

**Annex 7: Monitor Online, Kill Kony, says LRA negotiator, 9 July 2008**

From Monitor Online

## Kill Kony, says LRA negotiator

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Kampala

The lead negotiator for the rebel Lord's Resistance Army, David Nyekorach Matsanga wrote to President Museveni in May calling for the death of Joseph Kony, on whose behalf he is allegedly negotiating a non-violent accord at the Juba peace talks.

The new and shocking information is contained in a leaked letter written by Mr Matsanga to President Yoweri Museveni. Written on May 12, 2008 on a letter head of his consultancy, Africa World Media Limited, Mr Matsanga who refers to his relationship with Mr Museveni since 1999 says "the solution [to the war in the north] lies with sending Kony where he belongs". The letter was written shortly after Mr Matsanga had been removed from the LRA team. He has since been reappointed.

"I will say the same today- hit a target," Mr Matsanga emphasised in the letter about his view that the demise of Kony, his principal, together with a military assault on the LRA, would be the ideal solution to the conflict.

Under the title "what is needed now", Mr Matsanga transforms from LRA chief peace negotiator to Ugandan government tactical military strategist, listing four issues on how to handle the rebels on whose behalf he is negotiating, starting with "militarily engage the LRA before they come back to Garamba Park (in DR Congo) to prepare their entry to Uganda".

He also advised President Museveni to "wipe out external or Diaspora operatives [of the LRA]," and names a few whom he claims have been in touch with Sudanese President Omar El Bashir's "handlers in Yemen and other places for the purpose of buying arms for Kony".

Sounding more of a Ugandan government security adviser than LRA negotiator, Mr Matsanga went ahead to say the Kampala government should "re-equip the Bangui operational office LRA contacts in the region [Bangui is the capital of Central Africa Republic where the LRA are allegedly active]."

It is unclear the nature of the relationship between the President and Mr Matsanga or why as LRA chief negotiator he is offering advice about his client to its main adversary of 20 years.

Mr Matsanga refers at least once, to an earlier letter that he claims Mr Museveni wrote to him and was allegedly delivered to Nairobi by the permanent secretary at the Ministry of Internal Affairs Dr Steven Kagoda and Uganda's envoy to Juba, Busho Ndinyenka.

Daily Monitor could not reach Mr Matsanga for a comment as his Juba phone was turned off. But Dr Kagoda said yesterday that all government communications to the Juba process were channeled through the chief mediator.

"I know nothing of any letter or money from the President [to Matsanga]" he said. Internal Affairs Minister Ruhakana Rugunda, his boss, could not be reached for comment. In his letter after a rant over his bad relations with other members of the LRA peace team, Matsanga asked Mr Museveni to pick up his hotel bill in Nairobi of \$ 91,000 (about Shs141 million).

"Mr President I have to be very frank and tell you that the Juba Peace Negotiations drained a lot of my own family hard earned savings," he starts, claiming he had paid for the hotel bills of the peace team and medical support for some of the patients that had been sexually brutalised by Kony in Nairobi.

Uganda that repayments [are made],” wrote Mr Matsanga who also claims that he used the credit facilities of Sky News [ where he reportedly works as an Africa consultant] to settle his bill.

Mr Matsanga attached a formal letter from the Intercontinental hotel in Nairobi signed by one Frederick Kilembwa backing up the claim. The letter is dated May 5, 2008. Uganda has pursued a two-pronged strategy with regard to the fresh round of peace talks that began in mid-2006.

A peace negotiating team headed by Dr Ruhakana Rugunda remained steadfast at the negotiating table in Juba, while other government handlers like Gulu RDC Walter Ochora maintained open channels with the LRA leadership in Garamba, DRC.

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