theme was picked by the Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi who remarked that in previous armies, retirement was mostly by other means including death and being pushed out by force. Gen Muhoozi correctly pointed out that the UPDF not only developed a robust process for retiring general officers, senior officers and the rank and file but, more importantly, a concluding celebration to a career of service in the UPDF.

What these observations underscored was the transformation of the UPDF itself as an organization, its ability to renew itself even as it is nourished and guided by accumulated wisdom and best-practices from the past and present.

This, in fact, is what mature professional armies across the globe do including those in Europe, Asia and North America – they develop processes for keeping the institution of the army vibrant, primed and ready for service wherever and whenever it is needed. Those who have served retire with dignity even as younger officers step up to fill the vacuum.



*Gen David Muhoozi awards Brig Gen David Kaboyo.*

By publicly celebrating these officers, the UPDF has made it possible for career soldiers and officers to serve and, at the appropriate time, retire to life outside the military.

Even as career generals retired, it was important that the force retained its history, where it came from and where it is going, a sense of continuity. This was elaborated in President Museveni's valedictorian address to the retirees. He recalled the early days of the struggle against dictatorship in the 1970s, the training of the 28 men in Mozambique some of whom were later sent back to Uganda for clandestine operations and the beginning of the war of liberation that ended the rule of Idi Amin, only to be followed by the bush struggle waged by the National Resistance Army (NRA).

Museveni also recalled that the successful conclusion of the struggle in 1986 was just the start of a long sacrifice during which soldiers worked for no or very low pay. The driving motivation for the men and women who served at that time was contribution to stability and peace which, according to the President, prevailed in Uganda.

From peace has come commerce and a strong economy that now supports a professional army, he concluded.

Those words of mentorship, of course, spoken to guide those who remain in service of the security of this country, Uganda, those who lined both sides of the driveway of State House to wave goodbye to the 19 retirees.

They are meant to remind those still in active leadership and command of the UPDF to continue the work started by the retirees and many others who retired before them by employing wisdom of the past to craft a vision for the future of the UPDF that charts the course for the next three to five decades, where service to the people is the central driving motivation of a career of a senior officer in the UPDF.

On Monday night, as the wind carried away the last echoes of the booming drums from the military band, laughter and the applause of senior UPDF officers, the collective feeling was the retired generals had done their work.

More so, the deepest sentiments were that the retirees could move to a peaceful life after service, knowing they left behind a healthy, vibrant and cohesive leadership of the UPDF.

# Government to continue supporting UPDF Training

**T**he Government of Uganda remains committed to supporting all UPDF requirements most especially in the area of modern training as a vehicle to step up professionalism within the forces, said the Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige.

He made the remarks during the graduation ceremony of 42 Senior Officers of Intake 14/ 2018-19 who successfully completed a one year Senior Command and Staff Course at the Senior Command and Staff College (SCSC) in Kimaka, Jinja district.

**“I know it has not been easy throughout this one year, thank you for your endurance and congratulations to you all,” he said.**

While presiding over the function, Hon Mwesige noted that the course is a clear reflection that the East Africa Community integration process is a success since the course drew students from the entire East African Region and South Africa.

He applauded UPDF upon its tireless efforts to maintain peace and stability both in Uganda and beyond.

The Defence Minister recognized the US, UK, China, India, and Egypt, among others, for supporting UPDF in many different areas, adding that College’s recent affiliation to Makerere University to offer the Masters Degree in Security and Strategic studies is another move to strengthen security concerns.

*Hon Adolf Mwesige recognises one of the graduants at SCSC-Kimaka.*



The Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Gen David Muhoozi noted that training improves human resource capabilities and is core when building professionalism in UPDF.

Gen Muhoozi further said that UPDF has improved in training by standardizing the way it teaches in conformity with other colleges in the region. **“We have strived to improve training by empowering the teaching staff with other foreign partners from India, Tanzania and Kenya,”** he noted.

*Gen David Muhoozi awards a collage to a Directing Staff from SANDF.*



The Commandant of the college Lt Gen Andrew Gutti appreciated the support from the UPDF leadership that enabled the smooth running of the course.

Maj DS Opolot emerged as the best overall student. Lt Col GM Gitao from the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) was best fraternal student. Lt Col ET Nuwagaba was best in the Commandant Service paper while Lt Col Tukamwakira was best in Central lecture hall discussions.

Present at the graduation were: UPDF MP Hon Gen Ivan Koreta and Managing Director National Enterprise Corporation (NEC) Lt Gen James Mugira.

Others were, representatives from Tanzania Peoples’ Defence Forces (TPDF) Maj Gen Stephen Mukumbi, KDF Maj Gen Martin Mbonye, and Maj Gen Mukanya from the South Africa National Defence Forces (SANDF) as well as Defence Attachés from Egypt, France, Rwanda, South Korea, South Sudan, UK and USA, among others.

*SCSC-Kimaka Graduants*



# UPDF hands over PLEDGES made during the 2019 ARMY WEEK

**U**PDF fulfilled its several pledges made during the 38<sup>th</sup> Tarehe Sita Civil Military activities that were held in Acholi sub region, early this year by handing over various projects.

The completed projects in Acholi East included the repair of an Anti Retro Viral (ART) clinic and the waiting shade at Kitgum Referral Hospital, repair of the Anti Retro Viral clinic and a private ward at Pader health center, renovation of two class room blocks at WOI Community Secondary School in Agago district, building of a water harvesting pool and installation of solar panels at Padibe Health Center IV.

In Acholi West, UPDF also completed the renovation of St Kizito Primary School Aywee in Gulu district, Ome Primary School in Amuru district, Koch Goma Health Centre III in Nwoya district and Lanenober health centre III in Omoro district.

The handover ceremonies were headed by the Minister of State for Defence in charge of General Duties Hon Col (Rtd) Charles Okello Engola and Minister of State for Defence in charge of Veteran Affairs Hon Lt Col (Rtd) Dr. Bright Rwamirama and Deputy CDF Lt Gen Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, and UPDF MP Gen Ivan Koreta.

Hon Engola who headed the Acholi West team thanked the people of Acholi for embracing peace by fighting the LRA and asked the sub region to also fight illiteracy by sending children to school and keeping healthy.

He attributed the recent renovations and construction of new infrastructure in Acholi sub region as appreciation for support by the community in fighting the LRA insurgency.

“The President is a peace maker world over and loves to see everyone in the country wealthy. That is why we see UPDF carrying out various projects to support the local community,” said Hon Engola.

He advised the political leaders to preach unity among the people and accept to work with the government for the betterment of the sub region.

Hon Engola further encouraged locals not to listen to those leaders who don't work towards the interest of their people and proposed to the district leaders to organize exchange visits amongst themselves and learn from each other.

Hon Gen Koreta who represented the Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi thanked the Acholi people for their cooperation with UPDF in the pursuit for peace and stability in the sub region.

“We are your sons and daughters, therefore our strategic alliance has led to these fruits, take them as gifts from UPDF,” Gen Koreta noted.

During the handover of projects at Padibe Town Council in Lamwo district and Kitgum Referral Hospital, Hon Rwamirama said UPDF undertook the community projects in appreciation and recognition of the contribution made by the people in the region to establish peace and stability.

He noted that the projects were chosen because they strike a cord with the spirit of the 1995 Uganda Constitution and the UPDF Act of 2005 which mandates UPDF to function as people's army and to cooperate with the civil authorities during times of emergency and in situations of disaster, while fostering harmony and understanding between the defense forces and the public as well as participating in productive activities for the development of Uganda.

He thanked the people of Acholi for accepting to host the 2019 Tarehe Sita activities and identifying with UPDF.

In his speech, the RDC for Lamwo district Mr. James Nabimson Kidega applauded UPDF for maintaining the good image and relationship with the civil community.

He said the bond and image UPDF sealed with the civil populace caused hundreds of youths to turn up for recruitment into Local Defence Units. “Had it not been for the positive image and conduct among our national forces, none of them would want to identify with UPDF,” noted Kidega.



*Hon Charles Okello Engola commissions a newly renovated classroom block at WOI Community Secondary School in Agago district.*

Mr Kidega also added that the health facility at Lamwo will not only support locals but also refugees from South Sudan.

The Woman Member of Parliament for Kitgum district Hon Beatrice Anywar applauded UPDF for exhibiting professionalism in all fields. “Those days, the military were the most feared people and all they did most was to torment and kill by shooting which is now not the case,” she said. She urged the community to work and support UPDF in all walks of life.

Lt Gen Wilson Mbadi noted that celebration of the army week is a deliberate effort by the UPDF to consolidate its special relationship with citizens (wanainchi), adding that civil-military activities are symbolic in nature and reflect the army’s corporate social responsibility. “We shall continue to provide security to create an environment that allows social economic transformation,” emphasized Lt Gen Mbadi.

He asked the community of Pader district to consolidate the peace they have achieved from the time LRA was wiped out.

“Today I almost got lost. Pader has developed. This is because of the dividends of peace. It’s because of the

support you gave UPDF during the peak of the LRA war, today we are here to give back,” noted Lt Gen Mbadi.

In his remarks, Lamwo Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Mr. Patrick Olila, thanked UPDF for the tremendous job.

“I did not know that UPDF comprised of such a disciplined and a professional engineering brigade. It has put a challenge to our local contractors who do shoddy work and ask for big money,” the CAO alluded.

He asked the district council to secure contracts for UPDF engineers brigade whenever the district gets construction work.

Mrs. Frida Acholi, a senior health clinical officer said the repair of the ART Clinics and shades will save more lives and requested that the various health centers be upgraded to Health Centre IV.

The handover of the 2019 Tarehe Sita civil-military projects to residents of Acholi sub region was witnessed by area Members of Parliament, district local leaders, district health officers, CAOs, and the local population.

# UGABAG XXVIII and UNGU VI Flagged off



*Lt Gen Wilson Mbadi addressing Soldiers of UGABAG XXVIII and UNGU VI at PSO-TC, Singo.*

**A** total of One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Eight (1828) officers and men of UPDF comprising of Uganda Battle Group Twenty Eight (UGABAG XXVIII) and United Nations Guard Unit Six (UNGU VI) were flagged off to Somalia by the Deputy Chief of Defence Forces (D/CDF) Lt Gen Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, at the Singo-based Peace Support Operation and Training Centre in Nakaseke District.

Lt Gen Wilson Mbadi while addressing the forces, expressed gratitude to all partners that supported the UPDF in its pre-deployment training and praised the team now under a new name of Global Peace Operation Initiative (GPOI) for a job well done.

He thanked UPDF instructors for equally keeping the standard of the centre to international standards.

While counseling the troops, the D/CDF applauded them for the perseverance and hard work exhibited throughout their stay at the centre.



However, he was quick to remind them not to sleep while on mission but work harder than ever before to consolidate their predecessors' achievements in Somalia.

He implored them to save their mission allowances with the UPDF SACCO (WSACCO), and later use it well during their future retirement journey. "You have left Uganda to go and add a productive stone in the stability of Somalia which will in the long run add to the total stability of the African continent. Strive harder than those who would have judged us by the heights of what we have achieved and we can do better in remembrance of the depth from which we started in 2007," he emphasized.

At the same ceremony, the UPDF Deputy Commander Land Forces (D/CLF) Maj Gen Sam Kavuma urged soldiers to put patriotism, discipline, and good fighting at the fore front as they execute their duties in Somalia.

Maj Gen Kavuma thanked the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs and UPDF leadership for the continued support given to the Centre which has helped it to strive to greater heights. "It is the mandate of the Commander Land Forces to mobilize support for the PSO-TC. Nevertheless, it takes full responsibility for the soldiers to be resilient and perform as expected during the training, I congratulate you for that," he remarked.

The D/CLF commended the troops for appreciating the services of Wazalendo Sacco (WSACCO) and reminded them that WSACCO is growing faster than any other SACCOs in the country and to match its speed, soldiers should push up front with it by not getting and investing loans in what he referred to as liabilities but rather in assets that are income generating.

The Outgoing Commandant of the PSO-TC Brig Gen Jackson Bakasumba told the troops that they have been ably trained and that he was satisfied with their readiness.

He asked for exceptional performance in Somalia and handed over the troops to the Deputy CDF for official deployment.

The flag off function was attended by a delegation from the African Union, representatives of the Netherlands Training Team, US and British military Training teams.

BG XXVIII will be commanded by Col Wilberforce Sserunkuuma while UNGU VI will be under Lt Col Nathan Bainomugisha, with a mission of guarding key UN installations and providing VIP protection, among others.

# CRIME IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY



Brig Victor Twesigye psc, ndc

*“We all have a fundamental right to live free from fear, free from crime, and free from disorder - but while we share that right, we also share the duty to secure it.”*

**William Bratton**

Crime has been severally defined according to the changing times. But simply put and for purposes of this discussion, this column wishes to settle for the following; an illegal act for which someone can be punished by the government, especially, a gross violation of law. Other definitions have tended to degrade it to call it just an act against morality

and as something reprehensible, foolish, or disgraceful. But in all legality and fairness... crime is an act harmful not only to some individual but also to a community, society or the state.

The discussion, this time round, will be premised on the happenings in our great country, with varying interpretations that are rational and often irrational as well! Depending on what a given actor intends to portray both for information, and at times misinformation, the end result often tends to take a form that was not earlier anticipated. The social media ‘craze’ of forward fast and read later has not only been disastrous, but embarrassing and degrading as well for both victims and culprits.

It is rather difficult to isolate crime and limit it to a definite geographical space due the inter-connectedness of the world through advanced and real-time communication platforms via the internet and social media. The only viable or positive side to this is that all actors can compare situations in distant locations, and draw lessons for better management, with the bad guys using the same ‘free for all’



information to design new tactics to beat law enforcement. A look at some accounts in the history of mankind, it can be noted that some religious communities regarded sin as a crime; some even highlighted the crime of sin very early in legendary or mythological accounts of origins like the tale of Adam and Eve and the theory of the original sin. This column is constrained to pursue that line! However, if humans are, indeed, another specie in the animal kingdom, research has shown that animal behavior and conduct is premised on the survival and procreation. Other animals and insects, except Man, depend mainly on instinct, while plants could depend on stimuli. Man with a developed brain has the ability to think, plan and execute a given task still in the confines of survival and procreation, both for the individual, group and more. This thinking can be applied to various scenarios in human beings' behavior, conduct and relations whether as individuals or groups.

It is upon this premise that this column wishes to restrict the discussion to violent crime. Time and space may be a constraint, but the discussion will be to the point. Scholars and other actors agree that, a violent crime or crime of violence is a crime in which an offender or perpetrator uses or threatens to use force upon a victim. This entails both crimes in which the violent act is the objective, such as murder or rape, as well as crimes in which violence is the means to an end. Violent crimes may, or may not, be committed with weapons. Depending on the jurisdiction, violent crimes may vary from homicide to harassment. Typically, violent criminals includes aircraft hijackers, bankrobbers, muggers, burglars, terrorists, carjackers, rapists, kidnappers, torturers, active shooters, murderers, gangsters, drug cartels, and others.

It may be strenuous for this column to discuss what is obtaining in our country at the moment, mainly because, some investigations, as part of the legal regimes and actions

by the law enforcement are still ongoing. But suffice it to say that generalities in the discourse could be allowed. Disclaimer!

Crime is not a new phenomenon in mankind, and one can comfortably posit that despite its metamorphosis over time, it has always been managed as it presents. And there are factors, both natural and artificial that facilitate its prevention and management. Therefore, for some sections of the society preferring to use descriptive phrases like; ... it's a new wave,...the security is overwhelmed,..are we in a crisis...etc, is to reduce reasoning to only as far as the intent is concerned!

There are constants in a given crime such as intent, motivation and circumstances. It could be out of revenge, profiteering or just unintended actions either in self defense or even accidental that in the end costs a life or lives. The intention could be premeditated or even circumstantial, and one would be unfair to generalize and regard all crimes as a mere wave, without analyzing the intent and motivation. The investigators usually look for finer details even after the crime(s) has been committed. This is not only meant to understand the genesis, but also to draw lessons to prevent other or similar crimes. Therefore, they need not only time, but understanding and patience by both the aggrieved and the concerned. And the legal fraternity will need the bare facts to determine redress.

There is a category of actors, that this column will carefully call insensitive, that always want to take advantage of the circumstances to achieve 'stardom' in their professional or even private lives and others wish to gain political mileage by painting their country insecure due to crimes that happen, equally or even to a greater magnitude, in areas far and wide! The statistics are available of what



*Demonstrators after setting ablaze a police post in Uganda's capital city Kampala.*



transpires in other geographical areas world over, and the stories reported are really scary, but one chooses to blind his/her own constituents for personal gain. I almost mentioned selfish!

Whereas it's true that globalization and technology has facilitated the criminals to up their sophistication, the security organs have also improved their capacities and competences in addressing crime. One can only imagine the potentially deadly crimes that the security apparatus has always prevented and nipped in the bud! Those who often exaggerate accountability could include the success stories as well. For instance, for a moderator, during a Television interview or discussion, to ask how many CCTV cameras are deployed, where they are deployed, their coverage, how they are networked, the number of patrol cars etc, is rather farfetched!

The changing natures of crimes, especially the violent ones, come with some challenges to the legal regimes that may need some upgrades as well. The sophistication brought about by modern technology and globalization could have made criminal activity more common, more lucrative, easier to commit or even harder to detect. For instance, the nature and content of the evidence required or available needs to be in tandem with the legal regimes. Incident management in the era of fast changing technology, the processing, tracking criminals, extraction of information in the face of the glaring public with varying intentions poses the need for new tools.

This column wishes to posit that as we confront crimes in our times and times to come, candor and basic decorum need to guide the discussions especially in reaction to a given crime incident or even a pattern, if you will. Peoples' representatives and those with a social status that allocates them constituents ought to remember that their constituents or followers usually take their word. One can only wonder how someone feels after leaving the media house having deceived the world for purely personal gains! Some are on record to have literally swallowed their words when the real facts of a given crime incident come out. This column will not forget someone who once said that... as he approached a scene of crime, he realized that a gun had been placed in the hands of the victim ... and he still has his shirt on!

It is not proper, and for largely selfish reasons, to put a country in a panic mode by exaggerating the actual situation that obtains on the ground. This great country has a memory, and the painful past is in our history. We have since recovered and known how to manage our affairs better!

In conclusion, we can expect changes in the practices and methods of committing profit-driven crimes and different perpetrators, perhaps drawn from a wider spectrum of society. Even hate or otherwise called love crimes by aggrieved spouses that are usually committed using the same means could still change in form and content. Technology will also lead to changes in techniques of prevention, detection and investigation. Therefore, crime, especially violent crime will still prevail, but its understanding and management can only regulate the gravity since a human mind is at the centre. The good news is that there is always a trail left and criminals should never get out of it alive or otherwise. Happy Independence Celebrations.

*The Writer is the Defence Adviser at Uganda High Commission, New Delhi India.*

*Congratulatory Message*

# STAUNCH<sup>®</sup>

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## MACHINERY UGANDA SINCE 1979

The management and staff Staunch Machinery Uganda Wishes to congratulate H.E Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni President of the Republic of Uganda and Commander -in- Chief of the Armed Forces, Cabinet, Members of Parliament, Officers and men of UPDF and all Ugandans upon the 57th Independence Day Anniversary



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Brig Felix Kulayigye

# The STATE in a DEMOCRACY



“Be submissive to every human institution and authority for the sake of the Lord, whether to a king or governor as the one in authority, sent by Him to bring vengeance (punishment, justice) to those who do wrong and to encourage those who do good service”

**T**he collapse of the Soviet bloc in 1989, orchestrated by collective efforts of Western intelligence agencies and the church, made some people simplistically think, the state was no longer necessary! Equally the birth of Civil Society Organisations was western innovation to remain in the poor economies, having direct influences in the population albeit at limited or no cost to the nation’s treasury. There has been no effort to appreciate (understand) the state in Africa; yet always judged on the same weighing scale with the state in Europe or the USA!

It is instructive to note that even the state in USA is not regarded ‘romantically’ by the citizens! In his book, “The Party is Over : How Republicans Went Crazy, Democrats Became Useless, and the Middle Class Got Shafted”, Paperback – August 27, 2013 Mike Lofgren wrote; “There was a time, not so very long ago, when perfectly rational people ran the Republican Party. So how did the party of Lincoln become the party of lunatics? That is what this book aims to answer. Fear not, the Dems come in for their share of tough talk— they are zombies, a party of the living dead.”

Lofgren wrote when he resigned in disgust after the debt ceiling crisis, The Party Is Over is a funny and impassioned exposé of everything that is wrong with Washington. Obama and his tired cohorts are no angels but they have nothing on the Republicans, whose wily strategists are bankrupting the country one craven vote at a time. Be prepared for some fireworks. Says The New York Times review.

The Eyadri wrote; “This book must be read by the widest spectrum of American intellectualism, be it the proverbial conservatives, liberals, ideologues, fanatics... etc. of different ages. This book has a lot to teach the interested and red blooded Americans, which most of us should be, about the hijacking through “terrorist” methods. Terrorist is mentioned here in line with today’s fad of labelling any action we do not like as terrorist act.

1 Peter 2:13 - 14.

Please I implore my fellow Americans to be informed citizens of our aging and contaminated “democracy”. It is important through this kind of objective academic debate by the educated be united to purge the parasitical forces that are, if we are not careful, taking us, our country, and our livelihood to the abyss. This is because the only loyalty is the financial bottom line or favourable actions to them, regardless of how many skeletons they crush”.

The above scenario is talking about a country with 246 years of independence!! What can one expect of Africa that was not allowed to grow into a modern state and come to independence and colonialism bit a retreat leaving a decapitated state!! Two examples may illustrate the point; the DRC was given five months to prepare for her independence elections, for a country that had only 03 graduates. The other is the United Republic of Tanzania, which had only 13 university graduates! This is on the assumption that those who had studied up to university had been equipped with leadership skills.

“WITHOUT THE LEVIATHAN, THE LIFE OF MAN IS SOLITARY, POOR, NASTY, BRUTISH AND SHORT.” ....THOMAS HOBBS (1651).



This political philosopher, that is regarded as a realist asserts the grounds for an authority over society. Authority is the right to govern, the freedom or ability to act, to punish and ensure justice. The scramble for Africa does not render inconsequential the nature of African states. What started at independence was a continued process of state formation, hitherto interrupted by colonialism characterized as nation building.

Independence marked the transformation of the African state into a European-type of modern states in total disregard of the

natural process of African stateness emerging from the objective reality. There was no foundation, no roots of state formation because they had been destroyed by the colonial state. The semblance of governance inherited by the African small elite, had neither organic authority nor democratic.

“The partition of Africa brought within the fold of one country peoples at different levels of social development without close historical contacts, yet splitting nationalities, and even families.” Prof M. Mamdani

The state must have monopoly over the means of violence as a way of regulating human beings in society, including those governing and the governed who are permanent than the former. According to Aristotle, the state emerged for the sake of the best life; the preservation of men and property which, he says are the greatest and chief objectives of a state. The state must not only establish order, but must also maintain it.

Adam Smith spelt out the cardinal role of the state as protecting society from violence and invasion from other states, protecting members of society from injustice of other members, maintaining public works & institutions and providing public goods. State building will entail ensuring Stability, Peace and Security, enforce Constitutionalism and rule of law, ensure respect for Human rights, strengthen institutions of democracy, ensure Effective Service delivery and create sustainable as well as legitimate state institutions.

The state will have to work for Economic growth and Development by providing Education to the population, promote Social- Economic transformation, social justice, ensure transparency and proper accountability of public resources, promotion of technology and infrastructure development. It is imperative to note, that the state must provide for and promote food security as well as ensure a healthy population through appropriate policies.

State building, encompasses; ensuring stability, peace and security, enforcing constitutionalism and rule of law, strengthening national judicial systems, encouraging respect for human rights, strengthening institutions of democracy, and public service delivery. It is instructive to note, that for the state to perform its roles, it must not only exist, but must be in charge of the entire country effectively.



Brig Henry N Masiko ndc (K)

# 57 YEARS OF UGANDA'S JOURNEY TO NATION HOOD:

Have we made strides in attaining the Strategic Aims of African Resistance?

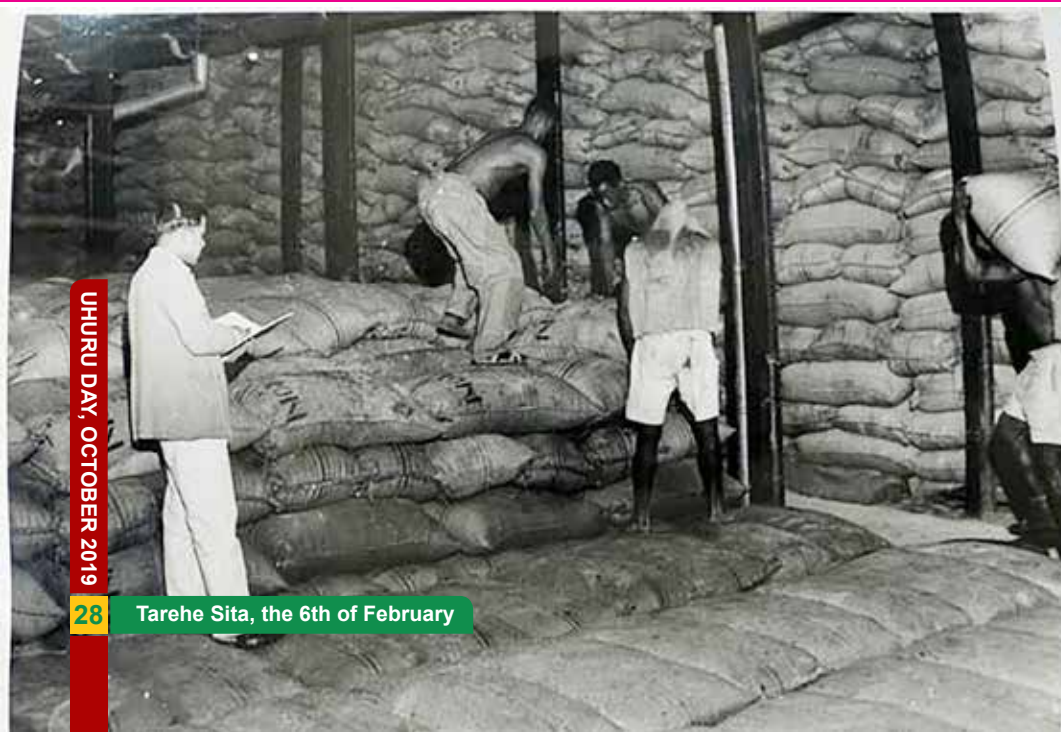
*“The Century of shame for Africa-1900-1994-when the subjugation of Africa was almost total-had come to an end, with partial success”*

**H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.** At the **NELSON MANDELA MEMORIAL LECTURE** at Makerere University.

The above quote provides the context of the theme of the 57th anniversary of Uganda's Independence, being “Consolidation of National Unity, Security, Freedom and Prosperity”. His Excellency observes that No doubt, by 1994, all African Countries had got “Independence”, at least on paper. However, he hastens to add that this was “Partial Success”. Therefore, in reflecting on the journey of the last fifty seven years, we ought to appreciate that the struggle to gain Independence aimed at attaining

strategic objective, namely to say, Never again should Africa be subjugated; never again should Africa be threatened by calamities such as Slave- trade and genocide, No, to continued wretched life and unprincipled disunity (absence of Patriotic Spirit) that rendered Africans vulnerable to conquest; No, to autocratic rule of Pre-colonial tribal chiefs and colonial oppression-hence welcome democracy; No, to cultural alienation and identity crisis. At Independence the 05 (five) big aims to be consolidated and or pursued were and still are:- Jealously Guarding the hard won Independence and freedom, deepening the attained Democracy, hitherto absent in Africa; Ensuring prosperity of the Africans for the first time, by striving to catch up with the rest of the world that had long experienced industrial revolution and machine age; Ensuring the Strategic Security and survival of African People, by paying attention to the agenda of Re-integration that is the only insurance against the threats of super powers, and Jealously protecting the African Identity and heritage.

Men arrange bags of sugar at Mehta Sugar Factory in Lugazi in 1924.



UHURU DAY, OCTOBER 2019



All along, Uganda, just like other African countries has experienced its own share of a difficult path to the Realization of the fruits of meaningful independence. The earliest bottleneck as has always been well articulated by the Commander-in-Chief of the UPDF Gen Yoweri Museveni was Ideological disorientation that cost the immediate Post – Independence era the much needed National unity and a secure environment in which the People would have strived for wealth creation. Hardly two years, down the lane of independence, we ought to recollect the numerous upheavals that befall the Country. First were the sectarian wrangles between the Uganda Peoples’ Congress, led by Dr Milton Obote, and the Mengo establishment. These wrangles eventually culminated into the abrogation of the 1962, independence constitution. All this was on account of a deficient Ideological Orientation that emphasized Politics of Identity (Religious and ethnic sectarianism) as opposed to Politics of Interests/hence Nationalism and Patriotism. Suffice to say, that 57 years to date, the Ideological question was decisively confronted with the emergence on the political scene, a generation of leaders who invested sufficient time and resources in sowing a mustard seed that has over the years sprouted and has yielded fruits of a Democratic Revolution, successive Recovery and steady signs of Socio-economic transformation.

The obstacle/bottleneck of failure to build a viable state was clearly evident in Uganda’s immediate Post-Independence upheavals that culminated in the near collapse of the fragile state. It ought to be acknowledged that the very pillar of

state machinery, the military-remained a colonial outfit that unleashed unprecedented brutality over the population. The Uganda Army which was purely a remnant of Kings African Rifles (K.A.R) could not guarantee the requisite security of persons and their property, leave alone guaranteeing the territorial integrity of Uganda. The IDI AMIN era clearly exposed the vulnerability of the Uganda state on two occasions, in 1976, with a successful Raid at Entebbe airport by Israelites to rescue their Nationals who had been victims of an aero plane hijack. Second and more disastrous was the 1978/9 war against Tanzania, that had been occasioned by the reckless – and adventurous invasion of the Kagera – Salient of the united Republic of Tanzania, and subsequent counter – offensive by the Tanzania Peoples’ Defence Forces that resoundingly dislodged the Uganda Army, leading to the fall of Idi Amin’s Government in less than six months encounter. Had it not been for President Nyerere’s PAN – Africanist credentials, Uganda could have been annexed to Tanzania. Another significant indicator of state collapse was in 1985 when Kampala Capital City fell in hands of different military outfits. The Common Wealth was at the verge of deploying a peace keeping force. However, the setbacks laid a foundation for a new resolve that eventually culminated in the formation of a Peoples’ Liberation force, based on correct political, military and organizational principles. Truth be told, Uganda state has since ceased being a pariah to, one that is admired, respected and trusted both internally and globally. Therefore, 57years down the lane, the Uganda state is a symbol of safety, peace, stability and modernization.

*President Museveni launching Soroti Fruit factory.*



Other bottlenecks ranged from faulty economic Philosophy that undermined the Role of the Private Sector, pursuing ill-conceived strategies that involved Government in almost all sectors of the economy even, when there were no efficient Public Service Cadres to sustain such business entities. At the height of Amin's so called Economic War, which saw massive expulsions of the Asian and European owners of most business and manufacturing entities, the economy literally shut down, leading to unprecedented misery of the ordinary Ugandans. The Phenomena of Magendo (Smuggling), speculative deals (Kusamula) replaced the known formal economic transactions, owing to the economic embargo that Uganda suffered after declaring the economic war. In the Ten-Point program, the NRM sought to reverse the economic ills, through a strategy of a mixed- economy, and laying firm foundation for building an integrated , independent, self-sustaining, national economy. Fifty- Seven years today, the economy of Uganda is poised to a steady trajectory towards moving Uganda from third World to a First World status, by the year 2025.

Indeed, the prestigious Harvard School of Economics gurus, have rightly projected that by the Year, 2025, Uganda shall be the 2<sup>nd</sup> fastest growing Economy, closely behind India.

The bottleneck of under-developed Infrastructure is vividly being tackled.

Recent rating of Countries that have made significant strides in building bituminized Roads across their respective territories put Uganda in the 4<sup>th</sup> place in Africa.

Ratings in Rural electrification show Uganda's percentage at 14% making it among the highest in Global ratings. Water for human, industrial and animal production stands at 70%

The Social Service Infrastructure in terms of health, education, housing and recreation have equally witnessed a phenomenal turn around.

On fragmented African markets, Uganda has been at the fore front of promoting efforts towards Economic Integration. Common market areas range from the Continental Initiative, such as the Africa Free Trade Zone, COMESA, and the East African Community. The Vision remains gradual Political Federation to enjoy the fruits of viable Political entities that shall insure Africa's survival and guarantee our strategic security and a bigger voice in global matters. Though, progress is still modest, prospects

of Africa's Renaissance and moving towards integration are very bright.

Tackling bottlenecks in the Agricultural and Industrial sectors, is now top priority, as the government strives to emancipate the more than 68% of the population from subsistence and abject poverty. Interventions such as Operation Wealth Creation, Youth Livelihood, Women Fund, skilling the youths and the Talent promotion funds ("Emyooga' funds) are progressive social action programmes, that will revolutionize agriculture, promote innovation and expand the manufacturing sector. The social action interventions are reinforcing a vibrant direct investment drive by both national and foreign investors. The combined efforts shall tackle the bottleneck of youth unemployment.

Governance and accountability were identified as an obstacle. Government decisively eradicated the state-inspired extra-judicial corrupt practices of looting and extortion by security agencies. What now persists are the corrupt practices of many public officials, misusing state resources and abusing their offices. Steps have been taken to augment the revived accountability agencies, and these are: the Inspectorate of Government, Auditor General's office, Parliament and Local government Public Accounts Committees and Investigative departments of the Police and other security agencies.

It is therefore right to answer the question of whether Uganda has made strides in attaining the Independence Goals, in affirmative. Yes, Uganda is unstoppable; the lingering challenges are the reason we ought to embrace a leadership with a mission of ensuring that Uganda gets transformed from the pre-modern, pre-industrial and subsistence economy, to a modern prosperous and industrial society that thrives within a PAN-African framework.

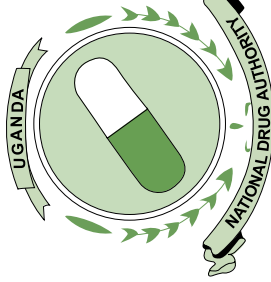
At 57 years, Africa, and indeed Uganda should re-assert her identity, inculcate a sense of pride in her cultural heritage and promote patriotic values. Efforts in this direction, such as establishment of patriotic clubs in schools, and moving towards the establishment of a National Youth Service program must be hailed and saluted.

Uganda's rise to Glory is real, Victory is certain.

Aluta continua,

Happy 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

***The writer is the UPDF Chief Political Commissar***



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*Lt Col Deo Akiiki (fndu)USA-MSSS*

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND NATIONAL SECURITY THREATS

# UGANDA'S REALITY

**S**ocial Media are connection and mass communication tools, characterized by a global diffusion and an ever-growing level of use, considering their handiness and flexibility, as well as their extreme cheapness. Such characteristics are not alien to the Ugandan urbanites.

The spread of social media, driven by internet boom and mobile technology is changing the way society operates. For the past couple of decades, the two main screens have been the Television screen and the computer screen. These days a host of smaller screens have joined the line-up; the screen on a cell phone, IPods or Ipad. The emergence of the small screen has encouraged the emergence of new trends; mass media have become increasingly mobile. The emergence and use of wireless laptops and cell phones are the current trend that has taken the world by storm, best known as “social media”. These simply are online communications that use special techniques that involve participation, conversation, sharing, collaboration, and linkage.

Today, social media tools have become a staple in the everyday lives of many Ugandans becoming one of the main methods of social connection and interaction around the world, whether between individuals, or with businesses and governments.

The growth of Web, its expanding global reach and potential new technologies to further its use and adoption necessitates that today’s social networking is a change in the form of human communication that cannot be ignored. Online social networks have impacted every field of human endeavor from education to health care and many more.

National security is no exception. Due to globalization, focus has now shifted to assessing the effects of non-state actors. The advancement in social media has increased the ability of non-state actors including terrorists, criminals, protestors, hate mongers and rioters to impact on national and international security.

Power is constantly shifting and diluting from states to groups and individuals. Since Social Media are extremely quickly evolving and are facing a many-sided interaction with geo-economic and socio-cultural elements, it is important to constantly monitor how they develop, analyze how they work, and measure their potentialities lest we put our mother land into an abyss of chaos.

We (Security agencies) should never be caught by surprise in case of a potential offensive use of Social Media by adversaries and at changing such innovative tools into resources of primary importance, to be ready for all the bodies involved in the protection of the national security.

Social media platforms have far reaching social and security implications for the people of Uganda, our government and our national security agencies such as the military, intelligence services and the police.

The sciences of computers have enabled social media to grow and reach the point where the exchange of information, both for good or evil now occurs on a global scale. For Uganda’s national security planners, this information superhighway creates many challenges despite the fact that social media is outside state control and does not discriminate.



Nevertheless, their use can help state foresee how emerging threats will present themselves in the future and figure out how to counter their effects.

As the eyes and ears of this country, it is imperative to determine the negative impact of social media on Uganda's national security, territorial integrity, its people, laws, values and national interests from both external and internal threats of all kinds.

In order to protect Uganda's freedom, security and prosperity, it is only fair that some that government harness online social networking tools and in equal measure monitor them in the event that it threatens national security. Several complaints may come, but ignoring them is the list word to use in the interest of the higher good.

It is imperative to always analyze social media and national security threats in Uganda. Look at the threats

of social media technology to national security; the use of social media by security agencies in preventing, limiting or removing threats to national security; and the current state of our national security and how social media makes it worse.

It is true to every Ugandan that social media are used by terrorist organizations as tools for ideological radicalization, recruitment, communication and training of its members. Terrorist groups like the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), Al-Shabaab have taken advantage of Social Media to communicate with cyber-crime groups and to coordinate along with them fundraising activities carried out in part or completely on the Internet.

Social media are also used by Islamist groups for propaganda activities aimed at making public successful terrorist attacks, and, consequently, at throwing civil population into a panic. Criminal

organizations are threats on drug smuggling, human trafficking and money-laundering. Many Ugandan community criminal organizations like “Kifesi”, Kado Kado, B 10 and B12 use social media as a tool to recruit, communicate, spread propaganda and radicalization to a great extent.

On the other hand, we as UPDF and ministry of defence and veteran affairs in general, have used social media for military operations, communicating processes of operation, boosting morale of soldiers, clarifying on propaganda messages sent by enemies and dispelling rumors, for updating civilians on the progress of military operations, for public relations and operations such as “operation Tokora” an operation intended to rid Kampala and surroundings of criminal gangs. Therefore for every dark cloud, there is a silver lining.

Social media is our Open-Source Intelligence to analyze social media threats as has been the case of recent track and arrest of abductors and other gangs.

Security agencies use social media as a tool for diplomacy in gathering and disseminating information. Through blogs, Face book, emails and Twitter, Ugandans can source and comment on topical political, economic as well as social issues hence giving them an edge towards prosperity.

Uganda being a member of the international community is not immune to forces of social media regarding its use and misuse. The use of social media as a new communication platform has introduced serious security and privacy concerns, including new vectors for cyber-attack that the government and the military cannot ignore.

Criminal gangs especially around Kampala and other urban areas such as Kifesi, terrorist organizations, non-state actors with bad intentions and subversive elements including ADF and Al-Shabaab, regularly use social media websites to disseminate propaganda with sole intention to reach out, recruit and radicalize their target audience.

Individuals use social media to send alarming messages, hate messages and false information to the public regarding state of national security affairs.

Most of the social media users remain unanimous and cannot be easily traced by law enforcement agencies and subsequent prosecution.

Security agencies therefore are faced with tough challenges to track, monitor and contain the use and misuse of social media relative to state security. National security demands a strategy such as monitoring conversations and content shared on Social Media, arranging effective methods to counter adversaries’ propaganda and interferences, improving governmental agencies and institutions’ performances, strengthening a state’s geopolitical position and its international credibility. However, such initiatives require sophisticated technologies which are very complex, costly by third world countries where Uganda falls. But we have no option but to comply.

It should be plainly told that social media pose major threats and unfavorable consequences for national security. In order to protect Uganda’s freedom, security and prosperity, it is only fair that any serious government must harness online social networking tools and in equal measure monitor them in the event that it threatens national security. Therefore, like addressing any other national security challenge, the military and other security agencies and indeed the public need to understand how social media threatens national security.

As security managers we still grapple in the dark as the monster of hatred is spread by irresponsible citizens hence leading to acts of terrorism, abduction, tribal clashes, information warfare and hate speech. Consequently, social media has at times succeeded in throwing civil population into undesirable consequences.

Kudos to the Government of Uganda and in particular our legislatures for developing a comprehensive and adaptive national government policy framework that identifies roles, responsibilities, and resources across the government in order to detect, defend and pre-empt social media threats to the nation? Whether the law on computer misuse is biting enough, is a discussion of another day.

Happy Independence Day Celebrations.

*The writer is the Deputy Defence Spokesperson.*

### ROADS AND CONNECTIVITY KEY TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

Commuting within the city is improving with new roads and junctions constructed by KCCA since its inception eight years ago. Many attest to reduced travel time to and fro work due to widened, and tarmacked city roads around the city, fitted with traffic lights at crucial junctions.

To date, KCCA has constructed 210 Kilometers of roads connected to major road networks and highways. This connectivity is increasingly easing movement, in and out of the city. KCCA is working with neighboring municipalities and districts of Kiira, Wakiso, Entebbe, Mukono and Mpigi to create quality alternative routes to connect the Greater Kampala and improve productivity.

A new set of roads in the city were flagged off by the President of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Museveni in July 2019. The President launched the road construction along Kabuus-Bunamwaya road in Rubaga Division. The eight kilometer road connects to Lweza in Wakiso District, and to the Kampala Entebbe Expressway as well as the Northern Bypass.

KCCA is currently constructing 48 tarmac roads, a total of 54 kilometers and another 72 km of roads are designed and are due to be constructed. Furthermore, the Authority regularly maintains over 500 kilometers of gravel roads to improve movement. In addition, KCCA is constructing Acacia/John Babiha Avenue - about two kilometers long; Nakawa-Ntinda Road - about three kilometers long; Kulambiro Ring Road and Najeera Link - six kilometers long; and Lukuli Road - eight kilometers long.

Some of the road construction is financed under the second phase of the Kampala Institutional Infrastructure Development Project supported by the World Bank. All new roads have eco-friendly street lighting, paved walkways and signalized junctions.

New city infrastructure is catering for the ever increasing number of cars and boosting economic activity, and income generation. Equally, the value of land and properties along new roads have nearly doubled; residents and road users are healthier with neighborhoods increasingly becoming dust-free; rides without potholes have reduced damage on vehicles and related costs.

### KCCA CONSTRUCTS MAJOR DRAINAGE CHANNELS TO CONTROL CITY FLOODS

KCCA continues to reduce flooding in the city by constructing several drainage channels in five divisions of Kampala. This development is guided by a Drainage Master Plan. KCCA is starting the construction of Lubigi, Nakamiro, and Nalukolongo before end of 2019, under the Second Kampala Institutional and Infrastructure Development Project.

KCCA is also improving and constructing selected community drains within Kampala. These interventions do not only curb flooding in the City, but do provide safety for vulnerable communities living in wetlands. The constructed community drains ensure that deep drainage holes are secured, and damping of solid waste is deterred.

The City Authority is also providing routine maintenance and de-silting services for several community drains including the 9 km Nakibubo channel.

Lastly, several major drainage channels are designed and ready for construction once funding is secured. This included relocating communities living in wetlands along the drainage corridors. The designed drainage channels include Kinawataka, Kansanga, and Gaba channels.





## UPDF Communication Officers Urged to Uphold Professionalism

**U**PDF Senior Communication Officers were urged to uphold best practices and professionalism as they execute their duties.

This call was made by the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs (MODVA) Undersecretary for Finance and Administration Mrs. Edith Buturo while representing the Defence Ministry's Permanent Secretary Mrs. Rosette Byengoma at the closure of the Strategic Communication and Media training. Thirty four (34) officers attended the one-week (2-6th September 2019) course at Rivonia Suites in Mbuya.

In her remarks, she encouraged participants to uphold best practices, professionalism and maintain discipline in their formations and units to maintain the good image of UPDF.

Mrs. Buturo encouraged participants to use the acquired skills and knowledge to improve service delivery within the UPDF and other Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

She noted that training strengthens the image of UPDF and builds confidence among participants as they share experiences.

The Defence Ministry Undersecretary commended the UK Joint Instruction Activity Group (JIAG) for supporting the training, saying that the act is a demonstration of the close relationship between Uganda and UK.

The UK Chief instructor Flight Lieutenant Chester Myers lauded participants for the enthusiasm to learn throughout





*Mrs Edith Butuuro(C), Brig Richard Karemire, Ms Sarah Kagingo, UK JIAG team and UPDF Senior Communications Officers.*

out the week long training. “We have enjoyed our stay in Uganda and we have learnt a lot from our Ugandan colleagues,” he added.

During the opening ceremony, the UPDF Joint Chief of Staff (JCOS) Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu encouraged trainees to continuously communicate the UPDF doctrine and pro-actively inform the public as instructed by the UPDF Commander-in- Chief Gen Yoweri Museveni to minimize internal and external threats.

The Defence Spokesperson Brig Richard Karemire thanked the UPDF leadership for supporting the training. He further noted that continuous training improves performance and leads to efficiency. He said he was hopeful the training would bear fruits sooner than later.

Participants acquired skills in practical news writing and reporting, crisis communication, writing press releases, interviewing techniques, information operations, photography, and defensive news briefs, among others.

The ceremony which concluded with the awarding of certificates to participants and mementos to instructors was also attended by a representative of the British High Commission in Uganda as well as the President of the Public Relations Association of Uganda (PRAU) Ms Sarah Kagingo.



*(LEFT) The Communication Officers during an exercise.*

*(RIGHT) JIAG Instructor talks to participants.*



## FRENCH ENVOY Meets UGANDA'S Defence Minister

*H.E Jules Armand Aniambossou (R) interacting with Hon Adolf Mwesige*

**T**he Ambassador of France to Uganda H.E Jules Armand Aniambossou met with Uganda's Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs (MODVA) Hon Adolf Mwesige.

The meeting, held at the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs in Kampala, focused on how to strengthen and improve on the existing cordial relationship between Uganda and France, most especially in areas of peace and security.

Ambassador Jules Armand praised the role played by UPDF in stabilizing Uganda and beyond. He said Uganda is able to fend off its enemies because of its special relationship with international partners, good leadership and good governance.

He pledged to strengthen the existing mutual relationship between Uganda and France that is built on upholding good governance principles like education for all, women emancipation, youth employment, respect for human rights, and engagement in business based on respect, among others.

Amb Jules Armand noted that "there is no future for Europe without the African continent", citing the need to work together for continuous transformation.

The French Ambassador further promised to invite more French tourists to Uganda because of Uganda's beautiful scenery, terrain and wildlife.

Uganda's Defence and Veteran Affairs minister commended the French Government for the good working relationship with Uganda, most especially in the sector of security and defence. He noted that Uganda looks forward to sustain this support for the continuous transformation of its people.

Hon Mwesige particularly lauded France for its tremendous support in building the UPDF mountain brigade and providing the pre-support mission training of UPDF troops at the Peace Support Operations-Training Centre (PSO-TC) in Singo.

He remarked that the Ugandan Government has set good working policies, provided good infrastructure, guaranteed peace and security, among others; for the economy to flourish.

Hon Mwesige was flanked by the MODVA Undersecretary in charge of Finance and Administration Mrs. Edith Buturo on behalf of the Permanent Secretary Mrs. Rosette Byengoma, the UPDF Joint Chief of Staff Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu and the Defence Spokesperson Brig Richard Karemire, among others.



*Hon Adolf Mwesige receives KAR digitized History from Lt Col Mathew Edwards. Left is Hon Lt Col(Rtd) Bright Rwamirama and the UPDF Comdr CSD Lt Gen Pecos Kutesa.*

## Uganda Receives **KAR Digitized History**

**T**he Uganda Government received a digitized history of the King's African Rifles (KAR) from the British Government at the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs (MODVA) headquarters in Mbuya, Kampala.

The Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige received the digitalized KAR war records (war diary, medals and citations of KAR ex-service men) on behalf of the Ugandan Government.

Britain's Defence Advisor to Uganda Lt Col Mathew Edwards handed over the KAR war records on behalf of the British Armed Forces.

Hon Mwesige hailed the long-standing collaboration between Uganda and Britain on peace, security, health, and history, among other issues. He mentioned that KAR digitized history provides a historical linkage between Uganda and Britain, and strengthens the existing cooperation between both countries as they share lessons from past experiences.

"These digitized records will enrich both the UPDF doctrine and its museum since they reflect on the past; thus providing lessons for others to learn," said the Minister.

He said such historical records provide an opportunity to share Knowledge and acts as a point of reference for all

generations. "Such exciting digitized history is a basis for our existence, most especially for the military veterans," he noted.

Hon Mwesige further commended the British Government for recognizing the contribution of KAR veterans in the pacification of Uganda and requested for the extension of the same to post-independence veterans.

Lt Col Mathew Edwards expressed gratitude to Uganda's military preparedness and strength exhibited in its recognition of history and pledged to continue supporting Uganda's programs.

KAR war records were picked from the UK National Archive and the Bodleian Library Collection. The King's African Rifles was a multi-battalion British colonial regiment raised from Britain's various colonies in East Africa from 1902 until Independence in the 1960's.

The handover of materials was also witnessed by the Minister of State for Defence In charge of Veteran Affairs Lt Col (Rtd) Dr. Bright Rwamirama, the UPDF Commander of the Centre for Doctrine Synthesization and Development Lt Gen Pecos Kutesa, and the Human Resource Commissioner Mr. Cox Anguzo, among others.



*Brig Henry Masiko receives a souvenir from Dr. Thomas Wellenhofer.*

## Germany among UPDF's Key Training Partners

**-Brig Masiko**

**T**he German Government was lauded for supporting the transformation of Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) into a professional army that respects the existence of democracy, patriotism and Pan-Africanism for society to prosper.

This was revealed by the UPDF Chief Political Commissar (CPC) Brig Henry Masiko while meeting a delegation of visiting students from the Germany-based Bavaria Elite Academy (BEA) on behalf of the Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi at the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs Headquarters in Kampala.

Brig Masiko noted that Germany is very helpful in improving the technical competence of UPDF personnel, adding that such mutual diplomatic engagements that aim at eliminating disparities will make the world a better place. **"We are the same people with similar challenges. Therefore it is important to interface and amicably address our challenges,"** stated the CPC.

He implored Germany to explore the benefits from the mutual engagement so that more trade opportunities, and not aid, can be realized across the region.

Brig Masiko urged the visiting delegation to be good ambassadors of the UPDF in this competitive world that demands building mutual relationships.

The leader of the BEA delegation, Dr. Thomas Wellenhofer commended UPDF for stabilizing the country and beyond, noting that mutual cooperation is the only sure way of addressing challenges that come with globalization and digitalization.

He appreciated the friendship created between UPDF and the BEA that will ensure the growth of more personnel with better research and leadership skills from either institution.

During the same meeting, the Director of UPDF Strategic Communication Col Paddy Ankunda, noted that it is imperative for **“African problems to be tackled with African solutions”** since most African challenges have a common ethnic semblance citing the example of refugees from South Sudan into Uganda. Both delegations exchanged gifts in honor of the existing good relationship.



Seated- Brig Henry Masiko(3L), Dr. Thomas Wellenhofer(Middle), Col Paddy Ankunda with UPDF Officers and students from Bavaria Elite Academy.

# Ensure Routine Medical Examination - CLF



*Lt Gen Peter Elwelu addressing Land Forces Leaders during preparatory meeting for physical fitness test.*

**T**he UPDF Commander Land Forces (CLF), Lt Gen Peter Elwelu instructed all Officers and Militants under Land Forces to adhere to the strategic directive issued by the President and Commander-in-Chief (C-i-C) of the UPDF His Excellency Gen (Rtd) Yoweri K Museveni in 2015 on routine medical examination.

The CLF made the remark while addressing a planning committee on physical fitness exercises for commanders and directors under Land Forces.

“Everyone must be medically and physically fit if we are to deliver our best to the nation and remain relevant to our families. In this regard, we will all adhere to the C-i-C’s directive on routine medical examination,” he said. Elwelu added that it is not appropriate for a directive to take long without full implementation. “We are already late on this matter and we must do it now,” the CLF emphasized.

Following the C-i-C’s directive of September 2015, the UPDF Chieftaincy of Medical Services issued guidelines that required all Lieutenant Colonels and above to have running routine examination files at Nakasero Hospital while Majors and below be recorded at Bombo General Military Hospital (GMH).

The CLF implored all UPDF troops to utilize the acquired modern equipment at GMH to lessen the escalation to chronic conditions.

“Life is delicate. Don’t first wait to fall sick before you go to hospital. The earlier we detect an impending ailment the

better for us and the UPDF. When we wait, we may give the ailment a chance to become chronic that is if it has not led to abrupt death. Chronic conditions do not only render us less productive to our families and the UPDF institution but also have huge budgetary implications to the institution,” Lt Gen Elwelu noted.

He added that Land Forces is developing a mechanism to monitor those that have not embraced the free medical services at GMH.

The examination is free and the CLF didn’t know why one should miss it. The same will cost soldiers lots of money in other hospitals especially when it involves, for example, issues to do with the heart.

As a result, Land Forces headquarters has started annual physical fitness tests beginning with commanders and directors so that they implement the same in their units and formations.

Physical fitness is routine in formations and units for soldiers to remain relevant. The Land Force annual physical fitness test was organized for commanders down to battalion level and directors under land forces. It started with formation of an exercise paper and a trial exercise done by directors on 18th September 2019 ahead of the final exercise on October 2, 2019. It involved both basic physical test and combat physical test. The basic physical test involved a 2.5km run, sit-ups and push-ups. The combat fitness test entailed a 20km walk in full marching order.



*Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu handing over a copy of Sowing the Mustard Seed to Col Hosny El Noby.*

## UPDF BIDS FAREWELL TO EGYPTIAN MILITARY DIPLOMAT

**T**he UPDF Joint Chief of Staff (JCOS) Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu on behalf of the Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi bid farewell to the Outgoing Egyptian Defence Attaché to Uganda Col Hosny El Noby.

Col El Noby, who served in Uganda for One and half years, commended UPDF for helping him achieve his country's goals during his tour of duty. **"My good cooperation with UPDF made my work easier," Col Hosny appreciated.**

Col El Noby expressed gratitude for the tremendous support UPDF rendered him and requested that the same be extended to his successor Brig Gen Osama Abdelfadeel Selim, whom he introduced to his host.

The JCOS applauded him for stepping up defence cooperation between UPDF and the Egyptian Armed Forces during his tour. He wished Col El Noby the best in his future assignment and requested him to be a UPDF ambassador.

The Incoming Egyptian Defence Attaché Brig Selim promised to strengthen the existing mutual cooperation between Egypt and Uganda, and urged UPDF to offer training opportunities for Egyptian officers more especially at the Senior Command and Staff College in Kimaka as a measure of upping the existing exchange program.

The Egyptian Government has offered Uganda more training opportunities in Egypt most especially in the military field as a result of Col El Noby's effort.

After the meeting, Lt Gen Musanyufu gave both the Outgoing and Incoming Egyptian Defence Attachés' books detailing Uganda's revolution titled "Sowing the Mustard Seed" and authored by President Yoweri Museveni.

Brig Gen Selim also presented a souvenir to the JCOS. Present at the farewell meeting was Uganda's Defence Attaché designate to Egypt Brig Metland Bitumbika, among others.

# CHANGE OF COMMAND AT SFC



*Maj Gen Don Nabasa(R) hands over the office of Commander SFC to the incoming Maj Gen James Birungi.*

**M**aj Gen Don Nabasa, handed over office of the UPDF Commander Special Forces Command (CSFC), to the incoming, Maj Gen James Birungi, at a ceremony held at 10 Marine Battalion headquarters, Entebbe.

The Handover/Takeover ceremony was presided over by the Special Presidential Advisor on Special Operations (SPA/SO), Lt Gen Muhoozi Kainerugaba.

Maj Gen Nabasa in his speech, highlighted some of the achievements registered while in office which include: constructing and renovating a host of housing units to cater for the force's accommodation, conducting skilled and specialized trainings for troops, building Dr. Ronald Bata memorial Hospital as well as expanding and equipping it with the state-of-the-art machines.

The hospital caters for militants, their families and the civilian communities around Lunyo Barracks in Entebbe.

In his acceptance speech, the incoming CSFC, Maj Gen Birungi, thanked H.E the President and Commander-in-Chief of the UPDF for appointing him to serve in the elite force.

He pledged to work tirelessly with the support of the UPDF leadership, SPA/SO and militants from the SFC.

Lt Gen Muhoozi, in his remarks, thanked Maj Gen Nabasa for a job well done most especially in the area of infrastructural development.

He wished him well in his scheduled Defence and Strategic Leadership Course and tasked the incoming Commander SFC to focus more on skill acquisition, most especially in the area of Para trooping.

The Handover/Takeover ceremony was attended by the UPDF Commander Land Forces Lt Gen Peter Elwelu, Deputy Inspector General of Police Maj Gen Muzei Sabiti, UPDF-AF Deputy Commander Maj Gen Gavvas Mugenyi, Deputy Commander SFC Col Peter Candia and the Director of Administration SFC Col Felix Busizoori, among others.

# CHANGE OF COMMAND AT THE CTR

**M**aj Gen Willis Byarugaba handed over the office of the UPDF Chieftaincy of Training and Recruitment (CTR) to Brig James Kinalwa at a ceremony presided over by UPDF Joint Chief of Staff (JCOS) Lt Gen Joseph Musanyufu.

The handover/takeover ceremony took place at the ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs Headquarters in Kampala.

The Chieftaincy of Training and Recruitment is in charge of training all UPDF officers and men, both inland and abroad with a mission of ensuring quality training in the army. It is also charged with recruiting new militants.

While presiding over the ceremony Lt Gen Musanyufu said the handover was historical because it is career changing as the Outgoing Chief is heading for retirement.

He congratulated the new Chief of Training and Recruitment Brig James Kinalwa upon his new appointment and thanked the Outgoing CTR Maj Gen Willis Byarugaba for being a loyal and dedicated officer. "Training is the back bone of the Forces," JCOS said, noting that throughout his tenure the Outgoing CTR made it a priority.

Musanyufu further called upon all militants to emulate Maj Gen Byarugaba's career and urged them to uphold the army's historical ideological and disciplinary standards.

The Outgoing CTR lauded the UPDF Leadership for the good cooperation and support that made his work easier.

He congratulated and urged his successor to maintain the high standards of the Chieftaincy and build on the ongoing programs ( like building the UPDF school of supplies in Jinja, supporting the mountain warfare training school in Karugutu, embracing joint military training courses in different army schools, among others) for the betterment of the army. "I have done my work without fear, that's what I could afford, improve on it," noted Maj Gen Byarugaba.

The new CTR Brig James Kinalwa applauded the Outgoing CTR for a job well done and noted that he was extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve both UPDF and Uganda in a different capacity.

He, however, thanked the Outgoing CTR for being selfless in serving his country but also a viable team player who often shared with his subordinates.

Brig Kinalwa committed himself to upholding the standards of the office and promised to further the implementation of the Commander-in-Chief's guidance on training.

The handover/takeover ceremony was graced by the attendance of the Commandant of Kaweweta Warfare School of Training and Recruitment Brig James Ruhesi, Commandant of Mountain Warfare Training School Col DM Kavuma, Commandant Logistics and Engineering Col Rutaremwa, among other UPDF Chiefs and Directors.

## UPDF Remains Committed to Protecting Human Rights

The Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi reiterated UPDFs' commitment to protecting human rights.

This was observed during a meeting with the Executive Director of Human Rights Network for Journalists-Uganda Mr. Robert Ssempera at the Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs headquarters in Kampala.

The duo discussed cooperation in the area of improving journalism standards as well as creating a harmonious relationship between UPDF and the media through improved channels of communication. The UPDF Leadership established a fully fledged human rights directorate that works with other organizations to enhance UPDF's capacity in promoting human rights.

Gen Muhoozi stressed that UPDF cherishes the existing strategic partnership with the media in the course of latter's execution of its functions as laid out in the 1995 Uganda Constitution.

He further noted that UPDF focuses on the continuous improvement of its relationship with the people that has been built over time, which can only be realized through relentless efforts that create an environment where people can realize full rights. "It is not true that some genuine cases of offences or abuses by soldiers go unreported or offenders go unpunished as insinuated by some sections of the media," the CDF observed.

Muhoozi further emphasized that cases of soldiers' misconduct have been reported and action has been taken although not always publicized. Mr. Robert Ssempera appreciated UPDF for its



Gen David Muhoozi (R) with a delegation from Human Rights Network for journalists.

contribution towards ensuring peace, security and stability in the country.

“This kind of devotion has a lot to do with hard work, discipline and sacrifice on your part and every member of your team,” Mr. Sempala said. He further lauded UPDF for its reputation in building collaborative partnerships with other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

Mr. Sempala expressed gratitude to the UPDF leadership for endeavoring to provide support to media practitioners caught up during overt and covert operations and further urged the UPDF leadership to strengthen its relationship with the Human Rights Network for Journalists-Uganda. The meeting was also attended by the Defence Spokesperson Brig Richard Karemiri, amongs.



## SUMMER AUTO SERVICES LTD

The Management and Staff of Summer Auto Services Ltd congratulates, H.E. Y.K. Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, Cabinet, Judiciary, Parliament, Ministry of Defence / UPDF and all the People of Uganda as we celebrate this year's Independence day.

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# UPDF *Appoints* caretaker Deputy Chief of Personnel *and* Administration

By Kiggo Grace



Seated L-R Brig (Rtd) Sam Kakuru, Brig George Igumba, Brig Emmy Mulindwa with Senior Officers.

**B**rig Sam Kakuru handed over office and responsibilities as Deputy Chief of Personnel and Administration (D/CPA) to Brig Emmy Mulindwa at the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs Headquarters in Mbuya.

Brig Kakuru joined the Forces in 1979 and served in different capacities as; Director Personnel and Administration Land Forces, Deputy Chief of Training and Recruitment, Director Personnel and Administration at UPDAF, among other responsibilities.

In 2014 he took over office of Deputy CPA and immensely helped in personnel recruitment and management, personnel career progression, career guidance and planning.

He joined other 17 General officers who retired in July 2017.

The UPDF Chief of Personnel and Administration Brig George Igumba while addressing Officers thanked the outgoing Deputy CPA for persevering all through the 40 years of serving UPDF.

He added that the journey walked has not been a mini achievement. *"You have walked the talk and*

*served this office with all the zeal and whole heart. Your journey is worth celebrating at a time when UPDF is more professional,"* said Brig Igumba.

The CPA implored the outgoing D/CPA to continue being loyal to both the state and Army. To those still serving, Brig Igumba reminded them that they are the custodians of discipline so they should always lead by example.

Brig Kakuru thanked the entire MODVA/UPDF fraternity for all the support throughout his career. *"I laid my stone towards UPDF's transformational journey and am going home a happy man,"* he noted.

The incoming Deputy CPA Brig Emmy Mulindwa accepted the office and promised to carry on the mantle which will enable him produce able, disciplined and promising military personnel.

The colourful function was attended by UPDF Chiefs, Directors and heads of departments.

## 57th Independence Anniversary



The Management and Staff of Tata Uganda Limited congratulate  
**His Excellency Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni,**  
President of the Republic of Uganda and the entire  
population upon celebrating

### 57th Anniversary of Independence

Long Live Uganda



**TATA Uganda Limited, Plot 52 Lugogo Bypass Kampala**

Leadership with Trust

**T**he Senior Presidential Advisor on Special Operations (SPA/SO), Lt Gen Muhoozi Keinerugaba appreciated the existing cooperation between the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) and the South Africa National Defence Forces (SANDF).

This remark was made while officiating at the end of the Special Forces Operators' Course, at Sera Kasenyi Training School in Wakiso District.

"The relationship between the Special Forces Command (SFC) of the UPDF and the South Africa Special Forces Brigade (SAFB) of the SANDF is a milestone in our history," noted Lt Gen Keinerugaba.

About 400 Special Forces Command soldiers were passed out after successfully completing the eight month TIER (LEVEL) II Course Intake /19. 04 participants were from the South Africa Special Forces Brigade.

Lt Gen Keinerugaba said this was the first time since 1994 when apartheid was defeated in South Africa that such a tactical course involving soldiers has been attended by our brothers from the SANDF. He added that before 1994, NRA had members of the Mkoto Nsizwe- the army of the African National Congress (ANC) party here in Kaweweta for a long time from 1989 to 1994 after they shifted their base from Angola.

Lt Gen Keinerugaba applauded the leadership of the UPDF for allowing Kasenyi develop from a bush school to now a centre of excellence, where we can now host our brothers from South Africa.

He appealed to the Deputy Commander Land Forces, Maj Gen Sam Kavuma to offer more support to Sera Kasenyi training school since it is now an international school and asked the commander of South Africa Special Forces Brigade, Brig Maloma, to send more operators for this training.

To the newly trained troops, Lt Gen Keinerugaba cautioned them to take pride in their skills, weapons and history of their respective units.

The commander of the South Africa Special Forces Brigade, Brig Maloma, said African troops should be ready to fight for the liberation of Africa irrespective of their countries of origin. He said Uganda contributed enormously to the liberation of South Africa from apartheid on grounds of Pan- Africanism.

## Newly Trained **SPECIAL FORCES COMMAND** Soldiers Graduate

By Maj Jimmy Omara

*SFC Operators exhibit some of the newly acquired martial arts skills.*

**Lt Gen Muhoozi Keinerugaba recognises one of the SFC Operators.**



**Lt Gen Muhoozi Keinerugaba and Brig Maloma arrive at Sera Kasenyi Training School.**



The commander of SFC, Maj Gen James Birungi, thanked troops for completing the course and cautioned them against living reckless lives. Brig Maloma was pleased that South African soldiers can now speak Kiswahili, which will make their work easier.

TIER II Course is meant to train troops on the cardinal principles of protection of Very Very Important Persons (VVIPs), Small Unit Tactics (SUTs) and General Martial Arts skills. The course started in October 2018 and ended in June 2019.

The pass out was also attended by the UPDF Deputy Commander of Land Forces, Maj Gen Sam Kavuma, and UPDF senior officers, among others.

# MOGAS (U) trains UPDF Officers in Lubricants Technology

**M**OGAS (U) boosted its partnership with UPDF by organizing a refresher training opportunity for UPDF officers and men in lubricants technology at the Silver Springs Hotel in Kampala.

The training was organized under the theme: **“Lubrication for Today’s Advancing Technology.”**

As one of the leading clients for MOGAS (U) products, the training was aimed at getting customer feedback from

UPDF militants about MOGAS (U) while at the same time identifying potential areas that call for improvement.

While giving his opening remarks, the MOGAS group CEO Mr. Rugazoora Geoffrey, welcomed participants to the training and informed them that the training was particularly tailor made for UPDF since it exists as a special group to MOGAS (U) both as an army and as a client.

He further thanked the UPDF leadership for partnering with MOGAS (U) to tackle global threats. The UPDF Commander Service Brigade Brig Ronald Bigirwa thanked MOGAS (U) for organizing such an educative seminar since lubricant technology is dynamic.

He called upon officers at the training to pass-on the acquired knowledge to their colleagues back in their units.

Maj Kwebiha thanked the MOGAS team for the training and promised to pass-on the acquired skills.

Participants were taken through various areas like safety measures, lubrication fundamentals, best practices for maintenance of lubricants and briefed about the different oils and lubricants.

At the closure of the training, participants were awarded certificates in lubricant technology.





Mr. Rugazoora Geoffrey (Black Suit), Brig Ronald Bigirwa (5L) with newly trained UPDF Officers.



# UGANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

**The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Uganda Civil Aviation Authority (UCAA) congratulate the President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the Cabinet, Members of Parliament and all Ugandans on the historic 57th Independence Anniversary.**

This year's independence celebrations come at a time when UCAA has just been commended by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) for a positive contribution towards resolving aviation security oversight deficiencies, which is a vote of confidence in Uganda's air transport industry.

The prevailing peace and stability ushered in by the government has enabled the Authority to deliver the mandate of promoting "the highest standards of safety, security and service in civil aviation"

*Uganda Civil Aviation Authority, Safety, Safety and Safety*





Director EASF Dr Abdillahi(R) with Senior Officers from Algeria, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda.

## EASF to become AU's regional Standby Force

Diana Kyangungu

**E**astern African Standby Force (EASF) is set to become the regional standby force for the African Union (AU). This means that it will draw its mandate from the AU before deployment.

For the last 15 years, EASF has been training various participants and has built a database of over 5200 personnel from 10 different countries that include military, police and civilians.

These personnel will remain operational in their respective countries until called upon for deployment.

The different countries that form the Eastern Africa Standby Forces are Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.

Speaking at the function to commemorate 15 years of EASF existence at the secretariat in Karen-Kenya, the Director EASF, Dr. Abdillahi Omar Bouh thanked different member states for their participation in getting the Force ready.

He further extended his gratitude to the UK and Germany Governments for the support that ensures the smooth running of various trainings.

Dr. Abdillahi assured representatives from member states of EASF's readiness to deploy. "EASF has been ready to deploy and awaits instructions from the African Union," he said.

The EASF Force Commander, Brig Aladdin applauded member states for sending professionals to participate in the various exercises. He added that the joint training is mainly for purposes of conducting operational briefs of different components to ensure readiness when deployed. "This is the best way to harmonize different backgrounds, cultures and doctrines for easy functionality," noted Brig Aladdin.

Guests were later taken on a guided tour of the field training where participants from the ten countries gave briefs on how they would carry out their roles in their respective components when deployed.

The celebrations to mark 15 years of EASF existence were also attended by the Deputy Ambassador of Uganda to the United Arab Emirates Dr. Omara Sam, Mrs. Sanyu Mandy Counselor at Uganda's High Commission in Kenya, senior military and Police officers from Algeria, Canada, Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda, and civilian delegates, among others.



Officers from UPDF and UPF at the recently concluded EASF training in Karen, Kenya.



# UGANDA ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED

## 57 years of Independence

### Independence Day Celebrations

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited (UETCL) congratulate His Excellency the President, Cabinet Ministers, Honorable Members of Parliament and the people of Uganda on the occasion to celebrate the 57th Independence Day.

The Government of Uganda, through the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) is establishing Industrial Parks in selected areas country wide to promote industrialization and create employment opportunities for Ugandans. These parks demand for a steady supply of high voltage electricity to meet the small, medium and large scale industrial loads for efficiency without interruption from power outages.

The project comprises of;

- Luzira Industrial Park 3X40MVA, 132/33kV Substation and transmission Line Project (15km)
- Mukono Industrial Park 3X60MVA, 132/33kV Substation and Transmission Line Project (5km)
- Iganga Industrial Park 2X40MVA, 132/33kV Substation and Transmission Line Projects (10km)
- Namanve South 3X60MVA, 132/33kV Substation and Transmission Line Project (5km)

Once completed, the project benefits will include reduction of network losses due to the more efficient transmission of power on the 132kV voltage level compared to the current distribution of energy on 33kV level. There will be minimal diesel generation in Industrial Parks because of the reliable and efficient power supply by UETCL.

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*Deputy Amb Nathan Mugisha addressing Ugandan press in Somalia.*

# SOMALIA: AMISOM's Planned Exit

*By Lt Col Henry Obbo*

**J**ournalists from twelve Ugandan media houses traveled to Somalia in mid-September to get firsthand information on the operations of Ugandan forces serving under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). While there, the team interacted with key leaders in the mission area as well as the troops. Below are some of the ideas from the interactions.

## What is Somalia's problem?

Uganda's deputy head of mission in Somalia, Ambassador Maj Gen (Rtd) Nathan Mugisha said Al-Shabaab is not the problem in Somalia and AMISOM has no solution to the problem but it can only provide the necessary conditions for the problem resolution.

"Al-Shabaab is not the problem in Somalia. The problem of Somalia is not a security one. The security situation here is a consequence of failed political lines of operations. If we do not get this right, even if we deploy 100,000 AMISOM troops they will not solve this problem," remarked Amb Nathan Mugisha.

The Ambassador said Al-Shabaab is like mist that would automatically disappear if the real problems of Somalia are sorted out. "The problem here is very easy to resolve if we can put our hands together to help the Federal Government and the states get the political line of operation correct," he noted.

He added that AMISOM's contribution needs to be blended with other efforts to make a permanent impact. "It is not



UPDF's Col Wilberforce Sserunkuma (L) and Lt Col Richard Ochaka mentoring SNA.

only about the military. It requires other lines of operations. We need to make sure there are other peace dividends that accomplish the success of the military operations to make sure that we win the hearts and minds of the people," he said.

He noted that AMISOM removed Al-Shabaab from many places but the government has not replaced the infrastructure of the insurgents with government facilities. This he said, enables Al-Shabaab to continue influencing the population to extent that they can continue collecting taxes and people continue taking their cases to the insurgent's courts.

The Ugandan Contingent Commander, Brig Michael Kabango said intelligence estimates indicate that last year Al-Shabaab collected US \$ 21 million from Lower Shabelle region alone and another US \$ 31 million from Mogadishu. "In Mogadishu, they make threatening telephone calls to individuals who have made large sales to surrender a certain percentage of the proceeds whereas upcountry, they man spontaneous roadblocks," said Brig Kabango.

According to Amb Mugisha, such acts do not support the government but rather imply a vote of no confidence. Therefore, he suggested that the government has to establish service delivery structures in all areas captured by AMISOM as a means to win the hearts and minds of the people and enable them identify with their government.

The ambassador explained that one of the reasons delaying the establishment of such structures in the liberated areas is the conflicting perception at different levels of leadership in the country. He suggested the need for the Federal Government and Federal States to strike a balance guided by a clear ideology as the way forward to resolving the problem in Somalia. Brig Kabango noted that this will require much commitment because aligning conflicting ideologies in a vast country like Somalia to focus on one direction is not easy.

What effect does federalism have on Somalia's problem?

One of the obstacles to solving Somalia's known problem of lack of a clear political line of operation is the federal



*BG XXVIII CIMIC Officer, Maj Alex Muhumuza(R), talking to members of Ceeljaale Women group at their sewing machine project. Col Wilberforce Sserunkuma looks on.*

system. Amb Mugisha acknowledged, saying that the system has created disagreements in a country that is already affected by deep-rooted ethnic divisions.

“I want to imagine that federalism, which is already enshrined in Somalia’s constitution, is not an easy thing. It is new in Somalia and brought new challenges that the leaders are yet to understand, come to terms with and forge a way forward on how they want to pursue it. Like it was the case in Uganda, the Somalis are getting difficulty understanding federalism. They have different interpretations at different levels of leadership. The interpretation at regional level is completely different from that at the Federal Government level. So, there is a pull and push. And, that is bringing differences between the federal member states and Federal Government. Stakeholders have not yet grasped the formula for the distribution of powers which is necessary in building trust between the center and the states. Federalism comes with questions of who controls what, where are the boundaries, how much powers do the federal member states have and where does it stop, who controls the forces etc.”

### **What is AMISOM doing about the problem?**

The Deputy Force Commander in charge of plans and operations of AMISOM, Lt Gen Nakibus Lakara enumerated the four priority tasks of AMISOM provided for in United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2472 as degrading Al-Shabaab, opening and securing Main Supply Routes for free movement, securing population centers to facilitate socio-economic transformation and mentoring the Somali security forces to fully take charge of the security situation in Somalia. The deputy Force commander explained that AMISOM has by far done its part and provided the requisite security conditions for the Somali government and its people to resolve their problems and build a great Somalia.

“It has not been glossy for AMISOM but the commitment and enthusiasm with which the African Union (AU) is committed to creating peace in Somalia is what has helped this mission to be on course. Mogadishu is now a fast growing port city. This is an indicator of peace. It is now left to the Somali people to reap from the dividends of peace,” said Lt Gen Lakara.

Amb Mugisha said the political and electoral process that started in 2011/12 is one of the major dividends of AMISOM's intervention in Somalia. He said AMISOM will as well provide enabling conditions for a successful 2020/21 electoral process. "Those who are skeptical of the 2020/21 taking place should remember that Somalia accomplished its 2011/12 electoral process at a time when the situation here was dire, Al-Shabaab held territory, and they were determined to drown us in the ocean. How about now when the insurgents have lost ground?" he said, adding that the requisite conditions for a final blow to the Somali problem has been achieved through AMISOM's intervention and its now left to the leadership and international community to join hands to resolve the problem of Somalia.

### What will happen when AMISOM withdraws?

The UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2372 of August 30, 2017 directed AMISOM to yearly draw down and eventually end the mission by 2021. The draw down was maintained in the UNSCR 2472 (2019). According to Lt Gen Lakara, AMISOM drew down by 100 personnel in April 2019 and will draw down by another 100 personnel by 28 February 2020. He, however, explained that there is need for caution in drawing down:

"Draw down has implications. If we draw down, that means we also constrict space but that will not happen if the forces have been generated by the Federal Government to occupy the space created by the draw down. AMISOM is not mandated to train but to mentor the Somali forces. We mentor what has already been developed. Therefore, our help is limited. The capacity of the Somali Government to generate the forces will determine how ready they will be to take over. But you need to consider the time of AMISOM's envisaged exit, just imagine how many units can be developed from now till then," Lt Gen Lakara wondered.

Brig Kabango said since the idea of AMISOM's draw down came up 25 months ago, the Somali security forces have generated six battalions which is only about 14% of the planned for Somali troops to be generated before the envisaged end of AMISOM's mission in just 27 months from now.

To Lt Gen Lakara: "If AMISOM's end of mission is done in a rush and the right conditions have not been created, certainly our concerns will be that the gains that have been made over time are lost. All these efforts and sacrifices made will come to a waste. This should certainly be a concern to AMISOM and the international community."

According to Amb Mugisha, it is not the right time to wind up AMISOM. He explained that:

"AMISOM draw down is a result of pressure from our brother and sisters who have been supporting us with money. They think we have been in this mission for too long and it can as well wind up. But the reality on ground is different. We think Al-Shabaab still poses a threat to the population. We think the pressure being mounted on AMISOM should rather be mounted on mobilizing the Somali National Forces so that we can expedite the troop generation. That is where our energies should go. It should not be about money all the time. Let's look at the good of humankind as well," he said.

The Ambassador said in his thinking, the African Union Member States should better start thinking of alternatives in case the donors opt out in 2021. "It is something we will have to consider when we reach there. But in reality, considering the threats Al-Shabaab still poses and the likely effects of winding up the mission, we may have to do without that support because the mission still warrants. If we leave and hand over, who are we going to handover to? I don't see the same preparations on our Somalia brothers; I don't see that appetite of troop generation in them," he said, adding that, "Yes, you can say AMISOM should draw down but at what cost? How will those who will remain manage the situation? That means we would have to lose ground and shrink to the areas that will be possible. But of course that would be handing over to Al-Shabaab."

In the same thinking, Lt Gen Lakara said, "AMISOM is not a peacekeeping mission. It is a war fighting (peace enforcement) mission where great sacrifices were made. As a result, there is no area in South Central Somalia that one can say is Al-Shabaab strong hold. Creating any gaps now will be detrimental. Al-Shabaab is like amoeba. If space is created for it, it will occupy."

Amb Mugisha further analyzed the matter in another view point. He said if AMISOM winds up as planned when the Somalia military is not yet generated, it will result in a humanitarian crisis because the communities that now support or live with AMISOM will be displaced, running for their lives.

"Communities like Barawe where over 90% want peace and support AMISOM will be displaced. We are talking about over 96,000 people in the greater Barawe or 33,000 in the smaller Barawe area. As I speak, if there is any place we have to draw down from, Barawe will have to go. So what happens to the people there? The people will ask why we came in the first place if we knew we were not going to stay. That will be a total betrayal of human kind," said Amb Mugisha.

The ambassador expressed more worries for the donors themselves if AMISOM winds up when the situation is not favorable. He explains that:

“There will be massive immigrants heading to Europe. Even those coming from the diaspora have said it and indeed the moment you say AMISOM is going, before even AMISOM gets out, all of them will be out. Just expect that, no doubt, you go build big walls, big fences, they already know the way, so they will come in waves and they will indeed come. There will be an exodus. Before AMISOM leaves, you will feel the impact and then you will come again to rebuild.”

He further noted the possibility that cases of piracy will increase in the East African coastlines and beyond. “Piracy has reduced because of AMISOM’s increased activities on land. Pirates are not aquatic animals, they are human beings, they stay on land, plan on land and only go in water to execute operations. So as we will likely lose ground in 2021, piracy will increase and we will go again back to the drawing board,” he said.

#### **What is UPDF in Somalia doing ahead of the envisaged withdraw?**

“This mission is our child. Letting it fall just like that will be a terrible betrayal to the people here and our comrades that unfortunately fell in this struggle. We are trying to help, no matter how small. We only pray for continuity after our exit,” said Col Wilberforce Sserunkuma, the Commander of Uganda’s 28<sup>th</sup> Battle Group (BG XXVIII) in Somalia. Col Sserunkuma’s BG XXVIII takes charge of a great chunk of Lower Shabelle region and recently captured Awdigle to add to its area of operations.

The BG has mobilized the civilians into groups so that they can benefit from AMISOM’s Quick Impact Projects (QIP). Mariam Abdul Khayr Osman is the leader of Ceeljaale Women’s group that has just received support of 20 sewing machines and one designing machine from AMISOM’s QIP arrangement. Mariam says her 50-member groups have a ready market for the products they will produce after completion of training. “Apparently, one has to travel over 120km to Mogadishu to buy a good cloth. Now we will make them right here. This is real women empowerment, something that Al-Shabaab never allowed. Thank you UPDF, thank you AMISOM,” said Mariam.

However, this isn’t easy. Lt Gen Lakara says that mobilizing the Somali community is a very complex undertaking. “We must help in mobilizing the community to reconcile even before we think of force generation yet time is against us. Reconciling the several clans in Somalia is not an easy job.

Even delivering a project in an area requires clan and sub clan consensus. It’s a difficult situation,” he said.

Nevertheless, BG XXVIII has further succeeded in mobilizing over 300 militias to contribute towards the much needed force generation. These are receiving military training conducted by the Somali National Army (SNA) prior to integration in the national force. “We have so far mobilized from mainly Abiridegle militia and Abimal militias who originate from Marka, Ceeljaale, Shalambooti, Quoliyole, KM-50, KM-67 and Buufow. SNA is training them as we also mentor. The first group already passed out and this batch will pass out in October. More are ready to join after these ones complete training,” said Col Sserunkuma.

Amb Mugisha commended BG XXVIII saying their action is unique and the way to go. “That was not done by anybody else, it was done by UPDF. They mobilized warring communities to cease fighting, lay down their weapons, accept to train together and join the SNA. This is a very rare thing that is not taking place everywhere. This is what we need to be doing all over Somalia so that those fighting put down their weapons and all these guns are mobilized to turn against Al-Shabaab,” he said.

The Ambassador added that more could be achieved but there are many restrictions imposed on AMISOM by the funders that slows down the process, let alone Somalia’s lack of clear political line of operations that is also unfavorable for force generation even if the pool from where to recruit is actually available. He explained:

“Somalia has over 30,000 militias who could be mobilized and trained for integration into SNA. The militias exist but they are not integrated, not motivated, and not commanded properly. First we said let us train these people and the international community said training is not our work. That ours is to mentor only. But who do we mentor? For example, Barawe wants to contribute towards force generation but our hands are tied. We cannot help. We know the problem and how to fix it but we do not have the mandate or means to fix the problem,” he said.

Looking at the Somali problem and the current trends of force generation, it is clear that the envisaged AMISOM exit in 2021 will not be a worthwhile decision and other options need to be derived. Ground conditions needed to be fully assessed even before any draw down of the peacekeeping personnel. All stakeholders need to embrace the example of UPDF troops in reconciling the Somali militias. The reconciliation of the militias will not yield the expected fruits if AMISOM is not permitted to train. Uncertainties caused by the planned AMISOM exit is detrimental for investment and reconstruction of Somalia.



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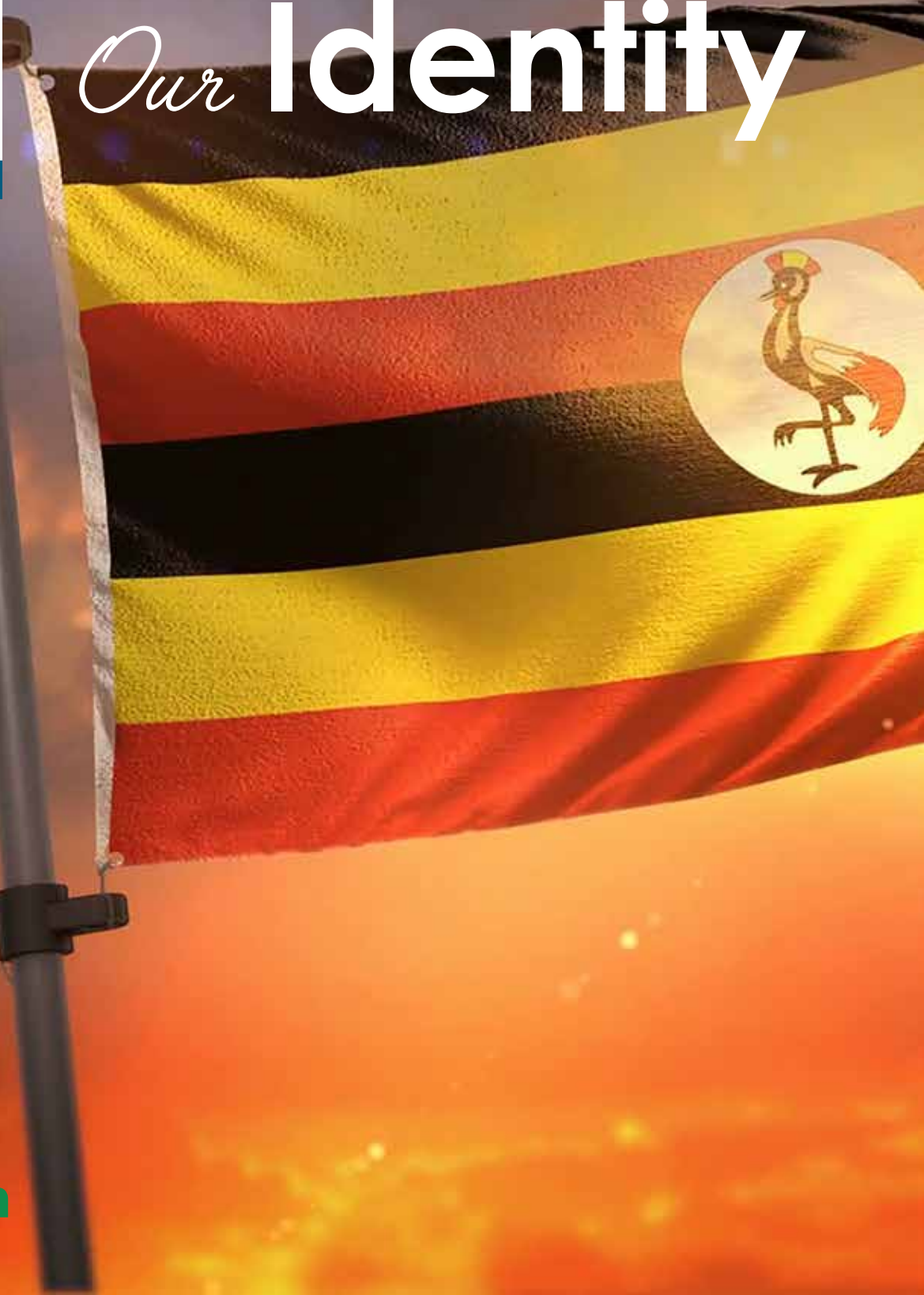
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Eddie Kawooya

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A magnificent piece of cloth  
 Embroided in the hearts of many all over the world  
 Whose red colour is elated in every mankind  
 A symbolic representation of our ancestry and heritage  
 Exposing the beauty of great sunrise and sunset  
 The bloom in the flag that is worth dying for.

## Black Yellow Red

Seeing it raised at events and global occasions  
 Causes Goosebumps of extreme joy  
 And induces an assurance of our heritage  
 Covered on gallant men and women  
 Fallen heroes that defended our mother land  
 And wrapped around great men and women of character  
 Who have represented our origin, skill and gifts across the world.

## Black Yellow Red

We live and breathe ooooh, Uganda  
 The Land of freedom  
 Our Love and labour we give  
 Long Live Uganda  
 Long Live our  
 Dear Mother land

**HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY**



*Lt Col Charity Bainababo psc(U)*

## LOOKING BACK IN TIME: UGANDA CAN ONLY GET BETTER

**T**he pearl of Africa, sits astride the Equator in East Africa, it is the birthplace of river Nile, holds 43% of Lake Victoria's fresh water, favored with a good climate, fertile soils, an assortment of minerals, the flora and fauna are out of this world, indeed gifted by nature. Before we look at how far we have come as a country, let me address the wrong idea that Uganda was created by the British in 1894, this assertion is disturbing to say the least. From the alliance of Ruyonga and Ishaza, Uganda had become one Kingdom through the marriage of Nyamate the daughter of Ruyonga. Ishaza and Nyamate produced Isimbwa who succeeded Ruyonga and his capital was Bigobya Mugenyi in the present day Sembabule district. Isimbwa eventually went to Bunyoro and had a son with Nyinamwiru, the famous Ndahura to whom Ishaza later abdicated. Ishaza then moved to Lango. The excavation at Bigo and Ntutsi that retrieved cowrie shells and glass beads is a confirmation that there were huge settlements at those sites by 1350 AD and 900 AD respectively and they were surely not the present day Buganda, Ankole and Bunyoro kingdoms. Furthermore, the retrieval of beads and cowrie shells was a clear indication of the linkages that Uganda had with the Coast of East Africa, considering that cowrie shells only come from the ocean and that Uganda was not manufacturing glass beads. The oneness of African people is also illustrated by dialects but we shall not go there, for purposes of focusing on the theme.

Fast forward, out of sheer selfishness, Uganda was made a protectorate of the British Empire in 1894. The colonial administration was headed by a governor, and the protectorate's affairs were carried out by public officers appointed by the Colonial Office in London. Important to mention is that, for the duration of their stay, the colonialists herded Ugandans into thinking that their way of going about business was archaic and needed to be changed. To achieve total submission, religion was used as the game changing card and the rest is history. It must be noted that, this subjugation was not achieved

on a silver-plate as some communities put up spirited resistance. The resistances however did not yield much, for the obvious reason that there wasn't cooperation among the communities and some were just too weak to even reinforce one another. By the 1950s, the colonial regime had become a lame duck, as Uganda accelerated towards independence. The British lost effective power because their state failed to serve as a factor of cohesion.

It took 68 long years before Uganda was left to make and learn from her own mistakes. By the time of independence in 1962, Uganda had been fractionalized and segmented that it needed deliberate effort for the local administration to hold the center. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of Oct 1962, we broke free, it was all joy and jubilation, the Duke and Duchess of Kent were here to witness the hand over to Prime minister Milton Obote. It was a glorious day that marked the end of colonial mismanagement and a beginning of yet another series of home grown drama, for lack of a better word. We have since had eight presidents and nine regimes, with Milton Obote having two chances at it. These regimes ranged from 10 days to a few years, they were characterized by crisis, coup d'états and unmatched state engineered excesses.

Here is a recoup of a few "interesting" events that made up the post independent Uganda; The 1964 referendum to return the lost counties was the very first cause of discomfort to which the Buganda Kingdom responded by threatening to expel Uganda government from her soil in 1966. In retaliation, the Prime Minister sent the military under the command of Idi Amin, to invade the King's palace, the King fled to exile. The army from that point used to abuse the population with impunity, but as karma has a strong memory, the perpetrators of these actions had a taste of their own medicine eventually. It must be noted that this army was strongly leaning towards one ethnicity as had been dictated by the colonial masters and duly inherited by the post-independence regimes. This army was not in anyway a representation of a national army.

As events unfolded, it was proposed at a Uganda Peoples' Congress conference in 1968, that a modernization Philosophy be adopted, that Uganda 'move to the left' in ideology and practice and adapt to principles of socialism. In 1970, Obote announced his intention to nationalize oil companies, Kampala Bus Services, the Kilembe mines banks and other companies. The nationalization strategy, was poorly conceived and had serious impact on the economy. Firstly, it precipitated the flight of capital because there were no indigenous managers to run the nationalized companies. Secondly the experiments in socialism, the enlargement of the bureaucracy and the ambitious investment in infrastructure without regard to budgetary or economic fundamentals ate away at the economy. The situation was compounded by innumerable instances of corruption in government, and by growing violence.

By 1971, discontent and corruption in the army, arising mainly out of inequitable promotions and poor care for soldiers crystallized into a coup d'état. Whatever the immediate causes, the coup brought to power Idi Amin, a former corporal in the British colonial army who had been used by Obote to quell several riots. As it were, Idi Amin set the conditions for economic decay, which he oversaw until his overthrow eight years later. In 1972 he declared an 'Economic War' against 'imperialist' forces and the large Asian community in Uganda. At this time, Uganda's Asian population had extensive control over the economy as artisans, shopkeepers, industrialists and professionals. Amin did not relax the economic regulations instituted by Obote; in effect he presided over the social and economic destruction of Uganda. On the social side, the people were markedly traumatized, Uganda became a pariah state and was faced various international embargoes.

Uganda had been a charter member of the East African Community (EAC), a trading bloc that included Kenya and Tanzania. The EAC collapsed, further isolating Uganda. Key industries relocated to Kenya. Services such as air transport and telecommunications, which had benefited from the existence of the EAC, also suffered. In absolute terms the economy declined by 1 per cent per year, even as Uganda's population was growing rapidly. Many factories collapsed due to lack of inputs, which were imported, and due to the absence of vertical or horizontal linkages between economic sectors.

Amin, out of his overzealous maneuvers turned the tide, when in 1978 he ordered his troops to attack the Kagera Salient, a border region of Tanzania. In retaliation, Tanzanians were joined by an umbrella coalition of Ugandan exiles, the Uganda National Liberation Front (UNLF). Kampala, the capital city, fell on 11 April 1979 to the advancing Tanzanian forces. One of the short lived regimes that followed ushered back Obote through elections of questionable validity.

Obote's 'second coming' heralded a period of terror in Uganda as he sought to hold state power regardless of the cost. Several armed opposition groups, which included the National Resistance Movement (NRM), rejected the results of the election and took up armed rebellion on the account that Obote's regime was illegitimate, had committed grave violations of people's rights and caused economic mismanagement. The bush war, which had started in 1981 ended on 25 January 1986 with victory for the NRM led by Gen Yoweri Museveni.

In the NRA 10-point programme, it declared that the people had a right to defend themselves against those who threatened the democratic order and human rights, and that no more would the state be used to violate the rights of the people and promised regular elections among the major reforms. This word has been upheld to-date.

From all this hullabaloo that characterized the pre and post independent Uganda, the major holdups were identified as, gross insecurity of persons and property, ideological disorientation, attack on the private sector, an undeveloped human resource, inadequate infrastructure, fragmented markets due to political balkanization, lack of industrialization, under developed service sector, underdevelopment of agriculture not to mention lack of democracy. These have since been dealt with, to a remarkable degree.

The security of persons and their property was achieved by destroying the colonial army and replaced it with an army that was national in composition, based on patriotism and despised sectarianism. The NRA/UPDF, under educated leaders has had heroic performance both home and away.

In regard to the private sector, addition to the basic factors of production, the NRM recognizes knowledge as one of them and since knowledge and entrepreneurship are personal capabilities, it only made economic sense for the current system to stand firmly behind the private sector so as to harness synergies.

The problem of the underdevelopment of human resource on account of inadequate health care and education has been tackled by having a health center 111 at each sub county. Infant and maternal mortality rates have been checked and immunization stepped up. This has been climaxed by construction and equipping of a national referral women's and Neonatal hospital among other milestones in the health sector.

A glance at the education sector, other than the enrolment shooting up both at primary and secondary levels, there is the student's loan scheme that has so far benefited over 1,202 students from more than 108 districts. There is still

a problem of jobs for the schools and university graduates and this can only be tackled by emphasizing skills development as opposed to trades that create job seekers. The sector has put emphasis on equipping vocational institutes and in place are programs like Business technical vocational educational training and more to prepare the youth for the job market.

By independence, Uganda had only 844Kms of tarmac roads, 150 megawatts of electricity and very few towns with piped water which also continued to deteriorate during the period 1971-1979. Currently the following power generation projects are at various stages of development; Karuma Hydro power project (600MW), Isimba HPP (183MW), Muzizi (44.7), Kiba HPP (330MW), Ayago HPP (840MW), to mention only a few. How can we then go wrong?

The transport sector including air, road, rail and water, is very crucial due to the land locked nature of Uganda. By 2015, the number of National paved roads was at 4000km, making it possible to move on a first class tarmac road from regional centers, district headquarters to borders of neighboring countries. The National airline has been revived and the country has already received two of the four aero planes.

Much as the British had reassembled the East African Common market, it was fragmented by the competing colonial interests. It is almost obvious that forces of demand and supply require an available big market to power production. Working with partner states, the East African Community has been revived and the COMESA created these efforts and more have aided growth of the economy by more than 13 times since 1986.

The other issues that Uganda has had to grapple with, over the years are, the underdevelopment of agriculture, whose solution is the improvement of seed and breeds, avoiding land fragmentation and embracing irrigation as opposed to relying entirely on rainfall. This should be augmented by modern methods of farming. To facilitate the improvement of household incomes for poverty eradication; operation wealth creation was put in place.

Last but not least, was the issue of lack of democracy? This has been resolved squarely by ensuring regular election and participation of all Ugandans of appropriate age and qualification. It must be noted that we are not there yet but the progress is steady. From this point, Uganda can only get better.

Long live Uganda

*The writer is the Commanding Officer Police Presidential Guard.*





The Eastern Africa Regional Gene Bank premises; hosted by NAGRC&DB in Entebbe



# NAGRC, Entebbe becomes the Eastern African Regional Gene Bank

The National Animal Genetic Resources and Data (NAGRC&DB) was established through an act of Parliament, 2001. NAGRC&DB's objectives are Animal Breeding and also conservation of the indigenous livestock biodiversity in Uganda. The National Gene bank houses deep frozen semen doses belonging to breeding males and embryos from superior female donors. Its target is to collect semen and embryos from various breeds of Cattle, Goats, and Equine for posterity.

On June, 19<sup>th</sup> 2019, an Eastern African Regional gene Bank was launched by Dr. Rugunada who represented H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda, The regional gene bank is to conserve indigenous livestock biodiversity in Eastern Africa whose member states include Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Republic of Comoros, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan.

Uganda was chosen to host the Eastern African sub-Regional Gene Bank at a facility under NAGRC&DB that is also the regional focal point, due to its requisite capacity to collect and store genetic materials such as semen and embryos. NAGRC&DB, located in Entebbe, is an agency under the Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) established by the animal breeding act, 2001.

The Gene Bank for the Eastern Africa region is meant to conserve animal genetic resources (AnGR) germplasm from all the member countries.

The African Union Inter African Beaural for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) through the Genetics Project enhanced the capacity of NAGRC& DB to undertake the role through capacity building of staff, purchased and installed vital field and laboratory equipment and providing overall guidance and standards for gene banking of AnGR in the region

The bank is expected to keep deep frozen semen doses, oocytes, embryos, tissues and DNA belonging to food animals in this region including Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Camels, Equine, poultry e.t.c. This will enable conservation of indigenous farm animal genetic resources for sustainable utilization and food security. The Gene Bank looks forward to



Examining embryos under a microscope at the Gene Bank

establishing research teams in cytogenetics, immunogenetics and molecular genetics. It is expected that sequence characterization and identification of gene loci influencing crucial traits in native breeds such as milk yield, meat, growth and development, disease resistance will be conducted at the Regional Gene Bank. This will create better understanding of the indigenous genetic resources for their better utilization.

## Establishment of regional gene banks for Africa

The strategy focuses on the establishment of regional gene banks in each of the five African union regions, namely, South, North, East, West and Central Africa. This is to have concerted and collaborative action at regional level at conserving animal genetic resources germplasm in each regional gene bank to which member countries will be contributing.

The key roles played by these regional gene banks are, 1) provide conservation facilities for countries lacking regional gene-banks 2) provide backup storage for national gene-banks (second location for security purposes and 3) store material from trans-boundary breeds.

Assessments conducted across the African continent identified promising initiative in each region that were recommended to serve as regional animal gene-banks. Therefore the proposed locations are, 1) Bobo Dioulasso in Burkina Faso for Western Africa 2) Gabo-

rone in Botswana in South Africa 3) Bambui in Cameroon for Central Africa and Entebbe in Uganda for Eastern Africa.

## Meaning of gene banking

Gene banking is a type of preservation and involves prolonged cold storage (cryo preservation) that allows virtually indefinite storage of biological materials without deterioration for thousands of years and probably much longer. This means we can preserve the present wealth of genetic diversity in long time storage in a biological "safe deposit vault". The purpose of gene banking includes the following:

- Recreating breeds-one common purpose of germplasm repository is to allow development of new lines of breeds or breeding lines in case they are lost as a consequence of calamity. Storage of germplasm for this purpose would typically be long time storage, without frequent use of the stored material and without the need of regular updating of the collection.
- Development of new breeds-use of stored genetic resources is to allow development of new lines of breeds.
- Research material- gene banks can serve as primary source of material for researchers performing DNA and genotyping research.

The emergence of gene banks dates back in 2007 when the representatives of 109 states including Uganda, the European community and 42 organizations gathered in Interlaken Switzerland to establish an effective international framework for the sustainable use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources (AnGR) for food and agriculture and world food security and the global plan of action (GPA).

The Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) was formulated to ensure this is done at global, continental and country level, to ensure that countries are able to protect their livestock biodiversity, and thus contribute to improved human health and nutrition, and expand opportunities for livelihood diversification and income generation.

# UPDF: Making do with what they have

By Kyemanta Godfrey

**T**he Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) relates with people to usher lasting peace and stability in Uganda which has now become a shared reality to a greater majority of the population. According to World Bank reports, Uganda has developed because of the existing peace, its geographical location and good climate, a policy friendly to the private sector, enough electricity, better railway and tarmac roads on top of having a developed ICT backbone. The dream on how to sustain the acquired peace and stability that has come as a result of the endless sacrifice and commitment by **peace-lovers** is another issue to closely think about.

Existing at a time of heightened tensions that calls for staggering the available scarce resources and lifting all boots without discrimination, just like it happened in the Asian Tiger countries, the pro-people centered force that has fought off many overt and covert rebellions - understands that it is only allegiance to patriotism, pan-Africanism, democracy and availing mechanisms that ensure socio-economic transformation for the entire population as the only sure ways to ensure the continuity of stability.

Even with residual bottlenecks that hinder transformation, this gallant force, that is swallowed in a country growing at a rate of more than 6%; knows that the hills, mountains, swamps, rivers, lakes, forests or any other form of distinction should never again be used to divide people since we have the same blood and divisions only exist to fault the foundations of friendship.

UPDF is now a professional force which knows where it came from, where it is and where it wants to be, given the current demands for globalization and digitalization. UPDF knows that a nation cannot be a nation without its past, but uses the past to unite the people and mould the future so as to boost socio-economic transformation. This force, has often kept its other eye on the agenda of re-integration, ensuring prosperity and the strategic security of the people to ensure that the already defined deeds and actions by patriots are not lost as a result of un or under guided leadership.

Currently, many changes have come as a result of their proven hard work and discipline. Examine the transformation from a rag-tag army to a professional army, from human wrongs to human rights; not forgetting the availed peace that has done away with the old idea of people running to exile but rather moving out of the country to search for "**greener pastures**" thus being recognized as people in the diaspora because of their remittances.

This transformation story can also be emphasized with the movement from bullets to ballots and the mushrooming infrastructural projects that have emanated as a result of the existing peace and stability ushered in by the UPDF. This means that government has made a deliberate effort to create a conducive environment that supports businesses to thrive. Remember that every business is as successful as the environment in which it operates.

In 2007, UPDF made a mark in the area of peace keeping and protection when it secured ground in the already destabilized Horn of Africa (Somalia) to help government fight both the Al Shabaab terrorist group and Islamic State militants. Its other regional peace keeping missions have been in DR Congo, Liberia and South Sudan.

Internally, after years of conflict, UPDF has managed to defeat both the Joseph Kony led Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Jamil Mukulu led Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) operating in Bundibugyo, Kabarole and Kasese; armies that violently tortured and killed thousands of innocent civilians. Others that suffered decisive blows by the same UPDF are The Uganda Army (UA) that gave rise to the Uganda National Liberation Army, the Uganda Peoples' Defence Army (UPDA) of Odong Latek, Uganda Peoples' Army (UPA) of Peter Otai that operated up to 1992, Holy Spirit Movement I of Severino Lukoya, Holy Spirit Movement II of Alice Lakwena, West Nile Bank Front of Juma Oris, National Army for the Liberation of Uganda, Peoples' Redemption Army, Force Obote Back Again (FOBA), Uganda Rescue Front (URF) in West Nile, among others; not forgetting the deliberate government disarmament program of the Karamajong warriors that put an end to cattle rustling in areas of Acholi, Lango and Teso.

Fortunately, aware of the fact that long-term stability arises from building a strong pro-people centered professional

army, the President and Commander-in-Chief of the UPDF Gen Yoweri Museveni has deliberately and successfully managed to integrate all past armies into one national army; that is, the UPDF- an institution that is devoid of ethnicity and embraces the politics of national interests as opposed to the politics of identity.

UPDF is important to global superpowers for acting as “a protector” for refugees seeking for safety or better opportunities, and curbing the spread of extremism that has entrenched itself in the countries where these refugees come from. This is, of course, not to dismiss the lack of democracy and ideology in countries where the refugees come from, which in turn, leads to dismal performances in many areas.

Beyond their call of duty, UPDF has made bigger strides when handling its civil-military relations. A stellar performance has

already been registered when dealing with victims affected by landslides in Bududa, search and rescue missions in both national parks and waters have been conducted, and it has partnered with health officials to curb diseases like Ebola, cholera, and malaria.

To add to this, UPDF has vividly managed to control the HIV/AIDS scourge through programs like encouraging male circumcision, educating masses on the advantages of using condoms correctly and consistently, and encouraging troops to regularly embrace HIV/AIDS screening, among other intervention measures.

UPDF engineers have also registered hope by participating in the construction or reconstruction of many infrastructural projects. For instance, UPDF engineers renovated the Namugongo Martyrs Shrine and will very soon be dealing with the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), a project that will strengthen the growth of trade between East African Community (EAC) Partner States.

Coordinated by Gen Caleb Akandwanabo a.k.a Salim Saleh, UPDF personnel alongside government agricultural officers operating under the umbrella body code named, “**Operation Wealth Creation**”, have been actively involved in the process of increasing production and productivity in the agricultural sector to support agro-industrialization.

This profitable agriculture has involved coordination along the value chain; which includes input supply, production, collection, storage, bulking, processing and marketing, to realize the benefits accrued from value addition. With it, we should see the worst of poverty come to an end after aggregating our resources, be they monetary, natural or human resources.

Therefore, as we celebrate this year’s Independence Day, it is our strategic responsibility to believe in industrialization, commercialization of agriculture (for those who have land to add to the apiary, poultry, piggery and/ fish farms for those with small pieces of land), development of infrastructure and services, and support the growth of information communication technology or Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) for development to happen. Let us resist the thirst for quick success, poor business concepts, cynicism, divisions, hatred, criminality and corruption; and instead be guided by Universal Principles, including love and collective leadership. We wish team UPDF blue skies and tailwinds.

# UPDF BEST AFRICAN TANK CREW

By Our Staff Writer

A contingent of fourteen (14) officers and men from UPDF participated in the two-week global tank biathlon games in Russia.

The three tank crews from the armored brigade that were commanded by Col Jackson Pande Kajjuba displayed skills in tank race and combat.

The games that attracted over 5,000 servicemen and 200 team crews from 25 countries had the

UPDF team emerge fourth out of 11 countries in division two at the Congress Exhibition Centre Park. Other countries in the group included; Laos, Myanmar, Tajikistan, Angola, Cuba, Kuwait, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe, Sudan and Vietnam.

Gen Gerasimov said Uganda showed off outstanding skills in individual and relay race, driving the tanks at maximum possible speed on a terrain full of special obstacles and shooting at targets using standard tank ammunition (including cannon and machine guns).



“The two week event is not just a military parade show; but a demonstration of the ability to solve the combat mission in conditions close to reality,” said Gen Gerasimov, adding that crews showed that they mastered old lessons and adapted them.

He also noted that the UPDF tank crew competed with some of the best tank crews in the world, were they emerged best among the teams from Africa.

During the games, tank crews engage in tank biathlon, artillery circulation, safe route provisions, clear skies, radiation, chemical and biological defence competitions, among others. They also compete in combat employment of tank standard issued weapons, negotiating different field obstacles-such as trenches, water obstacles and other anti-tank man manned obstacles at maximum speed.

The games are a huge opportunity for UPDF to be exposed to the world of military architecture. They also test UPDF’s tank men military architecture and build women’s capability in handling tasks across the globe.

The biathlon games are not just games, but a field of learning, strengthen military to military relationships and help countries to share experiences. The first biathlon games were held in 2015. UPDF started participating in 2017. This year, UPDF reached the finals.

Countries which participated included: Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Cuba,

Iran, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Russia, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.



**HAPPY 57<sup>TH</sup> INDEPENDENCE**

POWERCHINA and Sinohydro Corporation Limited would like to congratulate H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and the People of Uganda upon making fifty-seven years of independence. Sinohydro Corporation Limited and the People’s Republic of China are committed to building Karuma Hydropower Project into a modern and efficient state of the art underground hydropower plant with a production capacity of 600 megawatts. This 1.688 billion US. Dollar

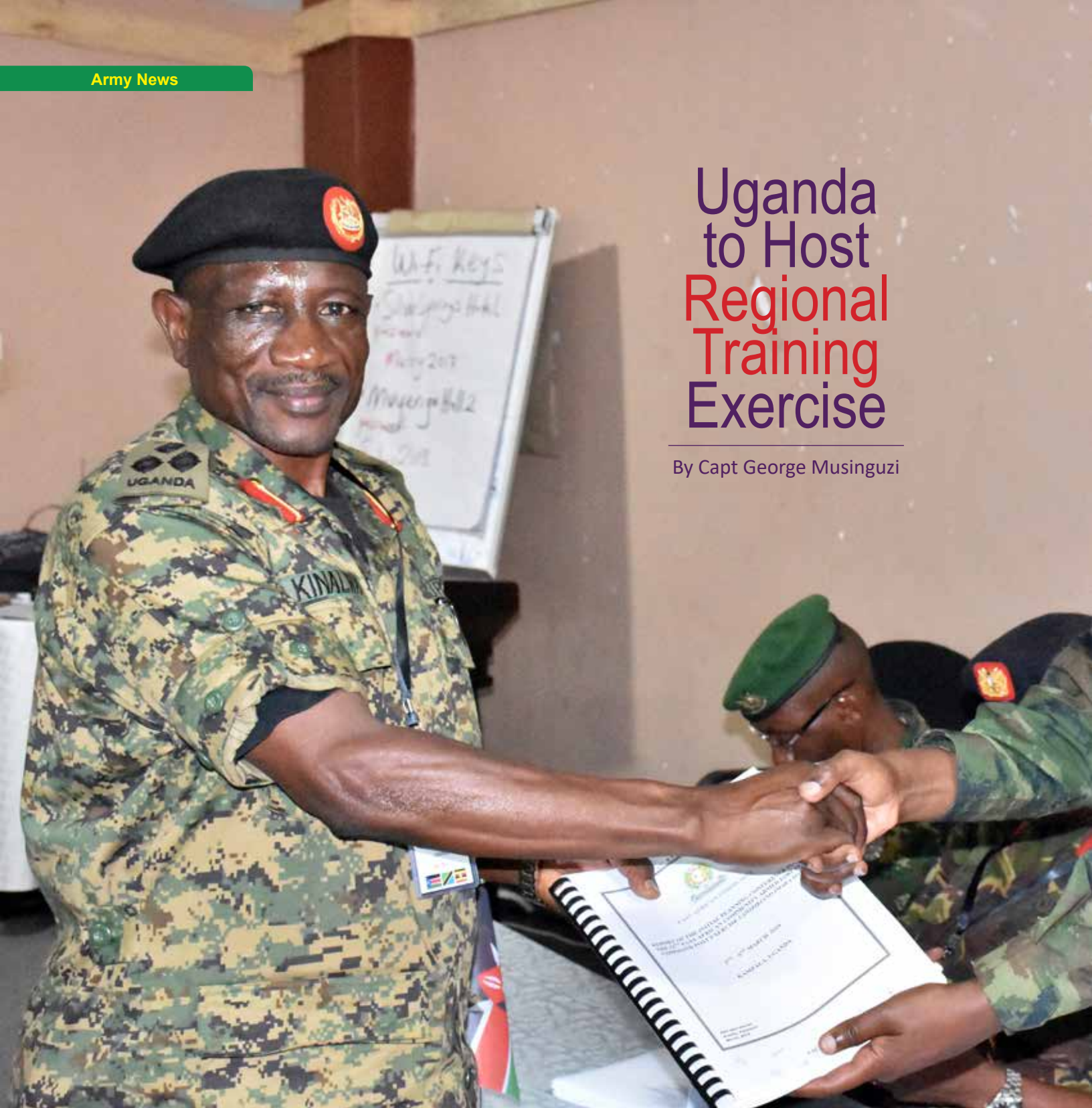
project is comprised of the Karuma Hydropower Project and Karuma Interconnection Project. Since its commencement in 2013, the project has focused on creating job opportunities to many Ugandans, boosting the local market and industry and also promoting Corporate Social Responsibility. Once completed, the Karuma Hydropower Plant and the Karuma Interconnection Line will double Uganda’s hydropower production capacity and greatly reduce power tariffs, this will in turn promote

growth of local manufacturing industries and job creation for the people of Uganda. We are committed to the promotion of China - Uganda friendship and cooperation through strengthening business ties and relations between our two great Nations. Sinohydro once again congratulates His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda and the People of Uganda upon this great milestone as you celebrate fifty-seven years of Independence.

**Thank you**

# Uganda to Host Regional Training Exercise

By Capt George Musinguzi



UHURU DAY, OCTOBER 2019

**A** meeting of representatives from the military, police and prisons from all the six East African Community (EAC) Partner States and key civilian agencies confirmed that Uganda will in November 2019 host the East African Community's 12<sup>th</sup> Edition Command Post Exercise (CPX) code named Ushirikiano Imara 2019.

The pronouncement was made in a joint report developed by 77 delegates during the final planning conference held at Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) Jinja cantonment where the CPX will be conducted. The initial and main planning conferences were held in Kampala in March and August 2019 respectively.



*Brig James Kinalwa(L) receiving a joint report from Maj Gen Mupenzi(RDF) during the initial planning conference.*

This year's chair for the meeting was the Republic of Rwanda. Maj Gen Jean Jacques Mupenzi chaired the initial planning conference and Maj Gen Aloys Muganga chaired the main and final planning conferences.

While closing the initial planning conference, Maj Gen Jean Jacques Mupenzi said the CPX will add value to the security of EAC

Partner States because the thematic areas to be exercised in the CPX are the real life challenges the region faces such as the threat of terrorism, piracy and natural disasters. The exercise will also cover peace support operations.

The UPDF Chief of Training and Recruitment (CTR) observed that the East African region is faced with dynamic security challenges and catastrophes that can be better handled by assembling and engaging the wide range of capabilities and specialties available in the region.

He added that the objectives of the exercise are, among others, to promote the EAC integration agenda, its awareness, interoperability of the EAC armed forces and to improve their readiness in responding to complex security challenges in the region. "The exercise will enhance our integration agenda as we move towards building a single force working in the common interest of our region," said Brig Kinalwa.

Brig Kinalwa further said that the CPX will be conducted on shared resourcing by partner states as well as internal financing of certain items by the host country as has been the tradition. A manning level that specifies the respective countries' contributions to the players in the exercise was developed and agreed upon in the planning conferences.

The exercise will bring together over 400 participants from the six partner states and signatories such as the Secretary General of the EAC, Ministers of Defence and Military heads.

The hosting of the CPX and Field Training Exercise (FTX) is rotational among the EAC member states. The United Republic of Tanzania hosted the last exercise in 2017/18. Uganda will also host the FTX in 2020.

# Defence Leaders *meet* MPs *on the* Defence *and* Internal Affairs Committee

By Sarah Kazibwe

**1** 8-19<sup>th</sup> September 2019: The Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige opened the two-day Annual Retreat for the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs (MODVA) leaders and Members of Parliament on the Defence and Internal Affairs Committee at Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala.

The retreat aimed at reviewing the performance of the Defence and Veteran Affairs ministry in finance, planning,

policy, budgeting, human resource development, and welfare.

Hon Mwesige applauded Members of Parliament for working together with the Defence ministry to accomplish the different tasks in the Financial Year (FY) 2018/19.

He said the interface provides an opportunity to reflect on the achievements and challenges of the Defence ministry in the year ending 2018/19 and



coin mechanisms that can be followed to fill the gaps. "Cooperation with the Defence Ministry ensures that security prevails throughout the country for socio-economic development," he noted.

Mwesige added that the presence of Members of Parliament at this year's interface is a clear manifestation that there is cooperation between the three arms of the state; the executive, legislature and judiciary on matters of defence and security, which are very important to achieve prosperity and transformation in the country.

The chairperson for the Defence and Internal affairs committee in Parliament Hon Doreen Amule and Woman MP representing Amolatar District lauded UPDF for its good work and great sacrifice in providing peace and security.

She said the interface will help in projecting the future by correctly answering questions concerning the achievements

and challenges of the Defence ministry, adding that it will also help in identifying strategies for better performance.

The interface also covered the overall security situation in the country, recent troop recruitments and trainings as well as African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) operations, among others.

The opening ceremony was also attended by the Minister of State for Defence and Veteran affairs In charge of General Duties Hon Col (Rtd) Charles Okello Engola, Minister of State for Defence In Charge of Veteran Affairs Hon Lt Col (Rtd) Bright Rwamirama, MODVA Under Secretary Finance and Administration Mrs. Edith Buturo who represented the Permanent Secretary Mrs. Rosette Byengoma, Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi, and UPDF Service Commanders, among others.

*Defence leaders and Members of Parliament on the Defence and Internal Affairs Committee.*





Brig Takirwa addressing Head teachers of Army Primary Schools

## Army School Heads Strategize for PLE

By Cpl Bagoole Faisal

**H**ead Teachers of Army Primary Schools in Uganda and their deputies held a workshop to lay strategies for good performance in this year's Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) due on 4-5 November 2019.

The workshop that was held at Bombo Army Secondary School was presided over by the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces' (UPDF) Chief of Education Sports and Culture (CESC), Hon. Brig Francis Takirwa.

Brig Takirwa told the Head Teachers to ensure the pupils are confident and enlightened on question approach and apportioning of time per question.

"Many would pass pupils do not make it with good grades due to failure to apportion time well and using the wrong approaches to questions. This is the time to instill confidence in pupils that they can and will make it," he said.

The CESC further told the Head Teachers to ensure there is a conducive teacher-pupil relationship in their schools. "Teachers must not injure the pupils' confidence in them by being harsh or not approachable. A teacher's presence should not in any way create panic in the pupils. This is the time these pupils need the teachers more than before," he said.

The Head Teachers resolved on playing their roles of timely passing on to their pupils the 14 point guidelines issued by Uganda National Education Board (UNEB) for a successful conduct of the examination. The 14 points enumerate the do's and don'ts. They reiterated the fact that strict adherence to the PLE 2019 guidelines is the first step to good performance of their pupils.

The guidelines that are now available on UNEB (<https://uneb.ac.ug>) reads in part: "Head Teachers of P.7 schools are requested to ensure that all necessary steps are taken to bring the instructions to the notice of the candidates who

are to take the examinations this year. Head Teachers and P.7 teachers are advised to make sure that the candidates are carefully briefed to follow the instructions. Parents are also encouraged where possible to attend these briefings."

Another issues discussed was welfare enhancement by the school management committees in form of good feeding of the pupils through the exam time and maintaining the standards in the coming years. The parents also have a role to play in this area. Good feeding of children will be adopted as important agenda in all future Parent Teachers Association (PTA) meetings.

Completing of the syllabus, avoiding overloading of pupils, creation of a conducive revision environment, time management, availability of teachers to the pupils, engaging parents and career progression of teachers were among other key issues discussed.

The CESC commended the Head Teachers for being part of the team that has contributed to the improvement in Uganda's education system.

"You at the lower levels provide the foundation for the overall picture of Uganda's education system. Uganda has maintained its high ranking in Africa's education system partly due to the good foundation you lay," he said, citing Makerere University being ranked in the fifth position of the best performing universities in Africa.

The function was attended by the academic registrar Ndejje University, Dr Mary N Mutyaba who delivered to the Head Teachers a lecture on 'Human Resource Management.' Among others in attendance were the deputy Chief of Civil Military Cooperation Col Nelson Ahebwa, the Director of Education (DOE) Lt Col DK Taremwa, the Director Inspectorate of Schools Lt Col Charles Ariko, and the administrative officer DOE Capt RF Nabitaka.

# Accountability is not an Audit

– Maj Gen Kyanda

*Maj Gen Leopold Kyanda addresses Land Forces Logisticians on Resource Management.*

**T**he UPDF Chief of Staff Land Forces (COS-LF) Maj Gen Leopold Eric Kyanda told administrative officers, logisticians and all those in leadership positions under Land Forces to consider accountability as a key ingredient in their routine work.

He said accountability is a must for all public servants to ensure effectiveness and should not be mistaken for an audit. “When asked to account, it does not imply an audit but rather you are being kindly reminded to do what you should have done yesterday,” the Land Forces Chief of Staff said during a follow-up interview of his lecture to logisticians under Land Forces on proper resource management. He said accountability is a human resource ingredient and all soldiers should be accountable to their commanders.

The COS-LF further emphasized that proper accountability is a precursor for effective service delivery. He noted that UPDF offers a very critical

service; that is security, which is cardinal to the growth of all sectors of the economy. He noted that scarcity in resources calls for prioritization.

He said: “Our national resource base is still growing. As members of a patriotic force, we must be a good example and account for our budget allocation.”

Quoting from the bible, “They shall be known by their fruits; Matthew 7:16.”, the COS-LF explained that for so many years UPDF has been judged as an accountable force that delivers as required.

He advised accountants to file daily returns to minimize errors as a result of the paper mountain.

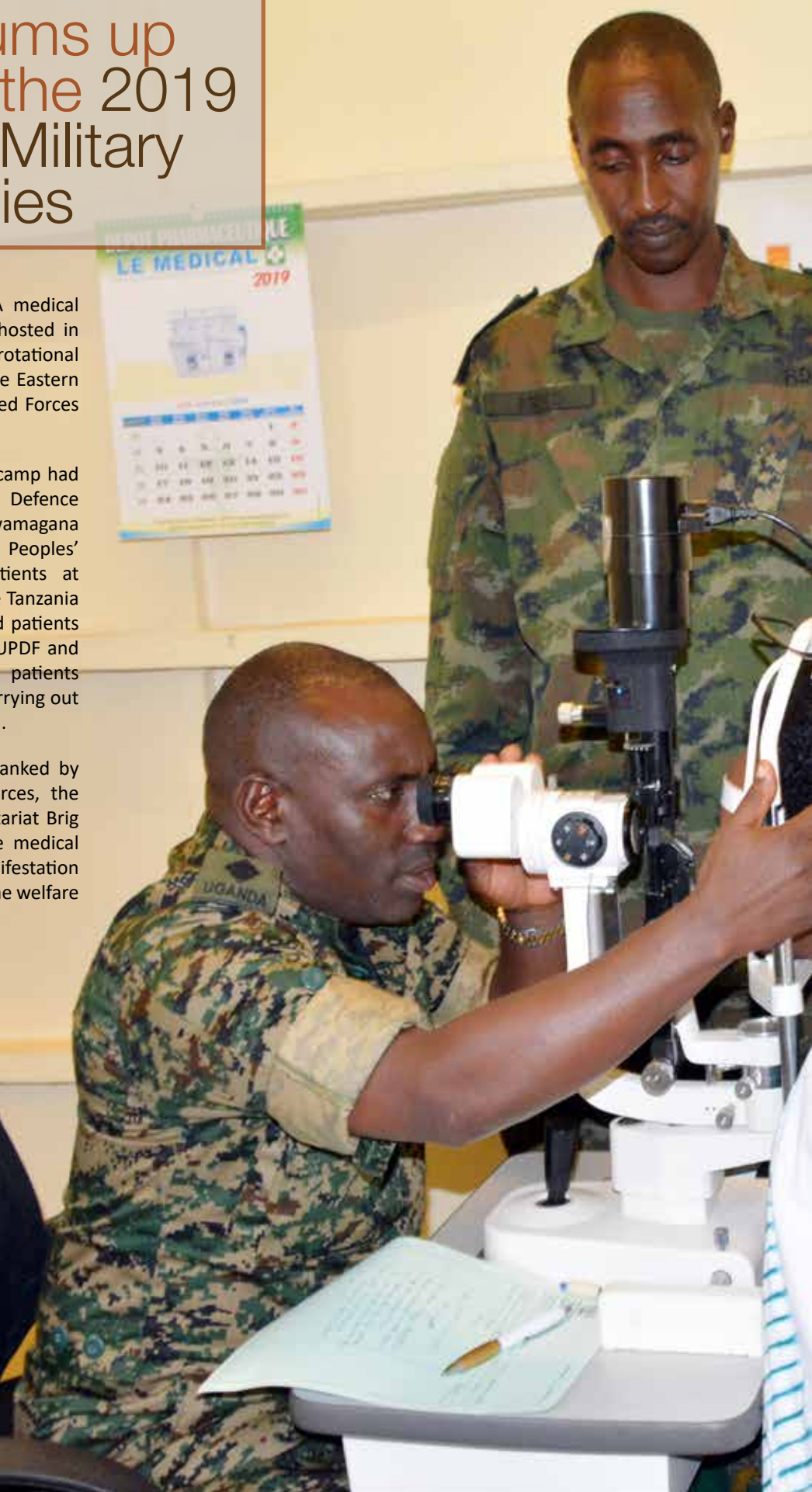
The COS-LF is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Service. He is responsible for upholding the welfare of the Land Forces, coordination of Land Forces’ resource functions and ensuring the general smooth running of the Service.

# UPDF Drums up Support for the 2019 EAC Civil-Military Activities

**2** **8<sup>th</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019:** A medical team of UPDF soldiers was hosted in Rwanda to participate in the rotational regional Second Edition of the Eastern Africa Community (EAC) Armed Forces Civil-Military activities.

The One-Week free medical outreach camp had medical soldiers drawn from Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) who operated at Rwamagana Hospital, those from South Sudan Peoples’ Defence Forces (SSPDF) treated patients at Nyagatare Hospital, and those from the Tanzania Peoples’ Defence Forces (TPDF) treated patients at Gahini Hospital. Medics from both UPDF and Rwanda Defence Force (RDF) treated patients suffering from infectious diseases to carrying out surgical operations at Nyamata Hospital.

Upon his tour at Nyamata Hospital flanked by delegates from other EAC Armed Forces, the UPDF Liaison Officer to the EAC Secretariat Brig Katsigazi Tumusiime revealed that the medical outreach camp is a clear practical manifestation of the process of integration to better the welfare





*UPDF and RDF delegations that participated in the 2019 EAC Civil-Military activities in Rwanda.*

of all members of the EAC. "Right now, people feel together, we are better and together we can move mountains," noted Brig Tumusiime.

The leader of the UPDF delegation and deputy chief of civil-military activities Col Nelson Aheebwa commended the Government of Rwanda for hosting the yearly historical event, noting that the medical exercise strengthens the mutual relationship between EAC Armed Forces and provides an opportunity to share knowledge and experience among the different EAC militaries.

Col Dr. Joseph Asea, who led the UPDF medics at Nyamata Hospital, said the exercise promotes the spirit of unity in tackling threats and encouraged all EAC Partner States to often work together. The Chief Consultant at the Rwanda Military Hospital and In-Charge for Education, Training and

Research, Col Prof Alex Butera appreciated UPDF medics in saving lives, adding that the partnership exhibited by all EAC Armed Forces creates a firm foundation that is ready to handle the challenges that often appear in a multi-disciplinary manner.

"This exercise shows the importance of armies being closer to the population when solving a noble cause since we have same roots and same blood," he remarked.

According to the Director General of Nyamata Hospital Dr. William Rutagengwa; both UPDF and RDF medics provided specialized services in Ear-Nose-Throat treatment, gynecology, ophthalmology, anesthesiology, orthopedic surgery, dental and general surgery, among others.

This was the Second Edition of the EAC Armed Forces Civil-Military activities after the 2018 First Edition was hosted by Uganda in Bukedi Region.



*UPDF optician Capt Magara examines a patient.*

# Japanese Army *trains* UPDF engineers in Heavy Engineering Equipment



*Amb Kameda Kazuaki receives a souvenir from Maj Gen Silver Kayemba.*

**T**he Ambassador of Japan to Uganda H.E Kameda Kazuaki opened a training course in Heavy Engineering Equipment (HEE), such as excavator and grader operations for UPDF engineers at the Uganda Rapid Deployment Capability Centre (URDCC) in Jinja.

The course, to run from 26<sup>th</sup> August to November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, is aimed at instructing engineering personnel from UPDF on the operation of heavy equipment whenever deployed in any mission. It is a United Nations Triangular Partnership Project (TPP) for African Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities (TPP-RDC), which is implemented by the UN Department of Field Support. Japan as one of the supporting member states, has been providing funding, equipment and training expertise.

The Governments of Japan and Uganda recently joined UN Peace keeping Operations to close the gap that has always delayed UN deployments while processing contractors to construct critical infrastructure in the area of operation.

Ambassador Kameda in his remarks while opening the course revealed that this is the first ever Japan military cooperation extended to Uganda with its troops on ground. The 22 personnel from the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JSDF) will initially train 30 UPDF soldiers for a period of 03 months before they are handed back to the UPDF leadership for possible deployment into any UN mission across the world.

He also revealed that the training and eventual acquisition of equipments by the UPDF is as a result of the friendship and

mutual support the Government of Uganda has developed with the Government of Japan over time. "President Yoweri Museveni has overtime appreciated the reliability and efficiency of Japanese technology. That is why we have found it easy and befitting to support the UPDF through this partnership with UN to promote peace and security around the globe," said Amb. Kameda.

According to Amb. Kameda, East Africa and indeed continental Africa has had enormous challenges that have attracted the biggest number of UN missions and therefore it is imperative to have Ugandans trained to enable its troops be self reliant whenever they are deployed.

The Japanese Government has supported this project by providing approximately 70million US Dollars to UN for the training and procurement of heavy equipment and dispatching around 192 JSDF since 2015.

The opening ceremony was also addressed by the UN under Secretary Department of Operational Support Mr. Atul Khare from New York through video teleconferencing technology. He applauded the Government of Uganda for partnering with UN and the Japanese Government to implement the first Triangular Partnership Project and sacrifice it all for peace and stability of the world. He specifically commended Uganda for her contribution and sacrifice in stabilizing Somalia, a mission, where UN is equally actively involved.

At the same function, Uganda's Defence Adviser to Uganda's Permanent Mission in New York Maj Gen Silver Kayemba who represented Uganda's Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige thanked both the UN and the Japanese Government for choosing Uganda to be part of the pioneer states in implementing the Triangular Partnership Project. "Thank you UN, thank you Japan for choosing a right partner for practical deployment. UPDF only trains to deploy and we like deploying in challenging operation areas. Be assured, as soon as this team graduates it will be deployed," Maj Gen Kayemba emphasized.

He also revealed that the project is divided into phases; the Training Phase, Equipment Acquisition Phase and the Deployment Phase. He said once these phases are done, UPDF will be able to establish itself very fast into any theater. He assured the Japanese and UN that UPDF trainees have been carefully selected, vetted and will observe UN standards in dealing with Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law. Maj Gen Kayemba cautioned the trainees to maintain discipline or else they shall meet him as a witness in the General Court Martial in case of failure to adhere to the known UPDF standards.

Uganda's Defence Adviser to the UN equally announced the commitment of the Ugandan Government to provide UN with One Company of Special Forces, One Infantry Battalion, One Engineering Company and a level II hospital medical team for any UN deployment around the world with no Caveat and that their deployment can be renewed between six months to one year.

The Commandant of Uganda Rapid Deployment Capability Centre (URDCC) Brig Peter Omola welcomed UN and the Japanese contingent to the Centre. He expressed hope that the dedicated Japanese training team will do a good job as already exhibited from their timeliness basing on the time they arrived at the centre.

TPP-RDC is highly appreciated by the UN and Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) for contributing to peacekeeping operations that strengthen the capacity of military engineering and medical units in demanding situations.

The function was attended by the Japanese Director of Training and Operations Maj Gen Sueyoshi Hiroaki, the UN representative Mr. Juliani Okolong, the Japanese training Team Leader Lt Col Todo Koji, Directing staff of URDCC, and senior UPDF officers, among others.

In September 2014 while attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Leader's Summit on "Strengthening International Peace Operations" at the UN Headquarters, Japan's Prime Minister H.E Shinzo Abe committed to contributing to the rapid deployment of equipment and personnel with engineering capabilities to peacekeeping operation centers.

In his address to the press earlier on the Japan-Uganda UN – TPP, the Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige, noted that Uganda's participation in peace support missions in Liberia, Burundi, Ivory coast, South Sudan and now in Somalia is a demonstration of her commitment to play its rightful role as a member of the United Nations (UN). He mentioned that upon realization of the training gaps in army's usage of heavy engineering equipment, the UPDF accepted to partner with Japan to support the establishment of engineering units by training deployable forces on the use of heavy equipment.

"Uganda is delighted that the Government of Japan is offering nonlethal support to UN peace keeping missions," noted Hon Mwesige, adding that the Triangular partnership between Uganda, Japan and UN will go a long way in strengthening our capacities to respond to situations that threaten peace and stability.

# LDU Recruitment Draws Thousands of Youths

*Maj Bilal Y Katamba*

**T**he Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) concluded a nation-wide two-week Local Defence Unit (LDU) personnel recruitment exercise.

The exercise, that begun on the 15th of July 2019 saw 5 UPDF teams traverse the country for the task.

The task was enormous, but it equally met determined UPDF recruiting teams in Amuru, Gulu Pece stadium, Kabong, Kitgum, Kotido, Kyotera, Lamwo, Lyantonde, Old Kampala Senior Secondary School and Wankulukuku stadium for residents in Kampala.

Teams worked with resilience and determination to accomplish the assignment. The sought out number of 13,000 was raised. The exercise was made easier by the local council 1 who recommended the potential recruits, basing on their discipline and criminal records. Thorough and vigorous training awaits the recruits to prepare them for the task for which they have been recruited. Kudos to the teams.

As an active participant in the exercise, I observed several salient happenings.

The most obvious were the numbers that turned up at the recruitment centers. Overwhelming, could be an understatement. Our team in Wankulukuku registered more than 3000 in turn up, though the required number was only 156! Some analyst owed this to the high levels of unemployment. The argument may seem to hold some degree of truth especially at first mention. However, a critical look at the unemployment argument as a reason for high turn up leaves a lot of holes in the 'unemployment' argument.

One would ask himself, as to why despite several daily employment opportunities advertised in the media, most especially in the print media, and a number of them fetching better salaries and remuneration than those offered to LDUs, the turn ups are never that surging as those seen at the LDUs recruitment centers? Contrary to 'popular' belief that Ugandan youths are lacking in patriotism, the turn up demonstrated the opposite.

At the recruitment centers, it was not uncommon to see parents coming with their sons and daughters in tow to help them get recruited. This was heartening. Those acquainted with the history of liberation struggles in Uganda especially in the 1980s will tell you how parents handed-in their sons and daughters to liberation movements to help fight dictatorship and misrule.

This time, seeing parents bringing their children to government security organs in pursuit of creating more secure localities was indeed wonderful. It also demonstrated the level of confidence nationals have in their national force. Gone are the days, where the military/security agencies were considered a preserve of society's 'rejects'.

The above trend is a very positive sign for our country. In any progressive nation, the confidence and trust nationals have and exhibit towards government institutions most especially their security agencies is key. Our country is taking the right direction.

The confidence and trust towards UPDF has not come from nothing. There has been, deliberate and consistent efforts by the President and Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the UPDF Gen (Rtd) Yoweri Kaguta Museveni to build the same for more than 40 years.





I had the opportunity to hear the story of Zabuloni, from the CiC himself when he visited 1st Infantry Division early this year. He explained that Zabuloni was one of the early fighters of the National Resistance Army (NRA) that later metamorphosed into the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) following the enactment of the 1995 Constitution.

One time, while in one of the NRA liberated areas, he got drunk and had a quarrel with one of the Wanainchi (citizen). The quarrel escalated into shooting and ending of a life.

The NRA court (now serving as the General Court Martial) sat to determine Zabuloni's case. Arguments were that, a drunken man could not be charged of murder. Then who should be charged? Wanainchi wondered. May be the alcohol/ both? These were the answers whispered by some followers of the prolonged liberation struggle that finally anchored in the desired peace and prosperity.

Wanainchi waited anxiously for the decision of the court.

Finally, Zabuloni was convicted and sentenced to death by shooting. Then, Wanainchi got convinced and rightly so, that the NRA was different from other earlier Ugandan armies whose brutalities went unchecked. 'Bano banjawulo' (these are a different lot), wanainchi have since then told each other.

Security is a service; service providers should serve the interest of the service end users. When the consumers lose trust in the service providers, it's always a disaster for the provider and the service itself. '**Jeshi la wanainchi**' is not merely a slogan, but a reality as demonstrated at the recent LDUs recruitment centers.

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*Col Stuart Agaba (R) and the new Commander Lt Col Nathan Beinomugisha.*

## NEW UNITED NATIONS GUARD UNIT TAKES OVER DUTIES

**U**nited Nations Guard Unit Five (UNGU V) handed over security functions to the incoming UNGU VI in the Somali capital Mogadishu.

The function was presided over by the UPDF Commander Land Forces (CLF) Lt Gen Peter Elwelu who cautioned the new force to guard against anything that tarnishes the good image of Uganda. “You are Ambassadors here. Keep our flag high”, he said. The General also advised the newly deployed soldiers in Mogadishu to work as a team and always promote comradeship.

The CLF also commended the former Guard Unit Under the Command of Col Stuart Agaba for serving a full year in a foreign mission. He observed that though some challenges occurred, the core tasks of the mission were achieved. The General thanked the outgoing forces for a job well done.

Col Stuart Agaba and Lt Col Nathan Beinomugisha, thanked the UPDF leadership for honouring them with the noble task of serving in a multinational mission. “I pledge not to shame my country Uganda”, said the incoming commander.

The function was attended by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (SRSG), Ambassador James Swan who later flagged off the new guard Unit, Sector One Operations Officer who represented the Contingent Commander and the sector Chief Administration Officer (CAO) Col Elvis Byamukama among others.

# UPDF Soldiers in Somalia hold Cultural Gala

By Capt Ninsiima Rwemijuma

Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) troops serving under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) conducted a cultural gala to show case the many and diverse cultures, beliefs, values and norms of the Ugandan society to the outside world.

The gala, held at the Ugandan Contingent Headquarters in Mogadishu, was conducted under the theme: "Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces a United Force in Cultural Diversity." It was officiated by H.E the Uganda Ambassador to Somalia Professor Sam Turyamuhika.

Professor Turyamuhika welcomed all participants and thanked UPDF for uniting with other AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to restore peace and security in Somalia.

Amb Turyamuhika also thanked the UPDF for the commitment and sacrifices rendered while serving under AMISOM since 2007. He reminisced that the situation in Somalia before UPDF engagement had very many security challenges but UPDFs' spirit of Pan Africanism has neutralized the situation, citing the existence of such a gala. "In African Traditional culture, we have several tribes and cultures but again it should not gear someone to under look other cultures because they shape us into responsible people," Prof Turyamuhika observed.

He thanked the Somali National Army (SNA) for occupying the created military camps which gives hope that Somalia is ready to defend and protect herself.

The Uganda Contingent Commander (Sector One) Brig Michael Kabango informed the

gathering that the cultural gala signifies UPDFs' success in Somalia and is a celebration for the sacrifices, efforts and commitments that UPDF under AMISOM has given our brothers and sisters in Somalia.

The Kenyan Ambassador to Somalia H.E Lucas Kyonze Tumbo, Uganda's Deputy Ambassador to Somalia Maj Gen (Rtd) Nathan Mugisha, the American Defence Attaché to Somalia Lt Col Ian Murry, Somali government officials, and representatives from the UN, among others attended the 2019 UPDF cultural gala in Somalia.



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By Henry Baguma

## Priest Praises UPDF Troops

“UPDF soldiers are lovely people; they are easy to work with and always ready to help.”

This was said by the Parish Priest Bombo Catholic Church, Reverend Mukama Livingstone when asked what he thinks of the UPDF since he preaches in a church, just metres away from Bombo military barracks.

The interview was conducted at the sideline of a send-off ceremony for several UPDF soldiers who were retiring from the Force. The ceremony was presided over by the Commander Land Forces, Lt Gen Peter Elwelu.

Rev Mukama said the church is an umbrella for all people of God and UPDF soldiers are part of the church family, they are good people and God fearing. *“You just have to visit our church one Sunday and see how many of these soldiers turn up for prayers. It is amazing. They come with their wives and children to attend the church service and as a church we are very happy,”* said Rev Mukama, adding that apart from attending prayers, soldiers at Bombo barracks actively participate in community activities whenever called upon.

While addressing retirees and guests earlier, the UPDF Commander Land Forces (CLF) Lt Gen Peter Elwelu thanked them for a job well done. He said in the military, one has to undergo three crucial phases. The first is recruitment, the second is service and the third is retirement. *“Every*

*stage has its challenges and opportunities and if you are well focused and love God, you will always succeed, there is no short cut,”* emphasized Lt Gen Elwelu. Having retired from the army, they must now adjust themselves to the community life, join the rest to promote unity, peace and stability. *“Use your military skills to promote peace and co-existence so that Uganda prospers. Pay special attention to your family members and their welfare. Be prepared to live behind a better world and a happy family when God calls you to heaven eventually,”* he advised.

He advised soldiers to avoid a situation where they will leave their families in misery. *“Those of you who made mistakes while in the army must repent now. If you took somebody’s food or property, please repent so that you live a happy life,”* noted Lt Gen Elwelu.

He noted that troops who still have energy maybe recalled in future to serve in other capacities and further urged retirees and their families to maintain discipline, obedience, patriotism and above all hard work.

Lt Gen Elwelu reminded troops not to forget UPDF culture such that they remain a point of reference in their communities.

He urged the media to work towards the promotion of peace, hard work and truth. *“Promote light not darkness, tell the truth only,”* the CLF told journalists who covered the retirement ceremony.

*“Now is the time for peace, go back and engage in productive activities to better yourselves,”* Lt Gen Elwelu told retirees.

## UPDF Wazalendo SACCO gets new CEO

**W**azalendo Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Limited (WSACCO) witnessed a transfer of power and welcomed a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Col Joseph Fred Onatta.

Speaking at the handover and take over ceremony, the Deputy Commander Land Forces and WSACCO Board Chairman Maj Gen Sam Kavuma thanked the outgoing CEO Brig Simon Ocan for the tireless four (4) years of service. Maj Gen Kavuma noted that it's under Brig Ocan that Wazalendo has seen high growth and progress.

The outgoing CEO Brig Simon Ochan in his remarks put emphasis on high skills, experience and maturity by the governance and management team if Wazalendo is to maintain the high standards and success it has so far scored.

The incoming CEO Col Joseph Fred Onata while receiving the instruments of power said he was grateful for this opportunity to serve yet in another capacity and pledged not to disappoint the UPDF leadership.

Brig Simon Ocan has been nominated by the UPDF leadership to attend further studies at the National Defence College (NDC) yet to be named

Col Onata previously served as the Director of Finance at Uganda Peoples' Defence Air Force (UPDAF). He brings his vast experience in financial management to the Sacco.

The Handover and takeover ceremony held at the headquarters of Wazalendo

Sacco in Kiwatule, Kampala was attended by Board Members, Supervisory Committee and staff of the co-operative.

Wazalendo SACCO is a Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs (MODVA) and Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) Co-operative Society that enables its Members to come together and pool funds (Savings) so that, they can access Loans (Credit) to engage in productive activities so as to improve their welfare. It was registered in September 2005 and has been the leading and exemplary Sacco in the country.

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Hon Lydia Wanyoto (2nd right) having a light moment with an Officer from the Canadian military. Looking on is Hon Brig Flavia Byekwaso.

# WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

By Our Staff Writer

**U**PDF in conjunction with the Canadian National Defence Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation (DMTC) organized the First Ever International Training Conference for Women in Military; Women in Peace and Security.

The conference aimed at bolstering and promoting the integration of women in militaries and having a general consideration for gender in military circles.

The workshop, which ran from Friday 30th August to 3th September 2019, had 52 participants drawn from the countries of Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Jordan, Mali, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and the host country Uganda.

The workshop also intended to come up with workable examples that can boost women



*Military Officers who attended the Canadian National Defence Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation in Entebbe.*

integration in the armed forces, offer international commitments to women, peace and security and highlighted the importance of leadership in fostering unity among women.

Hon Lydia Wanyoto, the National Chairperson NRM Women League, on behalf of the Ministry of Defense and Veteran Affairs applauded the Government of Canada for having thought of Uganda to host the workshop.

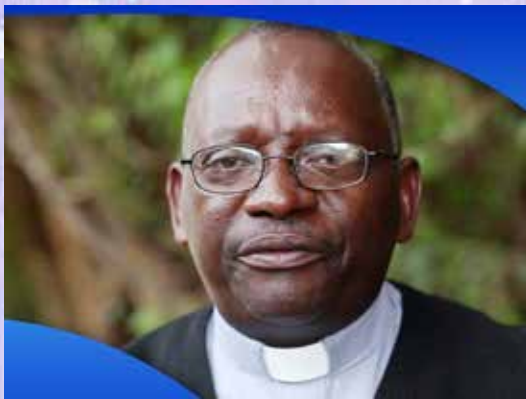
Hon Wanyoto pointed out that Uganda remains committed to issues of women peace and security since 1986. “We have walked the talk and government has since then worked on total inclusiveness of women at all levels of administration.

With such a unique history, it has led Uganda to move and share experiences of stability beyond our borders and has exported peace to many countries like Burundi,

Liberia and at large in Somalia, without leaving the issues of women especially their inclusion in peace and security matters behind,” Hon Wanyoto said. She observed that since the victims of war are always women, it’s prudent for women to come up and actively participate at all levels that involve peace and security matters. She added that this is so since most victims of war are women.

Hon Wanyoto reminded participants about the UN Resolution 1325 that emphasizes the importance of integrating women in the forces and further implored participants to pick a leaf from Uganda’s Constitution of 1995 that provides for women involvement in all sectors of Government.

The opening function was also attended by the UPDF Member of Parliament Hon Brig Flavia Byekwaso, officers, and a delegation from the Directorate of National Defence in Canada, among others.



## CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE IN PEACE AND PROSPERITY

*Fr. Paulino Twesigye Mondo*

**T**oday as we celebrate our 57th Independence Day means that the hash memories of colonialism are long gone and our liberty is now in our hands. We need to be absolutely delighted that we are again a capable people with a beautiful Country that we call home.

It should always be exciting for all of us to take part actively in events like these and see what peace, freedom, talents, ambitions and innovations of Uganda's people means. Our joyful participation in this memorable national invent demonstrates how Ugandans are playing a positive role in transforming themselves into capable leaders, innovators, educators and citizens who care dearly about the future of their country.

I want to make something clear for every Ugandan who is alive on this Independence Day and I want you to believe, not just because it is true, but because it sits at the core of everything we treasure.

We have come from very far, we are still far but we are soon arriving at our desired destination of wealth, health and prosperity. We must love and appreciate the good steps of success that we have so far achieved. Generally, we are a respected nation with good road network spreading all over the country; we enjoy relative peace that some had not known for generations and thanks to our able security and defence forces, we have electricity and clean water, we have structures of leadership and political governance.

Industries and tourism are picking once again while education and healthcare are visibly available. We need to continue believing in our potential and creative energy. The whole world is standing with us as we continue to build the kind of country we want today and for future generations.

When any keen observer sees Uganda objectively despite the many obvious visible challenges, they will

see a country in the right direction. Developing a country like Uganda which was once politically dead, buried and forgotten needs optimistic citizens instead of pessimists who see everything with wrong eyes.

Like our President always reminds us, we need to believe that Uganda is a place of unprecedented prosperity and opportunity. That vision exists, thanks to the potential good Ugandans across the country; it depends on Ugandans to make Uganda one of the world's destinations.

Certainly, there are some challenges to our desired vision which we can't simply ignore.

Some Ugandans are stubborn by birth, so they will talk but never listen. There is unemployment because our health has improved through various interventions. This has caused an increase in population. Our education industry is overproducing graduates who are job seekers.

Also neighboring countries have found Uganda the real promised land of Africa and are residents here without any intention of returning home. Corruption which is not exceptional to Ugandans continues to undermine service delivery and erodes confidence among those who should benefit by merit.

Quality community health care and education remain out of reach for some people due to distances and poor planning.

Add to this is the fact that Uganda has a large and growing youth population. In fact, among the largest and youngest in the world, a storm more than a tidal wave that will put further strain on our country to meet the needs of its citizens. Yet, we could as well revolutionarily change this attitude by deciding to continuously challenge ourselves with this question: What should I do to make my country better? Uganda can only be made good by you and me because it is our home.

It may be difficult in the face of these facts to see how Uganda could reach the potential we are envisioning in the

next few decades, yet nothing is impossible for a focused citizen who has passion to achieve heavens on earth.

We have to convince ourselves that God has not yet lost hope in the good future of Uganda and neither should you the Ugandans. Uganda is filled with unlimited potential and will achieve great things in the years ahead. That is why we Ugandans here and across the country need to make sure that we put our minds together so as to realize our dreams and potential in our life time.

Let me give you a few examples of just what this is beginning to look like. Operation Wealth Creation which was launched recently is already leveraging Uganda's enormous potential of food security and better livelihood. In districts like Bushenyi, Hoima, Kamwenge, Kiryandongo, Mbarara, Masaka, Soroti, and Wakiso, to name some few where modern farming is being practiced, the result is both prosperous and rewarding.

Ugandans are developing careers in sports, finance, marketing, logistics and many other areas that support wealth creation and help add value to our lives, develop the economy and create jobs for thousands of Ugandans who would have been stranded.

The National Development Fund acting as a soft loan by our Government borrowed from Africa Development Bank is awarding able Ugandan farmers and entrepreneur grants to help them pursue initiatives in farming and other profit making good ventures. This initiative is assisting to drive private investment wealth creation alternatives in Uganda.

The good will to improve Uganda's welfare since 1986 has been so impressive to the extent that our country has earned worldwide recognition. Whenever we visit another country we no long shy away from being referred to as Ugandans because we have worked hard to turn history to the right direction.

When it comes to restoring peace in war tone African Countries like Somalia, our peace keeping achievements are irreversible. We are the only alternative safe home for millions of refugees escaping from terror within their countries. We have managed to fight Ebola skillfully and our knowledge is now treasured beyond our boarder. Our natural hospitality has made us a beacon of kindness when we happen to host any category of visitors. We need to feel privileged, not simply because of the honor Uganda has achieved, but because of how talented and dedicated Ugandans are becoming.

Our irreversible good achievements should inspire us to remain engaged on the right radar of success. The

achievements we have built together over the years will continue, no matter what happens in decades ahead. Of course, the Uganda we have today, the jobs, the prosperity and the opportunities so far achieved have not simply appeared magically.

Ugandans, worthy of that name, can ever forget that true independence as we enjoy it in 2019 was conquered through a fierce and idealist struggle, a struggle in which we spared neither our energy, nor our hardship, nor our suffering, nor our blood. The freedom we are witnessing has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and women who dared to bring the fundamental change and so it must be daily refreshed and appreciated; else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.

Ugandans, nothing is more difficult and therefore more precious, than being able to decide. Majority of Ugandans have already decided to aim at sustaining a fair society, where no citizen needs to suffer in sickness because he/she cannot pay for treatment. We believe that no child should go without education merely because the family is poor. It is the intention of the NRM government to do away with poverty. We do not expect to do all this from foreign charity.

We are not going to compromise our independence by begging for assistance. To become truly prosperous, healthy and stable, Ugandans need to work hard each and every day.

Poverty begins in the mind and it needs leaders who are dedicated to provoking change of attitude and mentality. The resources for quality education, adequate health care, transparent effective government, sustainable economic growth and the lack of jobs are everywhere but we have to reach out for them. The government has made it clear that our progress, our hope, our ambitions will only be fulfilled if we work as united citizens.

If we Ugandans want to sustain our revolutionary democracy for the sake of our hard earned National Independence, we must keep the promise and pay the price. No one else will pay it for us. Nor can we get it on credit. We will nevertheless need the support of the new networks of international solidarity, a grand moral coalition beyond states, a coalition of all those who believe that without Uganda, our world will certainly be poorer in spirit and humanity. What we should never forget is that Uganda belongs to us. Happy Independence Day Ugandans.

Fr. Paulino Mondo

# UPDF EMERGES OVERALL WINNER AT THE EAC MILITARY GAMES AND CULTURAL EVENTS



**T**he Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) team that participated in the 12th Edition of the East Africa Community (EAC) Military Games and Cultural Events emerged triumphant after winning two gold medals, one in net ball and another in volley ball plus two silver medals won in the disciplines of basketball and athletics respectively.





*Gen David Muhozi hands over a trophy to the UPDF Netball Captain Lt Kiwanuka.*

At the same event, UPDF's Joseph Yiga was awarded as the best goal keeper during the competitions.

The President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) H.E. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta officiated the closure of the EAC military games. He also awarded medals to the best teams and players at MOI International Stadium.

The EAC Military games and cultural events which commenced on the 11th Aug 2019 in Kenya's capital Nairobi came to an end on Friday 23rd Aug 2019 and UPDF team code named "Mission Uganda" emerged the overall winner, followed by Rwanda. Kenya came 3rd, Tanzania 4th, Burundi was 5th followed by South Sudan. South Sudan, which participated for their first

time only competed in basketball and cross - country. The games and cultural events ran under the theme "One people One destiny through games and cultural events".

President Kenyatta complimented the EAC for granting his country the opportunity to host the 2019 EAC military games and cultural events which he said has created a positive impact on Kenya as a country, in terms of, cooperation and inter military relations.

He further stressed that hosting military games in a country has become a fundamental pillar for supporting efforts that build unity and objectives of the region. He finally congratulated the organizing committee for organizing such a great and successful event.

“I want to remind all the participants that the biggest objective of EAC is to foster the spirit of cooperation among EAC countries. In the same way I congratulate our sister country South Sudan for being part of this year’s games which gives a brighter future and we look forward for their continued involvement in the next Edition”, he concluded.

While speaking to journalists, the UPDF Chief of Education and Sports Brig Francis Takirwa who was the head of delegation for the UPDF team attributed UPDFs’ excellent performance to ample preparations prior to the games, good facilitation from the UPDF leadership and discipline from the participants. He lauded all participants for

playing fair games and urged them not to forget the theme of the 12th Edition of EAC Military games and cultural events. He further noted that without cooperation and brotherhood, the games cannot have any impact on the EAC Partner States.

Uganda’s Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs Hon Adolf Mwesige and the Chief of Defence Forces Gen David Muhoozi among other leaders attended the closing ceremony. South Sudan will host the 13th edition of the East Africa Community Military Games and Cultural Events in 2020. This year’s EAC Military Games and Cultural Events had teams compete in basket ball, cross-country, football netball, and volleyball.

*UPDF team parades trophies won at the recently concluded 2019 EAC Military Games and Cultural events in Kenya.*



# UPDF COMMANDERS PHYSICALLY TESTED

**U**ganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) senior commanders and directors under Land Forces completed a two-day basic and combat fitness test. This was conducted at Land Forces headquarters in Bombo, Luwero district

The exercise was supervised by fitness experts from UPDF's Chieftaincy of Medical Services and Directorate of Sports.

The participants included the Commander Land Forces (CLF), Lt Gen Peter Elwelu with all directors under Land Forces, Division Commanders, Brigade Commanders, Battalion Commanders and other officers who came from units and other services.

The participants went through a 5 Km run, push-ups and sit-ups as part of the basic fitness test. The combat fitness test entailed a 30 Km walk while carrying and wearing all the basics of a field soldier. "We have launched an exercise code named Commander Imara to test ourselves on basic and combat fitness. This is a way of ensuring we are combat ready at all times," Lt Gen Elwelu said. He noted that the work of UPDF calls for a physically and mentally fit individual.

"UPDF is generally a fit army. We have been engaged in several operations that left us fit. Despite this, we have to test ourselves. We have to look at ourselves against the mirror," Lt Gen Elwelu added.

The Chief of Staff Land Forces Maj Gen Leopold Kyanda, noted that the army plays a very vital role of providing security and must measure to the task at all times. "The first thing any country needs in order to progress is security. Therefore, our role is prime. We must ensure we are able to measure to this important task by being fit," Maj Gen Kyanda told participants.

Maj Dr. Ddungu from the UPDF Medical Services said commanders did a confirmatory test during the exercise as reflected in their medical files.

This program will be conducted annually and it will trickle down to all units under Land Forces. The next exercise will be held in April 2020 although commanders will implement the same in their units. Overall the exercise was successful and participants passed the set standards.

Among the field commanders who participated in the exercise were Maj Gen Sam Okiding, Maj Gen Sam Kawagga, Brig Stephen Mugerwa, Brig JM Ssemwanga, Brig Joseph Balikuddembe, Brig Michael Nyarwa, Brig CR Byanyima, Brig Bonny Bamwiseke, Brig William Bainomugisha, Brig Daniel Kakono and Brig David Isimbwa. In general, 150 Commanders turned up for the exercise.





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UHURU DAY, OCTOBER 2019

# QUOTES & MILESTONES

Sarah Kazibwe

*"The only real security that a man can have in this world is a reserve of knowledge, experience and ability."*

**Henry ford**

*"Human security depends on a system where each rational individual calculates that it is more profitable not to rebel."*

**Mark Gough**

*"To foretell the destiny of a nation, it is necessary to open the book that tells of her past."*

**Dr Jose Rizal**

*"There is no real security except for whatever you build inside yourself."*

**Gilda Radner**

*"The individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made."*

**Franklin D Roosevelt**

*"The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life."*

**Jane Addarms**

*"There is no way to prosperity, prosperity is the way"*

**Wayne Dyer**

*"Any person who contributes to prosperity must prosper in turn"*

**Earl Nightingale**

*"It is possible to provide security against other ills, but as far as death is concerned, we men live in a city without walls."*

**Epicurus**

*"Abundance is the energy of permission. The more you permit yourself to desire what you want, express gratitude for what you have, and be excited for whatever comes your way, the more abundance you are bound to receive."*

**Matt Kahn**

*"Prosperity is a way of living and thinking, and not just money or things. Poverty is a way of living and thinking and not just a lack of money or things."*

**Eric Butterworth**



*“Security represents your sense of worth, your identity, your emotional anchorage, your self-esteem, your basic personal strength or lack of it.”*

**Stephen Covey**

*“We cannot free ourselves unless we move forward united in a single desire.”*

**Aguinaldo**

*“If you reveal your secrets to the wind, you should not blame the wind for revealing them to the trees.”*

**Kahlil Gibran**

*“My attitude is a monument; a statue ought to signify unity instead of division”*

**Bill Nelson**

*“When people have compassion, friendship, and unity, they speak and think in a constructive way to ensure National Independence and prosperity.”*

**Bhumibol**

*“Stay with us, please remain in this country and constitute a nation based on national unity.”*

**Robert Mugabe**

*“Unity to be real must stand the severest strain without breaking.”*

**Mahatma Gandhi**

*“Everything that is really great and inspiring is created by the individual who can labor in freedom.”*

**Albert Einstein**

*“We have believed and we do believe now that freedom is indivisible, that peace is indivisible, that economic prosperity is indivisible”*

**India Ghandi**

*“Unity is strength, when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.”*

**Mattie Stepanek**

*When you open your heart to patriotism, there is no room for prejudice. The bible tells us, how good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity.”*

**Donald Trump**

*“Independence means we enjoy freedom, we are not colonized by people and we can govern our own country, develop it independently so that our people can live a better life.”*

**Mohathir Mohammad**

*“This independence day, let’s take a pledge to protect the peace and unity of our great nation.”*

*“If you want greater prosperity in your life, start farming a vacuum to receive it.”*

**Catherine Ponder**

*“It was by one union that we achieved our independence and liberties, and by it alone can they be maintained.”*

**James Monroe**

*“True Independence and Freedom can only exist in doing what’s right”*

**Brigham Young**

*“The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence.”*

**Denis Walley**

# DEFENCE MINISTRY COMMENDED FOR THE STABILITY

“I thank the defence ministry for their tireless efforts in securing the country that has enabled economic growth,”

Hon Amelia Kyambadde.

URA Board Member Mrs Roy Tumusiime (Blue top) and URA's Ms Doris Akol inspecting MODVA/UPDF stall.



**T**he Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Hon Amelia Kyambadde hailed the Defence and Veteran Affairs Ministry for effectively utilizing taxes when restoring peace and stability.

“I thank the defence ministry for their tireless efforts in securing the country that has enabled economic growth,” she said, adding that security remains a key factor since Uganda ratified to a number of trade treaties with other countries.

Hon Kyambadde made the remark while presiding over the opening ceremony of the recently concluded Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) Tax Payer’s Appreciation Week held at Kololo Independence Grounds.

The exhibition, where the defence ministry emerged as the best 2019 exhibitor, ran under the theme: “Every Tax Payer Counts. If everyone Pays, No One pays more.”

She lauded all exhibitors for paying taxes and noted that these help government smoothen its operations in different Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

*(R-L) Trade Minister Hon Amelia Kyambadde, URA’s Doris Akol and Mrs Tumusiime during the Tax Payers Appreciation Week.*





*Ms Doris Akol disembarking from a UPDF Nyoka at the exhibition.*

Hon Kyambadde also noted that URA needs to work with other partners to execute their work hence the need for the creation of synergies for effective mobilization of taxes.

At the same event, different stakeholders appreciated URA for increasing its revenue collections for the past years and closing the gap between URA officials and the final tax payers.

The Trade Minister further urged URA commissioners not only to end with organizing exhibitions but also focus on how to improve the performance of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

While addressing exhibitors, the Commissioner General of URA Ms Doris Akol thanked all sponsors and participants for their continued support towards the success of the exhibition. She noted that this positive response fulfills their Corporate Social Responsibility.

Throughout the three-days (25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> September) exhibition, the Defence and Veteran Affairs ministry was represented by National Enterprise Corporation (NEC), Wazalendo sacco, UPDF Spouses Desk, Mubende Rehabilitation Center, and the Directorate of Veteran Affairs, among others.

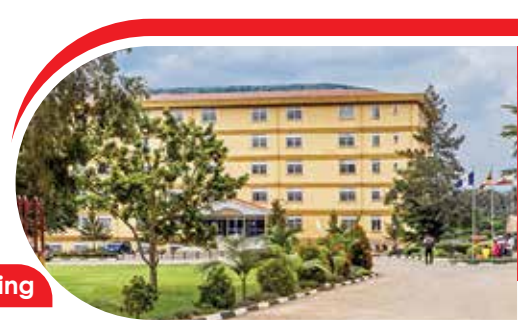
Other exhibitors were MTN, Airtel, National Water and Sewerage Corporation, Uganda Electricity Distribution Company Limited, Uganda Batteries Limited, Solar Energy Uganda, among others.

The Deputy Managing Director NEC Brig Ddiba Ssentongo, Defence Spokesperson Brig Richard Karemire, the director of Uzima water Brig Emmanuel Kashilling, and the WSACCO Chief Executive Officer Col Joseph Onata, among others graced the exhibition. The organizers of the 2019 URA Tax Payer's Appreciation Week awarded the defence ministry with plaque and a fuel card worth One Million Shillings.



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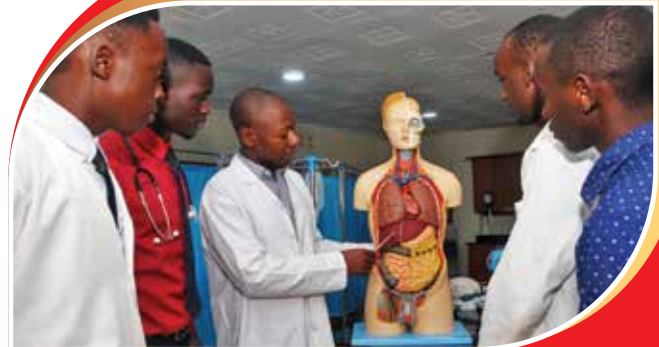


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