

# URGENT ACTION

## THIRTY FIVE MEN ARBITRARILY DETAINED

**Amnesty International has confirmed the arbitrary detention of 35 men at the National Security Service (NSS) headquarters in the Jebel neighborhood of Juba, the capital of South Sudan.**

**Thirty-five men** detained at the NSS headquarters have been denied the right to be brought promptly before a judge and the right to challenge the lawfulness of their detention. None of them has access to legal counsel. In at least one case, a detainee has been denied contact with his lawyer, despite the lawyer's requests to meet with his client. Relatives of other detainees told Amnesty International that they either could not afford a lawyer, or did not think it was worth the effort to hire one, as they had little hope that authorities would ever impose charges or take the detainee to court.

Some detainees are held incommunicado, without any access to family members or the outside world. Amnesty International believes that some of these detentions may constitute enforced disappearances.

Detainees are fed a monotonous diet, and sometimes only eat once a day. They sleep on the floor and do not have access to adequate medical care. Some have been beaten, especially during interrogation or as a form of punishment. These poor conditions amount to ill-treatment and may also amount to torture in some cases.

### **Please write immediately in English or your own language:**

- Urging the South Sudanese authorities to either charge each of the 35 men with a recognizable offence, consistent with international law and standards, or immediately release them;
- Urging them to ensure that the 35 men are not subjected to torture or any other ill-treatment while in detention;
- Urging them to grant the 35 men access to adequate medical care, access to lawyers of their own choosing, and also allow visits from their families;
- Urging the authorities to initiate prompt, effective and impartial investigations into NSS detention practices, including enforced disappearances, torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 27 MAY 2016 TO:**

Minister for National Security in the office  
of the President  
Obote Mamur Mete  
Ministry of National Security in the Office  
of the President  
**Juba, South Sudan**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Minister of Justice  
Paulino Unango Wanawilla  
Ministry of Justice  
Airport Road  
Juba, South Sudan  
Email: molacdgossjuba@yahoo.com  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**And Copies to:**  
Presidential Legal Advisor  
Lawrence Korbandy  
Office of the President  
Juba, South Sudan  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.** HIS EXCELLENCY MR SABIT ABBE ALLEY, Embassy of the Republic of South Sudan, 16 Upper Woburn Place WC1H 0B8, 020 3741 8083, info@embrss.org.uk, [www.embrss.org.uk](http://www.embrss.org.uk)

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Amnesty International has documented an increase in violations committed by the NSS and other security services since the beginning of the mid-December 2013 conflict. Cases of enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests, extra-judicial killings and prolonged detention have been on the rise, with reports of torture and ill-treatment while in custody.

Amnesty International believes that there are more detainees being kept unlawfully not only at the NSS headquarters in Juba but also in other official and unofficial places of detention all over the country.

The NSS Act of 2014 grants the NSS sweeping powers to arrest and detain, without ensuring adequate judicial oversight or safeguards against abuse of these powers. The Act does not specify that detainees may only be held in official places of detention or guarantee basic due process rights, such as the right to counsel or to be tried within a reasonable period of time. The law effectively gives a *carte blanche* to the NSS to continue and extend its longstanding pattern of arbitrary detention, with total impunity.

Name: Alison Mogga Tadeo, Aloro John, Andria Baambe, Angelo Banaveso, Ayume Dada, Benjamin Taban, Chandiga Felix, Daniel Bakumba, Davide Peter, Eli Duku Nimaya, Emilio Paul, George Livio Bahara, Gwagbwe Christopher, John Mboliako, Jorem Eseru, Joseph Bangasi Bakosoro, Joseph Ngec, Justin Yasir, Justine Peter, Justine Wanawila, Kennedy Kenyi, Lado James, Leonzio Angole Onek, Lokolong Joseph, Loreom Joseph Logie, Martin Augustino, Michael Sokiri, Mike Tyson, Ochaya Godfrey Saverio, Ocitti Richard Okumu, Otihi Lawrence, Paul Baba, Richard Otti, Sokiri Felix Wani, Tartisio Oshini

Gender m/f: m

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