

Appendix I: Court Cases

This table contains information about allegations of torture and illegal detention in the trials observed by Human Rights Watch in Rwanda between 2011 and 2016.

This information is based on defendants' statements in court hearings observed by Human Rights Watch and on court judgments.

This table only contains the names of individuals who stated in court that they were tortured or illegally detained, in public trials observed by Human Rights Watch. Other defendants in these trials told Human Rights Watch confidentially that they were tortured or illegally detained, but did not reveal this information in court. Their names are not included in the below table.

	Name of defendant	Trial	Sentence, Court of First Instance	Statements in Court
1	Joel Mutabazi	Mutabazi and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Torture and forced confession Illegal detention in Kami
2	Innocent Kalisa	Mutabazi and co-accused	25 years	Torture
3	Jean-Marie Vianney Ngabonziza	Mutabazi and co-accused	15 years	Torture to force him to confess
4	Aminadab Ndayambaje	Mutabazi and co-accused	15 years	Torture and forced confession
5	Balthazar Imaniriho	Mutabazi and co-accused	10 years	Torture
6	Pélagie Nizeyimana (female)	Mutabazi and co-accused	10 years	Beatings during interrogations
7	Simon Pierre Mahirwe	Mutabazi and co-accused	5 years	Torture to force him to confess

8	Jackson Karemera	Mutabazi and co-accused	4 months	Beatings and forced confession
9	Frodouard Rwandanga	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention Torture and forced confession
10	Théophile Munyaneza	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Forced confession in Kami
11	Cléophas Harerimana	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention
12	Anatole Kayisire	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Beatings, forced confession and illegal detention in Kami
13	Alexandre Havugimana	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Forced confession Illegal Detention in MINADEF
14	Jonas Ndahimana	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention
15	Innocent Karuta	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal Detention in MINADEF
16	Philippe Niyitegeka	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Confession after threats and torture in Kami
17	Alexis Ruzabavaho	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention in a military camp
18	David Nshimiyimana Mpakaniye	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention for 8 months
19	Elias Matakamba	Mukeshimana and co-accused	20 years	Illegal detention
20	Donat Munezero	Mukeshimana and co-accused	20 years	Tortured to confess Illegal detention for 9 months

21	Jonathan Habimana	Mukeshimana and co-accused	20 years	Illegal detention
22	Gaëtan Musafiri	Mukeshimana and co-accused	20 years	Illegal detention for 9 months
23	Jean Damascène Nsengumuremyi	Mukeshimana and co-accused	20 years	Torture and illegal detention
24	Naftal Nsengimana	Mukeshimana and co-accused	15 years	Illegal detention for 6 months in military camp
25	Charles Ririmunda	Mukeshimana and co-accused	10 years	Illegal detention for 7 months in Kami
26	Jean Baptiste Nsengiyumva	Mukeshimana and co-accused	10 years	Illegal detention
27	Jean Damascène Basabose	Mukeshimana and co-accused	5 years	Illegal detention by Rwandan intelligence services in Kigali
28	Jean Damascène Ngarambe	Mukeshimana and co-accused	5 years	Torture and forced confession Illegal detention for 9 months Lawyer and prosecution say he was in Kami
29	Jean Marie Vianney Byiringiro	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegally detention for 8 months
30	Matabara Déo	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention
31	Jean de Dieu Nsengamungu	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Kami
32	Jean Bosco Ngarama	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Kami
33	Athanase Sebanani	Mukeshimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention

34	Enos Habineza	Nsanzimana and co-accused	8 years	Illegal detention in Mukamira
35	Isaie Bazirufite	Nsanzimana and co-accused	7 years	Torture and illegal detention in Mukamira
36	Paulin Mukenga	Nsanzimana and co-accused	7 years	Illegal detention in Mukamira
37	Phocas Habiyambere	Nsanzimana and co-accused	7 years	Illegal detention in Mukamira
38	Jérôme Nsanzimana	Nsanzimana and co-accused	5 years	Illegal detention in Rwandan military camp
39	Jean Damascène Nsengiyumva	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in the “Gendarmerie” and Mukamira
40	Patrick Hakizimana	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in the “Gendarmerie” and Mukamira Tortured in Mukamira to force him to confess
41	Rafiki Mutabaruka	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Confessed because of beatings
42	Emmanuel Bucyekabiri	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Mukamira for 3 months
43	Jean Pierre Bikorimana	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in the “Gendarmerie” and Mukamira Beaten and forced to confess
44	Heshima Gasore	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Mukamira
45	Cyiza Gatashya	Nsanzimana and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Mukamira

46	Xaverina Mukashyaka (female)	Xaverina and co-accused	20 years	Torture and forced confession Illegal detention in Kami
47	Norbert Manirafasha	Xaverina and co-accused	20 years	Torture and forced confession
48	Gilbert Rwego Maniraguha	Xaverina and co-accused	20 years	Torture and forced confession
49	Alphonse Ndarusanuye	Xaverina and co-accused	20 years	Torture in Kami and forced confession
50	Jean Damascène Ntabwoba	Xaverina and co-accused	20 years	Illegal detention in Kami
51	Elie Semajeri	Xaverina and co-accused	Acquitted	Illegal detention in Kami for 1 month Forced confession
52	Jean Bosco Bizimungu	Xaverina and co-accused	Acquitted	Torture and forced confession in Kami
53	Jean Baptiste Kanyamuhanda	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Torture and forced confession in Mukamira
54	Ismaël Bihoyiki	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Torture and forced confession in Mukamira
55	Félicien Irankunda	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention in Mukamira
56	Florence Akimanizanye (female)	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Illegal detention in Mukamira
57	Amani Ngarambe	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Forced to sign statement he was not allowed to read
58	Vianney Dusabimana	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Forced confession in Mukamira

59	Cyiza Evariste Ngendahimana	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Torture and forced confession in Mukamira
60	Marcel Habinshuti	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Life imprisonment	Forced confession in Mukamira
61	Papias Nzayisenga	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	10 years	Torture and forced confession Illegal detention in the “Gendarmerie” and Mukamira
62	Ndagijimana Banyangandora	Kanyamuhanda and co-accused	Acquitted	Forced confession
63	Jean Baptiste Yandagiye	Ndayambaje and co-accused	20 years	Beatings
64	Ephrem Hitiyaremye	Ndayambaje and co-accused	3 years	Illegal detention in Mukamira
65	Innocent Uwuzuyishema	Ndayambaje and co-accused	Acquitted	Torture

For more information and references to some of the trials, see Section IV.

Appendix II: Letter to Minister of Justice

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August 23, 2017

His Excellency
Johnston Busingye
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
Kigali
Republic of Rwanda



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Re: Findings on Illegal Detention and Torture in Military Custody, and Memorandum of Understanding

Dear Minister Busingye,

I am writing to follow-up on a letter my colleague sent to you on December 14, 2016, with an overview of Human Rights Watch's findings on patterns of illegal and arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment in military detention centers in Rwanda between 2010 and 2016. I would like to re-iterate our request for the Rwandan government's response to our findings and several specific questions, and to request a meeting to discuss our research findings as well as the renewal of our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). We will be publishing a detailed report on these findings in 2017, and we believe it is important, in the spirit of our previous MoU, that the Rwandan government's response is adequately reflected.

Since the Ministry of Justice is our principal interlocutor in the Rwandan government, I would be grateful if you could share a copy of this letter with other relevant government departments, including the Ministry of Defence, the National Public Prosecuting Authority, the Military Prosecution Department, the Rwanda Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (RDRC), and the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS), and request their responses to our questions.

Please find below a summary of our findings followed by a detailed list of questions for Rwandan government officials. In order to incorporate the Rwandan government's perspective in our report, we would appreciate if you could send us responses to the questions below and any additional information by September 5, 2017.

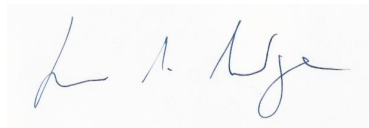
I also would like to request a meeting with you on September 6, 7, or 8 at a time of your convenience to discuss both our research findings and renewing our MoU. I can be reached on + [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED]@hrw.org.

We have not received any answer to our numerous earlier requests for information and meetings, despite the commitment undertaken by the Rwandan government in our previous MoU to facilitate such requests.

Finally, Human Rights Watch would like to request authorization to visit the detention centers mentioned below, including Kami, Mukamira, and the “gendarmerie.” We would be grateful if you could facilitate this.

I look forward to your reply and to our continued collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Mudge".

Lewis Mudge
Senior Researcher
Human Rights Watch

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Summary of Human Rights Watch's Findings
- Annex 2: Request for Information

Annex 1: Summary of Human Rights Watch's Findings

Based on interviews with over 150 people, including 61 former detainees, and observation of at least seven trials in Rwanda, Human Rights Watch has documented dozens of cases of people who were detained unlawfully and arbitrarily and, in many cases, tortured, in military custody, between 2010 and 2016. The detainees included people accused of involvement in grenade attacks, real or suspected members or collaborators of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and suspected members or collaborators of the Rwanda National Congress (RNC) or opposition parties.

Many of these detainees were held incommunicado in military detention centers in harsh conditions, often for several months. In many cases, the torture appeared designed to extract confessions or other information from suspects.

Military officials, sometimes assisted by police, intelligence or local government officials, arrested most of these former detainees in Rwanda. Several others were arrested in Burundi or the Democratic Republic of Congo and transferred to Rwanda. Rwandan officials were sometimes involved in arrests in Burundi and Congo. Some of those arrested were former FDLR combatants but most were civilians. Several individuals were arrested while they were undergoing the Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration and Resettlement (DDRRR) process.

In some cases, family members or friends witnessed the person being taken away by state agents. They inquired about their whereabouts with local government or security officials, but authorities rarely revealed any information and usually did not acknowledge the detention. Families therefore remained without news of their loved ones for several weeks or months. Some of these cases can therefore be qualified as enforced disappearances and incommunicado detention.

Unlawful Detention and Torture in Military Centers

Human Rights Watch interviewed 39 former detainees who said they were detained in Kami military camp between 2010 and 2016, in some cases for up to nine months, and received information about multiple other cases. At least 13 defendants stated in trials observed by

Human Rights Watch that they had been detained in Kami and some said in court that they were tortured there.

Many former detainees interviewed by Human Rights Watch described beatings, electrocution, asphyxiation, the use of acid and mock executions in Kami, in an apparent attempt to extract confessions about their alleged links with the FDLR or the RNC or to force them to accuse others, including political opposition members.

Most detainees transited through other centers before being sent to Kami. In 2010, military officials first interrogated and tortured several detainees at the Ministry of Defence (MINADEF) premises, before sending them to Kami. Human Rights Watch spoke to 11 former detainees who said that they had transited through MINADEF. Ten described being beaten during their interrogation. Two defendants also mentioned in court, in front of a judge, that they had been detained in MINADEF.

Others were detained in the military camp of Mukamira. Human Rights Watch interviewed 25 former detainees who were held there, some as recently as May 2016, in some cases for up to three months. From Mukamira, some were then transferred to Kami or other detention facilities. In trials observed by Human Rights Watch, at least 19 defendants stated in court that they had been illegally detained in Mukamira and some told the judges that they had been tortured there.

Former detainees told Human Rights Watch how military or intelligence officials tortured them in Mukamira, subjected them to electric shocks, beat them or threatened to kill them if they would not confess.

Some detainees who were arrested in Congo or near the Congolese border were first held in a military base known as the “gendarmerie.” Human Rights Watch interviewed 17 former detainees who were held there, some for two months. At least four defendants mentioned their detention in the “gendarmerie” in one of the trials observed by Human Rights Watch. In the “gendarmerie,” military officers beat detainees and held them in holes in the ground.

Other detainees told Human Rights Watch they were held in the military camps of Bigogwe, Mudende and Tumba, or in private houses in Kigali or Rubavu. Most said officials in those locations also ill-treated them.

Conditions of Detention

Former detainees described the inhuman conditions in which they were held in military detention facilities. Some were held in isolation, sometimes in a constantly dark or lit cell, others in holes in the ground. Most had very limited access to food, water, hygiene or visits. None of those we spoke to had access to medical care or were able to seek a judicial review of their detention.

Releases and Transfers

Some detainees were eventually released, while others were transferred to official prisons or police stations and sent to trial. Before their transfer, military, police or judicial officials often told them not to reveal anything about their detention in military custody and their treatment there. Police statements claimed they were arrested just before their transfer to the regular justice system, thereby concealing the period of their military detention from the official record.

Statements during Trials

For reasons of confidentiality and security, we cannot provide you with the identity of the former detainees we interviewed as part of our research. However, several defendants made similar allegations of unlawful military detention and torture during their trials, and these statements are on the public record. Human Rights Watch observed some or all of the hearings in the following trials, among others:

- Prosecutor v. Jean Berchimans Mukeshimana et al., Kigali High Court, Case No. RP0027/11/HC/KIG-RP 0036/11/HC/KIG, first instance judgement on January 13, 2012 & Supreme Court, Case No. RPA 0090/12/CS, appeal judgement on March 4, 2016. 25 defendants made statements in court about their illegal detention, out of whom six said they had been detained in Kami and two in MINADEF. Six said they had been tortured with a view to extracting confessions.

- Prosecutor v. Jean Kanyamuhanda et al., Musanze High Court, Case No. RP 0054/HC/MUS, first instance judgment on December 6, 2012. Eight defendants said they had been detained in Mukamira, one after transiting through the “gendarmerie”. Four said they had been tortured.
- Prosecutor v. Janvier Ndayambaje et al., Musanze High Court, Specialized Chamber, Case No. RP 0108/11/HC/MUS, first instance judgment on January 8, 2013. One defendant said that he had been detained in Mukamira, two that they had been tortured.
- Prosecutor v. Jérôme Nsanzimana et al., Musanze High Court, Case No. RP 004611/HC/MUS, first instance judgment on March 21, 2013. Eleven defendants said they had been illegally detained, ten of them in Mukamira and three in the “gendarmerie”. Four said they had been tortured.
- Prosecutor v. Aboubacar Nsabiyeze et al., Musanze High Court, Case No. RP0052/13/HC/MUS, first instance judgment on May 22, 2014.
- Prosecutor v. Xaverina Mukashyaka et al., Musanze High Court, Case No. RP 0021/14/HC/MUS, first instance judgment on July 29, 2015. Five defendants said they had been detained in Kami. Five told the judges they had been tortured in detention.
- Military Prosecutor vs. Joel Mutabazi et al., Military High Court, Case No. RP 0003/013/MHC, first instance judgment on October 3, 2015. Eight defendants stated in court that they had been tortured. One said he had been detained in Kami.

In these trials, at least 51 defendants told the judges that they had been illegally detained, and at least 29 that they had been tortured. To our knowledge, those judges never ordered an in-depth investigation into these allegations and did not dismiss evidence obtained under torture. In several trials, judges dismissed defendants’ allegations that they had been tortured, claiming they had no proof, even when defendants offered to show their injuries or relevant documentation. Some of the accused were sentenced to long prison terms, based in part on forced confessions or witness testimony obtained under torture. We are deeply concerned that these people did not receive a fair trial.

Alleged Perpetrators

According to detainees, most of these abuses were carried out by military officials, many of whom detainees believed to be working for the military intelligence agency. In some cases, members of the police or the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) were also

involved. Human Rights Watch received information about dozens of officials allegedly involved in such practices. These include the following officials, who were cited in each case by at least six different sources that we interviewed independently:

- Lieutenant Emmanuel Karemera: Nine former detainees mentioned his presence in Kami in 2010. Several described him as a commanding officer who oversaw detention and said he was involved in threatening and torturing detainees. At least two defendants mentioned his involvement in abuses during their trial.
- Lieutenant-Colonel Faustin Tinka: Seven former detainees mentioned his involvement in interrogations at MINADEF and Kami in 2010. Several told Human Rights Watch that Tinka worked for the military intelligence agency. At least one defendant mentioned his involvement in abuses during his trial.
- Captain Murenzi: Eight former detainees told Human Rights Watch that an official known as Captain Murenzi oversaw interrogations, forced confessions and torture in Kami and MINADEF in 2010. Human Rights Watch was unable to confirm his first name. One detainee was able to read his name on his military uniform. Another mentioned his involvement in arrests in 2014. At least two defendants mentioned his involvement in abuses during their trial.
- Major Prosper alias Kaceri: Six former detainees mentioned to Human Rights Watch his involvement in interrogations and threats against detainees in MINADEF and Kami in 2010. One said that in 2010, he worked at the military intelligence department. He showed his ID card to one detainee and told another his name. At least two defendants mentioned his involvement in abuses during their trial. Human Rights Watch was unable to verify his full name.
- Captain Richard Ndakaza: Six former detainees told Human Rights Watch that he oversaw interrogations, forced confessions and torture at Kami in 2014.

Annex 2: Request for Information

We would be grateful if you could provide us with responses to the questions below. If some of this information is not immediately available to the Ministry of Justice, we hope that you can request clarification from the relevant authorities.

1. Have there been any investigations into unlawful detention and torture in military detention between 2010 and 2016? If so, could you provide us with detailed information about such investigations?
2. Have there been any prosecutions, convictions or disciplinary actions against officials involved in the human rights abuses described above? If so, could you provide us with detailed information about the number of cases, the nature of the abuses, and the actions taken?
3. Have any judges ordered an in-depth investigation into defendants' allegations in court that they were unlawfully detained, tortured or ill-treated in military custody? Have any judges refused to consider evidence allegedly obtained under torture or during illegal detention? If so, could you give us details of these cases?
4. What is the legal framework governing the arrest, detention and interrogation of suspects by the military *other than* the detention of persons at official military prisons such as Mulindi or Kanombe? To confirm our concerns here relate to processes of detention in locations that are not official military detention facilities.
5. What are the official functions and uses of the military camps of Kami, Bigogwe, Mukamira, Tumba and Mudende, and the military barracks at the "gendarmerie"? Are they used at least in part as detention centers and, if so, on what legal basis?
6. Are private houses ever used to detain people suspected of security-related offences? If so, under what legal framework?

7. Which officials are or were responsible for overseeing the military camps of Kami, Mukamira, Bigogwe, Tumba and Mudende between 2010 and 2016? Which officials were in charge of the “gendarmerie” and of interrogations in MINADEF? Could you provide us with their names, military ranks and positions between 2010 and 2016?
8. Could you provide us with the positions held between 2010 and 2016 and the contact details of the five military officers named above, so that we can contact them prior to publishing our findings and give them the opportunity to respond?
9. Which internal mechanisms are in place in the military and intelligence services to report and investigate abuses, and, where appropriate, refer cases to the Rwandan judiciary?
10. How many former FDLR members have been arrested during their demobilization process since 2010? What were the reasons for their arrest and who carried out the arrests? What happened to those arrested?
11. Could you provide us with up-to-date information on grenade attacks in Rwanda since 2008, including the number, date and location of the attacks, the number of people killed or injured, and the number and identity of those arrested in connection with these attacks?
12. Which governmental and national or international non-governmental organizations have been able to visit the detention centers mentioned above between 2010 and 2016? Have they been able to visit and speak to detainees there without restriction?
13. In 2012, the UN Committee Against Torture recommended that the Rwandan government establish and make public an official list of all places of detention. Has the government established and published such a list? If so, could you share it with us?

14. In June 2015 Rwanda ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT). Can you provide us with more information about the creation of a national preventive mechanism, as required by the OPCAT?

15. During the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process, the Rwandan government considered recommendations to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as “implemented or in the process of being implemented”. Could you provide us with more information about the process of ratification of this convention?

16. Could you provide us with information about the number of *habeas corpus* cases handled by Rwandan courts since 2010, and information about each case?

Appendix III: Letter to the National Commission for Human Rights

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Chairperson
National Commission for Human Rights
Kigali
Rwanda

August 22, 2017

Dear Ms. Nirere,

I am writing to follow up on the letter sent to you by my colleague on January 30, 2017 and to request a meeting.

In explained in our letter of January 30, we wish to share with you a summary of Human Rights Watch's research on patterns of illegal and arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment in military detention centers in Rwanda between 2010 and 2016, and to request information from the National Commission for Human Rights regarding our findings. We will soon publish a report on our findings.

Based on interviews with more than 150 people, including 61 former detainees, and observation of at least seven trials in Rwanda, Human Rights Watch has documented dozens of cases of people who were detained unlawfully and arbitrarily – and in many cases, tortured – in military custody between 2010 and 2016. The detainees included people accused of involvement in grenade attacks, real or suspected collaborators of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and, to a lesser extent, suspected members or collaborators of the Rwanda National Congress (RNC) or opposition parties. They were held in military detention centers in Kami, Mukamira, Bigogwe, Mudende and Tumba military camps, in the premises of the ministry of defense, in the military barracks referred to as the “gendamerie” (in Rubavu), and in private houses in Kigali or Rubavu.

Most of these detainees were held incommunicado in harsh conditions, sometimes for several months. Many of the detainees were tortured as security force officers attempted to extract confessions or other information from suspects. Former detainees spoke of beatings, mock executions, asphyxiations, the use of acid to cause burns on their skin, death threats, electrocution and other torture methods.

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Former detainees described the inhuman conditions in which they were held in military detention facilities. Some were held in isolation, sometimes in a constantly dark or lit cell, others in holes in the ground. Most had very limited access to food, water, hygiene or visits. None of those we spoke to had access to medical care or were able to seek a judicial review of their detention.

Military officials, sometimes assisted by police, intelligence or local government officials, arrested most of these former detainees in Rwanda. Several others were arrested in Burundi or the Democratic Republic of Congo and transferred to Rwanda. Some of those arrested were former FDLR combatants but most were civilians.

In some cases, family members or friends witnessed those people being taken away by state agents. They inquired about their whereabouts with local government or security officials, but authorities rarely revealed any information and usually did not acknowledge the detention. Families therefore remained without news for several weeks or months. Some of these cases can therefore be qualified as enforced disappearances.

Some detainees were eventually released, while others were transferred to official prisons or police stations and sent to trial. Human Rights Watch observed at least seven trials, in which many defendants made allegations of unlawful detention and torture. Some of the accused were sentenced to long prison terms, based in part on confessions or witness testimony obtained under torture.

Role of the National Commission for Human Rights

Several former detainees in military custody told Human Rights Watch that men who said they were from the National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) came to visit them in 2014 after they had been transferred to a regular detention center, and asked them questions about their detention. These men were accompanied by a prosecutor, who told the detainees not to reveal anything about their illegal detention. Another former detainee said that in 2016, he had been interrogated by someone working for “human rights” in Mukamira military camp.

Human Rights Watch saw six letters written to the NCHR by people close to individuals who disappeared in 2014, alerting the NCHR about the disappearances and providing

additional information. Human Rights Watch documented the illegal detention in Kami military camp of three of the cases described in these letters. Two of them were detained in Mukamira military camp before their transfer to Kami, and two were seriously beaten in illegal detention, in an apparent attempt to extract confessions.

All three were later sent to trial. One of them said in front of the judges that he had been detained in Kami and was forced to confess; another said he was tortured and forced to confess.

In the NCHR's annual reports from 2010 to 2016, there is no mention of illegal detention in military facilities, or such abuses by members of the military as described in this letter. In the 2003 annual report, however, the NCHR reported on illegal detention in the Kami and Mukamira military camps and reportedly discussed these issues with military authorities.

Questions

Following are specific questions that we hope you can address to help us ensure that the NCHR's perspective is incorporated in our upcoming report:

1. Between 2010 and 2016, did the NCHR visit any of the detention sites at military camps in Kami, Mukamira, Bigogwe, Mudende or Tumba, any places of detention within the premises of the ministry of defense, or the detention site referred to as the "gendarmerie" in the military barracks in Rubavu? If so, which detention sites, and when? Would you please share with us any information about those visits?
2. Did the NCHR visit any other detention sites under military control and if so when? Would you please share with us any information about those visits?
3. Has the NCHR spoken to any individuals who have ever been held in illegal military detention either during their time in military custody, after their transfer to regular detention facilities, or after their release? If so, would you please share with us any information about this?
4. Has the NCHR ever raised any allegations or concerns about illegal detention or torture in military custody with any relevant government departments? If so what were the details of those concerns and what was the response from the government department, if any?

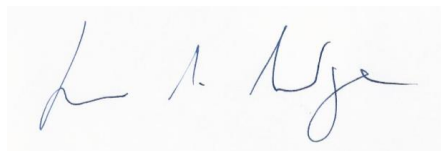
5. Has the NCHR received any complaints by former detainees who had been held in illegal military detention? Would you please share with us the number of complaints, and any detailed information about individual complaints? What actions were taken after such complaints were received, and what were the results of such actions?
6. Has the NCHR ever recommended that action be taken against any individuals suspected of having committed human rights violations connected to illegal or arbitrary detention in military custody or for ill treatment of detainees?
7. What is the standard procedure when the NCHR receives a letter from a family member alleging that someone has been forcibly disappeared? Could you please share with us information about the number of such letters received by the NCHR, the nature of the abuses alleged by family members, and the follow-up actions that were taken?

I would be grateful if you could reply to this letter before September 5, 2017.

I also request a meeting with the NCHR on September 6, 7, or 8 at a time of your convenience. I can be reached on + [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED]@hrw.org.

I look forward to your reply and to our continued collaboration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Mudge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Lewis Mudge
Senior Researcher