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Editor's Note

Hello readers,

We have dedicated this special edition of the *Police Habari Magazine* to IGP Emeritus John Martins Okoth-Ochola (Esq), who retired from the Uganda Police Force on March 4, 2024, having served for a whole 36 years uninterrupted, with six at the helm of the institution as the Chief Cop-IGP. The handover ceremony was phenomenal. He was jovial beyond what we had witnessed before. He walked with a smile on his face and a spring in his steps, despite the fact that he had just lost his dad three days ago.

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He briefed the Police Advisory Committee (PAC) about his policing journey, stating his experiences, and achievements and sharing with them the challenges that he firmly stated were not insurmountable.

Worth noting is that the month of March is a special month on the calendar. March 8th is a day we commemorate and celebrate International Women's Day. Each of us has a special attachment to women. They are either our treasured mothers, lovely wives, sweet daughters, inseparable sisters, or warm colleagues at work. They add to the flavour of life no matter the category or capacity where they are placed.

For you lady cops, it is another story all together. We celebrate you and cheer you along. Globally, many people perceive that it is a man thing to hold guns and serve one's country. How wrong they are! Many liberated souls think otherwise. One such person is a senior three year-old girl, Abigail Muloki. She challenges us all by thinking and acting differently. She is a super lady in the making.

Many lady officers have given their best services to their motherland. One such lady is SSP (Rtd.) Nalongo Ancilla Alice Nsababeera. She retired in 2000 and has a great story to tell; both to the serving cops and the retired ones. She joined the Uganda

Police Force in 1964, served so diligently until she hung her boots in 2000, as explained above. Her story is worth your valuable time.

Do not forget that this magazine is a special edition dedicated to IGP Emeritus J.M. Okoth-Ochola. One writer states that Ochola was never seen in public places like bars and Kampala “kafunda,” thereby boldly suggesting that he should start a nightclub so that he can compensate for

the time he lost while serving his country and his people. And then, he will be more available to freely interact with the young and old in his retirement phase of life.

Enjoy the ride as we share insights and memories in your great *Police Habari Magazine*.

ACP Emilian Kayima, psc (U)
Managing Editor



A Legacy of Service: Former Inspector General of Police Bids Farewell

After a distinguished 36-year career in the Uganda Police Force, culminating in his tenure as Inspector General of Police (IGP), Mr J.M. Okoth-Ochola retired. Having joined the force in 1988, the Inspector General of Police steadily rose through the ranks, holding esteemed positions like Deputy IGP, Director of Special Duties, and Director of Criminal Intelligence Department. His dedication is evident in the diverse roles he undertook, including Commissioner of the Legal Department, Head of Complaints Desk, and Officer-in-Charge of Entebbe Aviation Security.

By Staff Writer



In 2018, the Inspector General was appointed by His Excellency the President, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni to a position he assumed with unwavering commitment. He was subsequently granted a three-year extension, which ended on March 4th, 2024. Taking charge six years ago, the IGP's mission was clear: to professionalise and rebuild the image of the Uganda

The IGP acknowledges the remarkable accomplishments detailed in his handover report and those credited to the various Directorates. He emphasises that the successes wouldn't have been possible without the exceptional team and dedicated officers at all levels who tirelessly strived to fulfill the force's constitutional mandate.

for the opportunity to serve and highlighted the achievements made during his six-year tenure.

The IGP extended his appreciation to the appointing authority for his past appointments within the police force, culminating in his position as Inspector General of Police in 2018. He acknowledged the President's role in his appointment and his



Police Force. Through teamwork and unwavering support from the President and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, he oversaw a period of significant achievement in policing. Together, they fostered an atmosphere of peace, unity, and a sense of belonging within the force.

On March 4, 2024, with a sense of pride, the IGP presented his stewardship report and officially handed over leadership of the Uganda Police Force to the incoming Inspector General of Police.

In a heartfelt address, Uganda's former Inspector General of Police (IGP) expressed his gratitude

dedication to serving the country. Taking charge in 2018, the IGP identified professionalising the police force and rebuilding its image as his key goals. He credits teamwork, presidential support, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the "numerous achievements" witnessed during his leadership. These accomplishments are

detailed in a handover report and attributed to a “wonderful team” of officers across all ranks.

The IGP intimated that he chose to conclude his service early due to personal reasons, a decision communicated to the Minister of Internal Affairs in January 2024. He further expressed gratitude to the Police Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Police Council, and the different stakeholders. In a special way the IGP thanked the President for his trust and guidance, highlighting the President’s vision for a safer Uganda as an inspiration. Appreciation was also extended to the Ministry of Internal Affairs for its supervision, fellow officers across ranks and agencies, advisory committees, and development partners. The media and Ugandan citizens were also acknowledged

for their cooperation, both praise and criticism. He also thanked his family for their unwavering support.

The IGP made an acknowledgement of unresolved challenges that the incoming administration can address. The IGP expresses his pride in accomplishments and his hope that the Uganda Police Force will continue to be “a beacon of excellence.” He congratulated his successor and offered good wishes for the future of the force.

He bid farewell to everyone and wished them and their families the best in life and God’s blessings.

Long live Uganda; Long live Uganda Police Force; Long Live Everyone.

Thank you very much.



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Exodus SACCO:

Empowering Ugandan Police Women

Exodus SACCO Ltd. is a financial institution founded, owned, and run by the Uganda Police Force. It serves as a beacon of hope, offering essential support to women associated with the institution. With a steadfast dedication to advancing gender equality and promoting financial inclusion, Exodus SACCO transcends its role as a mere financial institution to become a catalyst for women's empowerment.

By SP Mary Nankinga



It is an institutional savings and credit cooperative society of Uganda Police Force personnel, established in 2007. Its primary mission is to enable members to come together and pool their funds (savings) to access affordable loans (credit) for engaging in productive activities that enhance their well-being. The SACCO was created by the resolution of the Police Council and officially registered in July 2007 with Registration Number 8404/RCS. Membership is open to serving police officers, their spouses, and children, and it has now grown to encompass over 42,000 members. Notably, nearly 20% of Exodus SACCO's members are women, recognising the indispensable roles they play in their families and communities.



Empowering Women financially

The economic participation of women is instrumental in achieving greater security and stability on a global scale. When women attain financial security, they invest in their families and communities, thereby improving household income, spurring economic growth, and fostering more stable societies. However, many women in developing countries face significant hurdles when trying to access credit. Oftentimes, it is a requirement in conventional banking that a collateral security be provided, which many do not have. Exodus SACCO addresses this disparity by providing an avenue for women's financial inclusion and advancement through accessible credit facilities.

Exodus offers Secure Savings and Attractive Returns

The Exodus SACCO comes to bridge the gap created by the end-of-year bonuses and cash rounds, which are often insecure, leaving many women hesitant to save. As a result, Exodus SACCO offers a secure haven for hard-earned money, with the added benefit of up to 3% annual interest on savings.

Group Savings

Exodus SACCO's support is not limited to police officers but also extends to the wives of police officers. The SACCO encourages women to join and offers the option to create group savings accounts, allowing them to save collectively and reap the benefits of SACCO membership. With the most

favourable interest rates available to police officers, this approach promotes group loans for collective development, further bolstering the financial stability and progress of women. Additionally, women are encouraged to open H-Coy accounts for their children, instilling a savings culture from a young age.

Exodus SACCO is deeply committed to financial inclusion and gender equality through transparency, integrity, customer care, professionalism, and accountability. With an extensive branch network, it empowers women, liberating them from financial constraints to enhance their quality of life. This commitment drives a brighter and more prosperous future for all when women succeed.

Guiding Children on Essential Life Skills (Part 11)

In the first part of the article that follows, I tactfully addressed many issues that parents and caregivers ought to focus on as far as essential life skills are concerned. These included safety, hygiene, and personal grooming, time management, problem-solving skills, decision-making and household chores. Critical thinking skills as well as mental health management were also addressed. Many children lack the guts and wits to stand up for themselves, which is a critical skill in navigating life all the time.

By SCP Dr Hadijah Namutebi (PhD)



In this follow-up piece, I will tackle 14 other important aspects of parenting that deserve our critical attention. These are outlined as follows:

Conflict management

Conflict management skills are essential for maintaining healthy relationships. This involves teaching children to understand different viewpoints, communicate effectively, and learn to find peaceful solutions. Practicing empathy,

negotiation, and compromise, as well as understanding when to seek adult help, are important aspects of managing conflicts.

Emotional Intelligence

Emotional intelligence is key to understanding and managing one's own emotions and recognising the emotions of others. Activities that promote self-awareness, empathy, and effective communication can help children develop emotional intelligence. This includes recognising emotions, understanding their impact, and responding appropriately.

Self-Management

Self-management involves organising, planning, and taking responsibility for one's actions. Encouraging children to set personal goals, manage time and tasks, and develop self-discipline helps foster these skills. Using organisational tools and encouraging self-reflection are probable ways to nurture self-management.

Environmental Awareness

Instilling environmental stewardship in children is crucial for sustainable living. Teaching about recycling, conservation, and human impact on the environment fosters a sense of responsibility. Activities like participating in environmental initiatives and learning about ecosystems make these lessons engaging and impactful.

Cultural Diversity Appreciation

Promoting cultural appreciation and understanding helps children become empathetic and open-minded. Exposing them to different cultures through literature, music, art, and food, and discussing diversity and respect for traditions and customs are important. Travel and cultural festivals can provide immersive experiences.

Physical Fitness

Physical activity is essential for a healthy lifestyle. Engaging children in sports, exercise routines, and regular outdoor play benefits physical health, coordination, and mental well-being. Activities

like playing football, cycling, swimming, or team sports, teach important lessons about teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

Artistic Expression and Hobby Development

Artistic activities allow children to explore creativity and emotions. Whether through drawing, music, drama, or dance, artistic expression is a powerful tool for emotional development and self-expression. Encouraging children to explore such activities can enhance cognitive



abilities, reduce stress, and potentially lead to lifelong passions and talents.

Religious Education

For families where religion is significant, teaching about religious traditions, stories, and values can instill a sense of identity and belonging. It's also important to foster understanding and tolerance by educating people about other religions and beliefs.

Sex Education

Age-appropriate sex education is crucial for understanding bodily changes, consent, and diverse reproductive health issues. Providing accurate and appropriate information and granting safe spaces for questions lay the foundation for healthy self-esteem and relationships.

Navigating Technology Safely

Responsible use of technology is vital in the digital age. Teaching children about cyber safety, responsible social media use, and managing their digital footprint is important for their online safety and wellbeing.

Global Awareness

Understanding global issues fosters a sense of global citizenship and empathy. Discussing global news, participating in cultural exchange programs, or exploring world

geography and international affairs can be enlightening and broaden children's perspectives.

Volunteering and Community Service

Engaging in community service teaches altruism (unselfish devotion to the welfare of others) and social responsibility. Activities like helping in local shelters, environmental clean-ups, or charity events teach the value of community engagement and the joy of helping others.

Leadership Skills

Developing leadership skills involves learning responsibility, initiative, and ethical decision-making. Experiences in student councils, team sports, or group projects can develop confidence,

problem-solving skills, and teamwork abilities.

Adaptability and Flexibility

Being adaptable and flexible is invaluable in a changing world. Experiences that take children out of their comfort zones, like traveling or learning new hobbies, teach them to embrace change and approach challenges positively.

Civic Education

Understanding civic duties and community organisation is essential for active citizenship. Discussing government, community involvement, and the importance of civic participation empowers children to contribute positively to the growth and development of their countries, starting with their communities.

Community Policing Activities

Engaging children in community policing activities can provide valuable insights into public safety and civic responsibility. This could include visits to local police stations, participation in community safety programs, and interactions with law enforcement officers. Such activities not only teach children about the role and responsibilities of police in society but also foster a sense of community and trust in law enforcement. It's a practical way to educate them about their role in maintaining a safe and secure community.

If we parents and all caregivers took a moment to improve our parenting skills, we could be better at it, producing respectable and responsible citizens of the world. It is not too late. It is my wish that this article adds value to our well-being, bringing families together to guarantee the future of our children and their children's children.

The writer is the Chief Political Commissar, Uganda Police Force, and the Chairperson for the Police Habari Magazine.

One-on-One *with*



SSP (Rtd.) Nalongo Ancilla Alice Nsababeera

By PC Wilfred Kamusiime

On one of those very busy days in March this year, my phone rings. It is ACP. Emilian Kayima on the other side. “Wilfred I need you to look for SSP (Rtd.) Alice Nsababeera and interview her for the next edition of our Habari Magazine,” he said to me. I replied in the affirmative. He went on to share a contact through whom I would get in touch with the retired senior officer.

On March 22, 2024, I set off to meet SSP (Rtd.) Alice Nsababeera. She lives in Mukalazi Zone, Bukoto, in Kampala district. A green, calm, and quiet environment welcomed me into the retired officer’s residence. I am quickly drawn to the living room. It is a neat place that exudes honour and order. Fresh natural air finds its way into the living room. It is a few minutes past 11:00 a.m.

A photo of her in uniform hangs on the wall, along with those of her children and grandchildren. The office photo was taken in 2000, the year she retired. Minutes later, an elderly, frail lady walks. She was all smiles. Looking at the photo on the wall and the person getting ready to take a seat, it is SSP (Rtd.) Ancilla Alice Nsababeera.

“I am glad to see you,” the retired officer said with a smile. At this point, a gentleman walks in. “He is my secondborn, she tells

me as we exchange pleasantries. By the look of things, SSP (Rtd.) Alice Nsababeera enjoys retirement.

Childhood

SSP (Rtd.) Nalongo Ancilla Alice Nsababeera was born on 27, August 1945, in Busengo village, Busanza Sub County, Bufumbira County in G/Kisoro District.

Her parents are the late Mr. Cleophas Maciane and Mrs. Maria Kanzagire of the same area. She was married to Eng. Samson Nsababeera, who passed on in 1995.

When she finished her primary education, she joined a nun’s organisation called “Our Lady of Good Counsel” and studied up to junior two. Her change of heart came with a visit she made home from the convent, and the spectacular scene of a smartly dressed lady cop on Entebbe Road. That was the turning point.

Joining the Uganda Police Force

In 1964, the younger Nsababeera left Kisoro with the intention of visiting her uncle in Entebbe. When she saw a smartly dressed policewoman at Clock Tower in Kampala, she immediately made the decision to join the police.



“At that time, we did not have many graduates. We didn’t have people who had gone beyond Junior Two. I had just completed my Junior Two and was contemplating joining secondary school, but like I said, because I had been attracted by the police lady, I said to myself that I would have to join the police,” recalls the retired officer. She quickly adds, “I applied to join, and I was shortlisted and sent to Kibuli Police Training School. In total, we were 24 trainees, among whom were ladies from Kabaka’s government because they used to send their staff to be recruited by the central government.”

Life after training

After 12 months of training, SSP (Rtd) Nsababeera passed out as a Probation Police Constable (PPC). Her first deployment was in Mbale district.

“Basically, during that time, women were recruited to take care of female prisoners as matrons, and at the same time, we used to do patrols whenever there was an incident involving a woman where a lady officer was needed,” says my host.

While in Mbale, she worked at the counter, receiving women’s complaints, attending to them, and also taking care of the women in police cells. She worked in Mbale from 1965 to 1967. She was then transferred

to Kampala under the Criminal Investigations Department (CID). Much of her career was with the department of CID. In 1969, she was transferred to CID headquarters. She worked in the sensitive records department.

“I went through ranks. I was first promoted to Corporal in 1981 and was sent for the promotional course of Assistant Inspector of Police, from AIP to Inspector, from Inspector to ASP to SP and SSP, a rank I retired with in 2000,” SSP (Rtd.) Nsababeera recalls.

In her cohort, SSP (Rtd.) Nsababeera recalls Nanyazi, who lives in her neighborhood of Ntinda; Kabadaki currently lives in Kasubi-Kawaala; and Hellen Alyek, (the sports lady who once headed the Child and Family Protection Unit, retired in early 2000 but passed on a couple of years ago).

Changes

The mother of seven says that the force has changed.

“We have educated officers and professionals, not like our time when we were only going through training given by the police. We did not have lawyers or doctors like it is the case today. Even during our time, it was analog. All things were manual; whenever a complainant would leave a report, it was up to us to look for where they stayed, but now with technology, you just sit there and do everything without much hustle. Nevertheless, we were doing what we were supposed to.”

Policing and Human Rights

According to SSP (Rtd.) Nsababeera, there was no human rights violation.

“We couldn’t touch suspects. During investigations, we could not arrest a suspect without getting evidence first. You had to get prima facie evidence before going for an actual arrest. Any unprofessional conduct would lead one to be subjected to disciplinary action. We were being closely monitored by our superior officers, and there was no room for misconduct,” says SSP Rtd. Nsababeera.

Message to young women

SSP (Rtd.) Nsababeera warns younger female officers to focus on work first; “When you focus on money, you lose track and fail.”

Any regrets

She does not regret anything at all throughout her career.

“I enjoyed my work and time in the police,” says Nsababeera as she continues to recite her rosary.

Good Moments

Officer Nsababeera recalls her good moments in the Force.

“While working with Interpol, I was exposed to so many things that had never crossed my mind and, indeed, enjoyed my work. I traveled a lot, interacted with many people from various cultural backgrounds, and learned a lot of things.”

Although officer Nsababeera does not recall any issues around welfare during her time in service, she says that welfare in the Uganda Police Force obviously seems to be a thorny issue.

“The welfare of police officers is very sad, yet they are expected to carry out work that involves individuals who are well off. Something has to be done about the welfare of officers,” she counsels.

However, she encourages officers to persevere, be professional, serve the people, and observe human rights.

Beating a suspect does not solve a problem. Instead, it creates more problems for the case and the officer handling it as well as the entire institution of the Police”, SSP (Rtd) Nsababeera says.

“Be time managers. If you have an appointment with a complainant, be there on time. If he or she comes and you are not there on time, they will be demoralized. If you don’t keep time, no one can trust you.”

She, however, says that officers need to be taken for refresher courses on leadership to keep them abreast of new policing demands globally.

“Manage exhibits well. If you don’t, you will never win a case in the courts of law as well as in the court of public opinion,” she retorts. She further advises on arrests; “avoid premature arrests.”

Family and work

SSP (Rtd.) Nsababeera was lucky to have a loving and very supportive husband.

“By the time I retired, I had given birth to seven children, and

I was able to take care of them as well as do police work. We used to take leave as scheduled. Juggling family and work is a question of planning. Once you get married, you have to know how to balance work and family,” she guides.

On parenting

She equates parenting with nothing. “No parent should have an excuse not to be a good parent,” she says. She takes prides in her seven children but recalls that the burden was too heavy for her, especially after the death of her husband, Eng. Samson Nsababeera, in 1995. When he died, she had to shoulder the challenge. “Thankfully, all children pursued education with minimum effort. Many of them are well and do take good care of me.” She recounts.

The last born of the seven, Judith Nsababeera, is Uganda’s Ambassador to Guangzhou in the United Republic of China. She was identified and deployed by H.E. President Museveni in 2023. Judith





went to Mt. St. Mary's College Namagunga and did her university studies in the United States of America. "I am proud of her as I am of all the other six." She proudly states that Judith too has a special liking for the police, probably because she associates what she is with the firm hand and roving eye of her guide, and her loving mother-cop.

On retirement

She states that retirement is yet another interesting phase of life if

only one prepares for it well. Upon retirement in 2000, she had the big burden of paying school fees for children, which she overcame successfully. She credits her many friends and her children for their love and resilience.

Surprisingly, it was upon retirement that she went back to her roots, anchored among the nuns of the Catholic Church. She joined the Franciscan Sisters as a secular member of that international organisation. The organisation was deeply involved in rehabilitation

programs for prisoners at Luzira Maximum Prison. She was involved in these education and rehabilitation programs until 2020, when COVID-19 hit the world. At this time, she got indisposed and now walks with the support of walking machines and people around her. She is now confined to her home in Bukoto, where she lives with one of her children and helpers.

Parting shots

During the close of our interaction, I asked about the magic of her beautiful looks when I compared the photo she took in 2000, as she was retiring as the Regional CID Officer, Central Region and now. Her answer was straight and simple: "Love God. Read the Constitution (the Bible) every day. Pray." And true to this, she firmly held on to her rosary throughout our interview. She is very grateful to the Uganda Police Force for reviving the *Police Habari Magazine*. In particular, she is very grateful to the Catholic Church that takes care of her physical and spiritual needs, almost daily.





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The 7 Most Exciting Medical Breakthroughs

In this article, I want to share with our esteemed readers the 7 most exciting global medical breakthroughs of our times.

By SP Dr. J.M. Okwadi



Picking lessons from the American TV show, “*The Six Million Dollar Man*”, back in the 1970s, we can now tell that what appeared as fiction is real, in our times.

The new report by the World Economic Forum’s Global Future Council on the future of Health and Healthcare stated that, “the Fourth Industrial Revolution is transforming health and medicine due to the lightning-speed advances in genomics, genetic engineering, synthetic biology, nanotechnology, data science, AI, robotics, to name but a few.”

Re-growing damaged body parts

When our knees get creaky with age, the worn-out cartilage – the connective tissue that helps joints move smoothly – do not regenerate, so there are only two options: painkillers or an operation to replace the joint.

In the future, stem-cell technology might be able to help cartilage and other parts of the body regrow. That could help a vast number of people. Also, severe osteoarthritis is expected to affect well over 25% of adults population by 2030 according to the report.

A pill that lets you know that you have taken it.

A new pill has been created that contains a tiny sensor that records when it is taken, and information is transmitted to a patch worn by

the patient and then sent on to a smartphone. Patients and doctors can ensure the medication is being taken as needed, an innovation already being used in the treatment of schizophrenia and other mental illnesses.

There are applications that include “telemedicine,”—where health care can be provided at a distance via phones and IT. Patients can use devices to measure blood pressure, monitor glucose levels and test for conditions in the blood samples and send the results in real time to their doctors.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI can detect skin cancer better than a medical doctor. Melanoma skin cancers are not easily identifiable by sight, and highly trained clinicians may sometimes get it wrong. A computer trained using images of skin cancer and the corresponding

diagnoses achieved a 95% detection rate, well above the 87% success rate of human doctors, according to research published in the *Annals of Oncology*.

According to the World Health Organisation “one in every three cancers diagnosed is a skin cancer and, according to Skin Cancer Foundation statistics, one in every five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime.” Through its ability to sift through large amounts of information. AI can help health professionals with complex decision-making and point out clinical nuances that they might have missed.

Smartphones

Your phone will know if you're depressed. A Californian company says smartphones can diagnose mental health problems by analysing how people tap, scroll, and click—behaviour that can predict a range of cognitive traits and mood states. Phones can also deliver support for mental health.

More than 300 million people around the world suffer from depression, and almost 800,000 people die due to suicide every year, the second leading cause of death in 15 to 29-year-olds, according to the World Health Organisation. Fewer than half of those affected by depression receive treatment, and in many countries, the figure is less than 10%.

Helping the body's immune system fight cancer

Immunotherapy is the next big breakthrough in cancer treatment and, according to the WHO report, “will become the cornerstone of oncology and, impressively, will likely apply to almost all types of cancers”. By stimulating or suppressing an immune response,

the therapy uses the body's own immune system to fight disease.

“Progress in the understanding of cell biology and cancer has clearly demonstrated the ability of the immune system to eliminate naturally occurring cancer cells through a phenomenon called immunosurveillance.”

Medicine that's tailored to fit

“Precision” or “personalised” medicine, where treatments are tailored to consider the genetic and biological make-up, the environment, and the lifestyle of each individual—will replace “One size fits all” therapies where the same amounts of the same medicines are prescribed for all patients. This is particularly promising in the treatment of cancers whose genetic makeup vary widely. Rapid advances in genome mapping mean medical treatments could be tailored to match each patient's genetic makeup.

Fixing defective genes

Genetic mutations are the cause of more than 10,000 diseases in humans – so techniques to correct faulty genetic information may be a way to tackle conditions previously considered incurable.

Sickle-cell anaemia, where a genetic mutation inside red blood cells prevents the circulation of red blood cells, which can damage organs and provoke stroke and even death, is one disease that could be treated by such gene therapy. The approach involves taking a patient's stem cells, genetically altering them in the laboratory and then putting them back into the body to create healthy blood cells. Gene therapy could finally treat this disease, which affects millions around the world. Every year, more than 300,000 infants are born with the condition in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The writer is the head of research, innovation and policy unit at the Directorate of Police Health Services.



Newspaper Extracts

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SHAKE-UP

■ *Tumwine, Ochola and Sabiti take over security, p7*



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Tumwine new security minister, Ochoola is IGP

By Vision Reporter

The security minister, Lt. Gen. Henry Tumukunde and the long-serving Inspector General of Police (IGP), Gen. Kale Kayihura, have been fired in a major shake-up of the national security services.

President Yoweri Museveni last evening appointed, subject to the approval of Parliament, General Ely Tumwine as new Minister for Security and elevated the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Okoth Ochoola, to the powerful post of IGP.

In the shake-up that did not completely come as a surprise, Brigadier Sabiti Muzeei was named Deputy Inspector General of Police.

The changes were uncharacteristically announced last evening in a statement signed by President Yoweri Museveni, the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces and released to the media.

Both Tumukunde and Kayihura, will be "given other duties", according to the statement.

"In the exercise of the powers vested in the President by Articles 113 (1) and 215 (2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, I hereby appoint Gen. Ely Tumwine as Minister for Security, Mr Okoth Ochoola as the Inspector General of Police and Brigadier Sabiti Muzeei as the Deputy Inspector General of Police," the President's statement read, adding: "Their names have been sent to Parliament for approval."

Kayihura was fired a day after effecting a transfer and appointment of 53 senior Police officers.

Tumukunde's sacking coincidentally also came two days after he uncharacteristically heaped praise on opposition leader Col. Kizza Besigye while at a burial of the son of Matthew Rukakira in Rukungiri.

In the past, Tumukunde was



Kale Kayihura



Henry Tumukunde

Kayihura's exit became apparent when officers said to be his blue-eyed boys were picked-up by the CMI and ISO on criminal charges

one of Besigye's nemeses.

The bitter rivalry between Tumukunde and Kayihura has not been a secret and has been a major cause of concern for many Ugandans. The claim has been that the rivalry between the two senior security officers has reportedly led to the fight between security agencies; Police on one hand and the Internal Security Organisation (ISO) and the Chief of Military Intelligence (CMI) on the other.

The failure of the security agencies to track Susan Magara's kidnapers was, to many, due to the infighting among the security agencies blamed on the Tumukunde-Kayihura conflict.

Tumwine, a member of the historical High Command, has served in many capacities, including serving as first army commander of the National Resistance Army later renamed the Uganda People's Defence Forces.

He is a renowned

disciplinarian and, therefore, is expected to bring about discipline among intelligence agencies.

Brig Sabiti Muzeei was formerly the deputy commander of Special Forces Command before taking over as head of military Police last year.

Ochoola has been Deputy IGP since 2010 and his appointment as the IGP marks the return of the career Police officers to the top position of the Uganda Police Force. The last career Police officer to head the Force was Cossy Odomei, who was replaced by a soldier, General Katumba Wamala.

Wamala was the first active UPDF soldier to serve as IGP. He served from 2001 until 2005 and was replaced by another army officer, Kayihura.

Since 2005, Kayihura has been at the helm of the force until yesterday when he was removed by the President.

Kayihura's exit became apparent when officers said

to be his blue-eyed boys were picked-up by the CMI and ISO on criminal charges.

Kayihura's close association with such notorious groups as Bodaboda 2010 undermined his credibility.

The patron of Bodaboda 2010, Abdallah Kitatta, was arrested and charged with criminal offences, days after Kayihura praised him for the role he had played in fighting crime.

However, the kidnap and murder of Susan Magara, according to analysts, must have been the last straw that broke the camel's back. The Magara murder drastically eroded public confidence in the national security services and it was only a matter of time for the President to swing the axe, according to experts.

Kayihura was only reappointed as IGP on May 2 last year for another three-year term amid objections by the Opposition.

He has not attended at least five national celebrations presided over by the President this year. Instead, it is Ochoola who has represented the Police.

Tumukunde was only appointed security minister on June 6 last year and, therefore, has not served in the position for even a year. He is also likely to exit Parliament as he has been an ex-officio member by

Opposition MPs want Parliament recalled

By Moses Mulondo

The Leader of Opposition, Winnie Kiiza and other opposition MPs want Parliament to be recalled from recess to discuss what they termed as the deteriorating security situation in the country.

In a press conference held on Friday, the opposition MPs said they are tired of seeing endless horrific murder incidents in the country.

"If Parliament is not recalled by the Speaker next week, we shall invoke rule 21 and collect the required signatures to recall Parliament. If we do not get a satisfactory explanation on the measures to be taken, we shall demand the resignation of the Minister for Internal Affairs, the security minister and the Inspector General of Police," Kiiza said.

Pointing out various incidents, including the murder of Muslim clerics, the 24 women in Entebbe and Nansana, murder incidents in Greater Masaka, Kasese massacres, the robbery and the killings in Teso region, the tough-talking legislators said the situation shall not be taken lightly.

"Yesterday, a dark cloud hovered over Hoima as Susan Magara was being buried. It demeans us as a nation and erodes our pride as a people waking up every passing day to news of kidnaps, murders, shootouts and discovered bodies. We must do something and do it now," Kiiza said.

She blamed the outgoing IGP, Gen. Kale Kayihura, for having created so many unofficial security groups, including the crime preventers and Bodaboda 2010, which could be the ones perpetrating robberies and murders in the country.

"What is puzzling is the fact that one can no longer tell a genuine security operation from a kidnap. The methods are the same; armed people in civilian attire acting unprofessionally even at court premises. Confessed criminals are the Police informers and support teams," she explained.



Winnie Kiiza

The opposition leaders expressed concern over the bickering and infighting within the security agencies. They said it is one of the major reasons security in the country has deteriorated — the necessary collaboration is no longer there.

"The latest manifestation of this gridlock is Kayihura's written instruction to all Police officers not to render information about the Police if arrested and questioned by other security organs or personnel. The inter-agency rivalry is real. They are all competing for the attention of the President. It looks like if you do not compete you are out of the game," Kiiza said.

She said the deteriorating security situation has even caused embassies to issue security guidelines warning their nationals against security threats in Uganda.

"Even foreign investors have been killed in hotels in Uganda. All these things scare away tourists and investors and, therefore, cripple our economy. That is why we are saying if those in charge of security are not taking responsibility and stepping down, Parliament should show them the exit," Kiiza said.

Kiiza addressed the press conference flanked by other opposition MPs, who included Abdulatif Ssebagala, (Kawempe North) Francis Gonahasa, (Kabweri) Lyandro Komakech (Gulu Municipality) and Gershom Sizomu (Bunghoko County North).

Here are the new security chiefs



Inspector General of Police designate John Martins Okoth Ochoa

John Martins Okoth Ochoa was born on September 19, 1958 in Agumit village, Mulanda sub-county, West Budama county in Tororo district.

Ochoa started his education at Abweli Primary School in Tororo in 1965. He went to Namilyango College for his O'level and A'level between 1974 and 1979. Between 1980 and 1983, Ochoa was at Makerere University pursuing a law degree. He completed a bar course at the Law Development Centre in 1984. He joined the Police as a cadet officer in 1988. He worked as the officer in charge of prosecutions at various

Police stations and regional CID.

The senior Police officers who have worked with Ochoa over the years say he was effective in handling prosecution matters on behalf of the Police.

Between 1998 and 2001, Ochoa served as the Police's legal officer, representing the Police in matters against the institution in the courts of law.

Earlier, the Police had its own prosecutors who represented it in courts of law, and prosecuted some matters on its behalf. But, following the promulgation of the 1995 Constitution, all the prosecution powers the government

institutions enjoyed were transferred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. In 2005, he worked as deputy Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) head. Ochoa served as director for the CID having been appointed to the position in 2008.

He was appointed Deputy IGP in August 2011, replacing Julius Odwe.

Odwe said Ochoa was one of the best lawyers in the Police. He was found fit by the Sebutinde commission in 2008 and recommended for appointment. Inspector General of Police thanks his conduct.

Deputy IGP designate Brigadier Muzeel Sabiti

Before he was appointed Deputy Inspector General of Police, Brig. Stephen Muzeel Sabiti Mugenyi was the commander of Military Police, a position to which President Yoweri Museveni appointed him in April 2017.

Sabiti, who was fresh from a six-month senior command course in Russia, replaced Brig. Emmanuel Kanyesigye at the Makindye-based garrison. Before going for the course, Sabiti was the deputy head of the Special Forces Command (SFC). He was deputising Maj. Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba

Kainerugaba, who was also replaced by Brig. Don Nabasa as SFC commandant, is now a senior presidential advisor in charge of special operations.

Brig. Mugenyi also undertook a course at the National Defence College, Fort Leavenworth, United States. He is said to be a quiet, unassuming officer and a workaholic who prefers to operate away from the limelight.

Sabiti reportedly belongs to a group of young graduates who joined the army in 1997 having been in the "study groups" formed by Kainerugaba.

After he graduating from the

cadet course, Sabiti was recruited into the Special Forces Command. He served in various command positions in the SFC. In 2012, he was made deputy commander of SFC and 2017.

In his early 40s, Sabiti is a son of the late Muzeel and Javani Mugenyi. Sabiti's father (Muzeel) Mugenyi was among the fighters who participated in the 1980-86 liberation war that brought the National Resistance Army (NRA)/National Resistance Movement (NRM) to power.

Sabiti hails from Kakerere parish, Rwanyamamba sub-county in Mbarara district. The sixth born of 11 siblings, Sabiti went to Ntare School and later Mbarara High School.

Described among peers as a brilliant and sober military officer, Sabiti thereafter joined Makerere University where he studied biochemistry before joining the army as a cadet officer.

A disciplined young man who grew up under the tutelage of the NRA family, Sabiti has since joining the army risen through the ranks serving largely within the leadership of the SFC.



Brigadier Muzeel Sabiti

Security minister designate General Elly Tumwine

Born on April 12, 1954, Elly Tumwine is a military officer, professional artist, and teacher. He served as the first commander of the National Resistance Army (NRA) — now Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF).

Tumwine, who was among the original 27 NRA fighters, is remembered as the fighter who fired the first shot as they launched their war. It was early in the morning of February 6, 1981 when a youthful Tumwine, then a lieutenant, fired a shot — the first one in the NRA war. This shot marked the beginning of the 1981-86 war that brought the NRM regime to power.

During the early years of the NRA war, Tumwine, whose NRA number is RO/00023, was in charge of a unit that controlled the Kampala-Hoima road, especially in Katerera. In the process, he lost an eye during a battle in the rocky hills of Bukomero, not far away

from Katerera.

When the NRA came to power in 1986, he was named the Army Commander, then defence state minister, director general of the External Security Organisation (ESO), a presidential advisor and later chairman of the General Court Martial.



General Elly Tumwine

Tumwine attended Mbarara High School, St Henry's College Kitovu in present day Masaka district and Makerere University, where he got a degree in art.

With a diploma in education as well, he started teaching fine art. However, he abandoned the chalk to join the army with FRONASA. He trained as a cadet in Monduli, Tanzania. The born-again soldier also does singing and fashion design.

Until his appointment as the security minister, Tumwine was a Member of Parliament representing the army. He is also the master of ceremonies of the Presidential Awards Committee, which was established in 2007.

As master of ceremonies, Tumwine officiated at the award of thousands of medals given out to various Ugandans in the last 11 years. Although the awards started with honouring fighters who participated in the liberation war, they were, with time, extended to all Ugandans who have exhibited distinguished conduct to the country.

90 tenders
inside

Story on page 10

100 WOMEN TO
GET MEDALS



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UCC to clear all mobile phone imports, page 3

AIRTIME, SIM CARD VENDING BANNED

WE ARE A PERFECT TEAM FOR THE JOB – TUMWINE



New Inspector General of Police Okoth Ochola, security minister Gen. Elly Tumwine and Incoming Deputy Inspector General of Police Brig. Sabiti Muzee at Parliament moments before they were vetted yesterday. Photo by Roderick Ahimbazwe. SEE STORY ON PAGE 6

SUGARCANE

Outgrowers strike for pay

Sugarcane outgrowers have gone on strike over low prices manufacturers are offering them. The development comes at a time when small sugar millers are taking on the big ones in the market. PAGE 5

ROYALS

TORO QUEEN MOTHER DRAGGED TO LAND PROBE

PAGE 9

CRIME

Man charged over acid attack

A man has been charged by Buganda Road Court in connection with an acid attack on a lawyer. The lawyer said he was attacked because he was representing an 82-year-old man in a land case. PAGE 5

LUKWAGO, COUNCILLORS OPPOSE KCCA AMENDMENT BILL

BY JOHN SEMAKULA

How tenures of IGPs ended

President Yoweri Museveni fired Gen. Kale Kayihura last weekend without giving any explanation, yet Kayihura had been perceived as his right-hand man. Kayihura assumed the office of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) in 2005, being hailed as a beacon of hope in continuing the Police transformation that had been started by his predecessor, Gen. Katumba Wamala.

Kayihura started off by initiating projects, including building the Naguru Medical Centre in Kampala in partnership with Iran.

He increased the Police fleet, sent many officers on training, and built the force from 14,000 to 45,000 personnel, among others.

But political commentators, including former Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) flag-bearer, Kizza Besigye, said Kayihura's undoing started when he allowed to be used to play a political role.

"He was a good person who offered to be used. He chose to be a sycophant and a patron for Museveni," Besigye said.

Richard Mutatina, a security expert who said he worked with Kayihura for some years, told *Saturday Vision* that the former IGP's main undoing was that he did not listen to data informers.

"He only listened to the women in uniform and ignored us men with vital information to counter crimes," Mutatina said. He further noted that

Kayihura often used criminal gangs to fight crime.

"There are senior Police commissioners at Naguru who Kayihura never gave a single file to handle," he said. "He preferred civilians like Bodaboda 2010 who ended up becoming criminal gangs."

Around the same time, teargas became the preferred weapon for Police to deal with demonstrators. But, sometimes, the teargas would be hurled at innocent Ugandans, including school children and, soon, Kayihura earned himself a nickname of Uncle Teargas.

It was not until a wave of crime started sweeping the country and the Police failed to stop it that Kayihura's end began to smell.

The killing of Muslim sheikhs; last year's brutal murder of Assistant Inspector General of Police, Felix Kaweesi, the dozens of women in Wakiso and the panga-wielding squads that terrorised different parts of the country, stirred public outcry.

Other security organisations, like Internal Security Organization (ISO), had to intervene and, some suspects, who were arrested, confessed that they worked with the Police in executing their missions. President Yoweri Museveni said the Police had been infiltrated by criminals and asked Kayihura to sort out the mess.



The Bodaboda 2010 boss Abdullah Kitatta, whom Kayihura had earlier praised for helping curb crime, was also arrested. Mutatina told *Saturday Vision* that it was clear that the bickering between Kayihura and Tumukunde, had a serious toll on security.

The president of the Uganda Law Society (ULS), said it was long overdue.

"Kayihura had taken to blaming everything else for the poor performance of the Police, apart from himself," he said. "The greatest task of any leader is always to take responsibility for whatever happens under their watch and supervision."

Former deputy IGP Julius Odwe, also told *Saturday Vision* that Kayihura was not a good administrator.

"He wants to know everything in the field and through officers of lower ranks, instead of sitting in the office of the IGP to co-ordinate through other supervisors. That is why he ended up doing work of junior Police officers," he said.

Odwe says the Police should implement the recommendation of the 1999 Justice Julie Sebutinde Judicial Report.

"The report said the IGP should be hired on contract for a period of three years and for a maximum of two terms," he said.

Other IGPs and their fate

Gen Katumba Wamala (2001-2005)
Unlike most IGPs, Katumba's tenure ended peacefully. He was perceived as professional and calm. Odwe said Katumba was a brilliant commander, who was good at listening.

He was a team-player who loved delegating work to his juniors.

However, Mutatina noted that although he appeared good, Katumba did not appreciate why, as an army officer, he was made a

policeman. "To him, it seemed like a demotion. His solidarity was more with the army, than the Police," he said.

John Kiseembo (January 3, 1999-April 1, 2001)

Kiseembo became IGP after his boss, Odemel, resigned. His term was when Justice Sebutinde commission was doing its work. The report noted that the Police's professional standards had gone down and discipline and the respect for human rights had also sunk to a record low.

Odwe said Kiseembo was discharged prematurely in 2001 because of the findings in the Sebutinde report and replaced by Gen. Katumba Wamala.

John Cossy Odemel (April 24, 1992-December 31, 1999)

Odemel resigned after serving for nearly eight years, following an investigation by the Inspectorate of Government where he was accused of inside trading.

Sebutinde's Commission later accused him of using companies like MAJE EXT Ltd and AINO General Merchandise to supply materials to the Police, contrary to the law and, as a result, created a conflict of interest.

Apollo Byekwaso (1990-1992)

Byekwaso served up to the end of his term. Unfortunately, he was gunned down in 1998 on the night of February 13, by assailants near his home in Kyengera, Wakiso

district. He had just been nominated to vie for the post of LC3 councillor for Ndagabusa sub-county in Mpigi district, prompting people to suspect political assassination.

But other sources say when Byekwaso retired from the Police, he remained involved in security matters as managing director of a security firm, Uganda Security Care, which may have caused his death.

David Psongen (1989-Nov 30, 1990)

Psongen was the first IGP to be appointed by Museveni after assuming power. Odwe said Psongen was fired after an incident at Makerere University in which two students were shot dead during a student demonstration over a new policy.

Luke Ofungi (1973-1980, 1985-1989)

He served as Police chief for three different regimes—Idi Amin, Milton Obote and Yoweri Museveni. He is the only IGP who has served three times. He was dismissed by President Museveni.

Okoth Ogola (1981-1985)

Ogola began in acting capacity and was confirmed in 1981. Following the Tito Okello coup d'etat in 1985, Ogola went into exile in the United States and only returned recently in 2010, with a doctorate.

David Barlow (1979-1981)

He was Police chief at a time when Kampala rocked by riots against the overthrow of Prof. Yusuf Lule in 1979. His reign was short-lived as the command of Police kept changing hands with the different regimes.

Kassim M. Obura (1975-77)

Obura was Police boss under Idi Amin's reign. He was sentenced to death by the Kampala High Court after the fall of Amin's government. The court heard that on November 25, 1973, Obura murdered Samson Danyo, famous Kampala business and co-owner of the picture cinemas in Kampala, known as Delite Cinema. It is said that on the day Obura was hanged, he looked weak and even waved at his condemned prisoners as he was escorted to the gallows.

Wilson Erinayo Oryem (1964-1971)

Oryema was the first IGP to head Police. Six years after leaving office, he was with Idi Amin forces, alongside then Internal Affairs minister Charles Oboho Ofungi, and Church of Uganda Archbishop, Ianani Lusa, in February 1977.

W. B. Musoke (1980)

He replaced David Barlow in January 1980 and presided over the professionalisation of the force.

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Gen. Tumwine starts work

By Pascal Kwesiga

Gen. Elly Tumwine has formally started work as the security minister after Lt. Gen. Henry Tumukunde, who has held the post for less than two years, handed over office to the four-star army general.

Tumukunde handed over office to Tumwine at a private event on Tuesday. The office of the security minister is located in the Twin Tower building, which houses the offices of the vice-president and prime minister in Kampala.

Last week, President Yoweri Museveni dropped Tumukunde and replaced him with Tumwine, who previously held a number of positions in Government.

Museveni also dropped Gen. Kale Kayihura, who had held the position of the Inspector General of Police for over 12 years. Kayihura has been replaced by his deputy, Martin Okoth Ochoola. The former commander of military Police, Brig. Steven Sabiti Muzeyi, is his deputy.

The handover ceremony took place on Tuesday. The public and the media have also started performing ours. Net everything has to be done in front of the media," Tumwine said in a telephone interview.

Tumwine served as the army commander in 1984, in the early days of the National Resistance Army, which was later renamed Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF). In 1987, he was appointed state minister for defence. Tumwine has also previously served as director general of External Security Organisation, presidential advisor and chairman of the UPDF high command appeals committee.



Gen. Elly Tumwine

Enforce discipline in Police, Kayihura advises Ochoola

By Simon Masaba

In his farewell message, Gen. Kale Kayihura has advised his successor, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Martin Okoth Ochoola, to enforce strict discipline among Police constables.

Although Kayihura applauded the constables for doing 'a good job' across the country, he said many of them had been named in cases of indiscipline.

"When you were still deputy IGP, I specifically assigned you to enforce discipline. Keep it up," Kayihura said, as Ochoola keenly looked him in the eye, and kept nodding his head in agreement.

Last year, Kayihura said the Police Professional Standards Unit had recommended the dismissal of over 150 Police officers, many of them constables, over indiscipline.

The force has 23,391 constables, of whom 2,805 are women, according to a summary of personnel officers as of October 2014.

This data is contained in the Police Force Strategic Plan 2015/16-2019/20, which the internal affairs minister, Gen. Jeje Odongo, launched a fortnight ago at the Marine fleet base in Kigo, Wakiso district.

Handing over office at the Police headquarters in Naguru, Nakawa division in Kampala yesterday, Kayihura made a passionate plea to Ochoola to continue with the projects he had initiated, especially those aimed at improving the welfare of Police officers.

Kayihura cited the 10,000 housing units for Police officers under construction in the Kampala Metropolitan region. Of these, 1,020 are being constructed in Naguru.

A total of 17 blocks will be built and each will have 60 units. Altogether, there will be 420 apartments built by the Police construction unit.

Kayihura said modern housing will improve the welfare of officers and get rid of dilapidated structures that have been associated with the Police.

"Nobody handed over to me a structure when I was appointed IGP, but today, we have several," Kayihura said.

He said although he was no

longer in office, the Police airwing base in Jinja district would be commissioned today.

Kayihura enumerated a number of achievements during his 12-year tenure, before he thanked President Yoweri Museveni for having entrusted him with the role.

"As I leave office, there has been a tremendous reduction in crime from 2006-2016. It is only in 2017 where there was a slight increase in criminality," he said, adding that Ochoola would release the annual crime report. The Police last released a crime report in 2014.

Kayihura said despite the increased demands on policing, there had been tremendous budget cuts, which had affected operations.

Police are grappling with a sh125b debt to service providers. This prompted the force to seek services of volunteers (crime preventers) to fight crime.

"I will forever remain indebted to the Police force and the crime preventers," Kayihura said.

Commenting about the newly-appointed deputy IGP, Brig. Steven Sabiti Muzeyi, Kayihura said he remembers the cordial working relationship he had with him as the deputy commander of

Outgoing IGP Kale Kayihura (second-right) hands over to the new IGP, Okoth Ochoola (left), as Obiga looks on. This was at the Police headquarters yesterday. Photo by Miriam Namutebi



"I will forever remain indebted to the Police force and crime preventers," Kayihura

Special Forces Command during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Kampala in 2007.

"I remember working with Brig. Sabiti, and the Queen gave me a souvenir. It is in my room," he reminisced.

In the changes announced on March 4, President Museveni replaced Kayihura with his deputy, Ochoola. Gen. Elly Tumwine replaced Gen. Henry Tumukunde as security minister, while Sabiti, the former military Police commandant, took over as deputy IGP.

Odongo, the internal affairs minister, who presided over the function, said Ochoola and Sabiti were faced with a challenge of

rebranding the image of the Police following the recent negative picture painted about the force across the country.

Explaining the rise in the crime rate, Odongo said despite various incidents of crime, the country is safe.

"There have been incidences of criminality, but those do not constitute a breakdown of national security," Odongo said. He said in a few weeks, he would be reading a detailed statement about the crime wave in the country on the floor of Parliament.

Highlighting some of Kayihura's achievements, Obiga Kania, the state minister for internal affairs, told Ochoola and his deputy that the public had 'great expectations' in them.

Asan Kasingye, the Police director of political commissariat, who spoke on behalf of all heads of department, made reference to a telephone conversation in which Kayihura urged them 'not to be frightened by his departure, but continue the fight against crime'.

As Kasingye read the speech highlighting the good moments, Kayihura asked that it be framed and he hangs it at his home.

IGP Ochola closes Nalufenya detention centre

By Simon Masaba

The Inspector General of Police (IGP), Martin Okoth Ochoa, has ordered the closure of the detention facility at Nalufenya Police Station in Jinja district.

Nalufenya was a 'normal' police station until early 2002, when Operation Wembley, then under the command of Brig. Oly Karanja, set up a base at the facility near the Source of Lake Nile.

Thereafter, Nalufenya and the Police's Special Investigations Unit at Kireka recorded the highest number of torture cases filed by suspects in Police detention. These stations were perceived to be detention chambers for hardcore criminals.

Following a public outcry and criticism from human rights organisations, the Government dissolved Operation Wembley and it was replaced with the Violent Crime Crack Unit and was formally put under Police command. In 2007, its name was again changed to the Rapid Response Unit.

In December 2011, RRU was also disbanded over gross violation of human rights and it was replaced by the Special Investigations Unit. Later, the Flying Squad Unit was formed to handle hardcore criminals and they have been detaining most of their suspects at Nalufenya.

Nalufenya has been deemed controversial because of the torture of detainees, most of whom are accused of terrorism



Mukulu (second-left) being led back into the cells at Nalufenya in 2015

According to a recent report by human rights activists, suspects have been rounded up and sent to this facility and interrogated using methods, both sanctioned and not.

The widely publicised case was the torture of the mayor of Kamwenge town council, Geoffrey Byamukama. It is alleged that while in detention, his captors, said to be top Police officers, drilled into his knees, leaving deep wounds on his kneecaps.

Others include the 22 suspects accused of murdering the former Police spokesperson, Felix Kaweesi.

Court has since awarded each of the Kaweesi murder suspects sh80m in compensation. There were also claims that the captured Allied Democratic

Forces' rebel leader, Jamil Mukulu, was forced to eat pork at Nalufenya, which is taboo to his faith.

Closure decision

The sordid and bone-chilling stories from behind those fortified walls have drawn the attention of human rights bodies and Parliament, who have repeatedly called for its closure. Their pleas have come to fruition since the new IGP has ordered the closure of the notorious facility.

Impeccable sources told *New Vision* that the decision to close Nalufenya, a gazetted Police facility, was okayed at a meeting of the Police's top echelon under the umbrella: Police Advisory Committee (PAC), chaired by Ochoa, on Wednesday.

Explaining the closure, the source said PAC agreed that suspects be detained in the other various Police stations across the country.

"Torture of suspects will not be tolerated in the new Police administration," said the detective, adding that the force was targeting professionalism.

During the meeting, the source added, some senior officers opposed the closure of the facility, arguing that "Nalufenya has good interrogation rooms fitted with cameras and good accommodation".

But Ochoa and other officers maintained that Naggalama Police Station in Mukono was equally good.

This was Ochoa's first PAC meeting as the force's IGP following his recent

NOT MOVED

Some senior officers opposed the closure of the facility arguing that Nalufenya has good interrogation rooms fitted with cameras plus good accommodation. But Ochoa maintained his stand.



appointment by President Yoweri Museveni. Historically, PAC is chaired by the deputy IGP, a role that Ochoa fulfilled before his predecessor, Gen. Kale Kayihura.

Another source privy to the meeting said 'human rights-related issues' were at the top of Ochoa's list as the new administration aims at changing the image of the Police.

The Police spokesperson, Emilian Kayima, said he was not yet aware of the decision to close Nalufenya.

Misconduct

Until yesterday, the Police standing orders maintained that individual officers would be held accountable for any misconduct that would attract a

court award. Last year, Ochoa (while he was the Deputy IGP) wrote to the forces' subordinates alerting them of the policy.

"The purpose of this circular, therefore, is to inform you that officers will be personally held accountable for their actions leading to court awards," Ochoa wrote on behalf of his then boss Kale Kayihura.

The Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, 2012 was passed to hold individual perpetrators of torture and not the institution culpable.

Recently, Museveni wrote to senior security officers cautioning them against torture as a means of extracting information from suspects. The President advised investigators to do their work well and patiently gather sufficient evidence against the suspected criminals that will result in convictions in court.

Nalufenya's big budget

Without divulging details, the source said the move to close Nalufenya was also aimed at cutting costs.

"There has been a fight between Police commanders that head special units that operated at the facility because of the budget allocations," the source said.

In 2016, Counter Terrorism Police officers Simon Niwamanya and Godfrey Wafula, both Police constables, were shot dead at Nalufenya as a result of a rift between two Police units.

Ochola bows out with a wide smile

1988

IGP John Martins Okoth-Ochola joined the Uganda Police Force in 1988, rising through the ranks to the helm of the Force. He leaves after serving a staggering 36 years.

2018

IGP Okoth-Ochola replaced Gen Kale Kayihura, who had served for 13 years as police boss, when President Museveni appointed him in March 2018.

BY ANDREW BAGALA

Martin Martins Okoth-Ochola wore a smile on his face as senior officers he supervised bid him farewell after ending 36 years of the Inspector General of Police at the institution's headquarters at Naguru, Kampala City yesterday.

Mr Ochola, who handed over the Inspector General of Police office to his deputy Maj Gen Geoffrey Katigira at Turua House, postponed the burial of his father so that he didn't over shoot the expiry of his contract by just a day.

In civilian life, Mr Ochola returned to Mulion in Tororo District for the burial of his father Lawrence Okoth who died on Friday.

"That is IGP's discipline. He gives time and he obeys the orders. He doesn't use state resources for his personal gains," said a senior police officer.

STANDARD P.O.T





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Board Chairperson



The new board leadership, headed by Mrs. Agnes Kabwisho Mbabazi, was elected in January 2024 and took office on March 13, demonstrating their commitment to promoting Crop Life Uganda's ideals.

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Rest Well

Eng. Lawrence Okoth Ocheng

On Saturday, March 9, 2024, all roads led to Mulanda in Tororo district for the burial of Eng. Lawrence Okoth Ocheng Mboti Nyangonda, father to IGP Emeritus Senior Counsel John Martins Okoth-Ochola (Esq.). The late was born on April 19, 1927, and died on March 1, 2024, at the age of 97. The home was buzzing with hundreds of mourners from all walks of life. It was a well planned and executed function. March 1 marked the passing of a patriarch.

By ACP Emilian Kayima

His son, John Martins Okoth Ochola (Esq.), retired on March 4, and the burial of Mzee was on March 9, 2024. What a week! Surprisingly, the day IGP Ochola handed over office was a day he smiled most, yet many senior officials from the public and private sector often hand over offices and retire with a heavy heart, seemingly crestfallen, almost angry with everyone around them, and are often irritable. IGP Ochola did it differently, setting the bar so high for the high office he occupied for six (6) years.

In Mulanda, it was a well organised function. Mzee Eng Lawrence got the most deserving sendoff ceremony. His formal education started at St. Theresa

Primary School Mulanda, from where he continued to Nagongera Junior Secondary School, after which he joined the Railway Training College in Nairobi, where he studied Permanent Way Engineering for six (6) years (1946-1952). There was a class of 5 students; 3 Englishmen and 2 Africans. Embracing formal education back in the day and educating his children is testimony to how far Mzee would go and the legacy he would leave.

At the burial, there were many dignitaries including two close associates of IGP Emeritus Ochola. These included Gen. David Muhoozi, former Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) and now Minister of State for Internal Affairs, and Dr. Canon Johnson Byabashaija,

Commissioner General of Uganda Prisons Service. At one point, the trio was in charge of the security of this country. Their presence in Mulanda spoke volumes about their friendship and close ties.

There too was a column of distinguished men and women that included Maj. Gen. Sabiiti Muzeeyi and Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Tumusiime Katigazi, with Ochola seated in between them. The two heavy weights were his deputies at different times, with the latter being the acting IGP. Nearly all directors of the Uganda Police Force, heads of department, territorial Commanders, uniformed and non-uniformed police, members of the UPDF, staff from the Uganda Prisons Service and the general public were all present.

When Gen. David Muhoozi, took to the podium, he cracked our ribs. He is a great public speaker. Of great importance, he reminded us of the importance of education, stating rightly that “education is a force multiplier”. It is still a mystery to me how the old man was able to handle all his roles until the end. Mzee sired 35 children; 17 girls and 18 boys who gave him 140 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren. You would obviously feel that home was warm even when we were there to mourn the death of Mzee Lawrence.

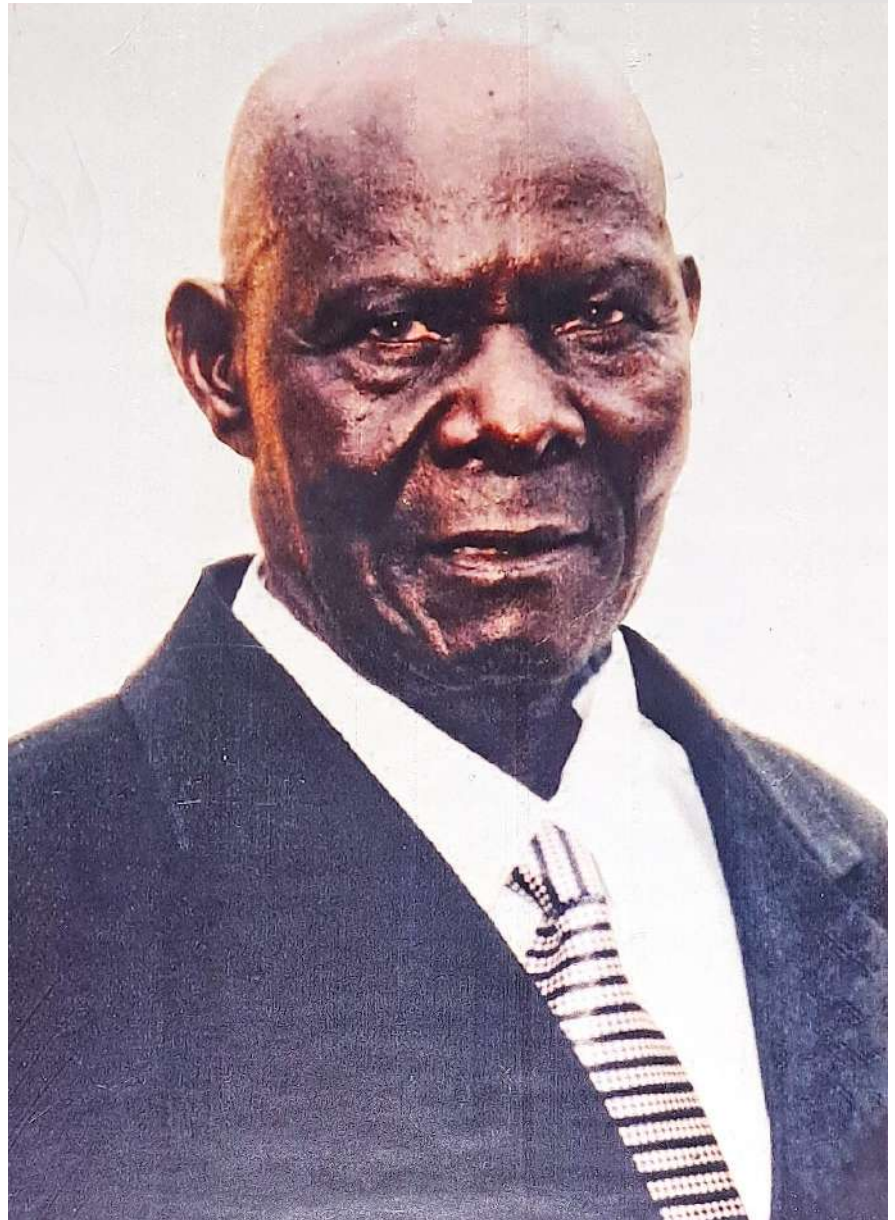
Mzee Lawrence’s first posting for duty was Mombasa, then Tanga in Tanzania, and he was later transferred to Tabora from where he headed home in Tororo. It was after Tororo that he was taken to Gulu, where he participated in the construction of the railway line to Pakwach, whose grand opening was officiated by the three East African Heads of State, namely; Dr. Apollo Milton Obote, President of Uganda, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya, and Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere of Tanzania.

Eulogising his dad, IGP Emeritus Ochola on behalf of the family assured us, “...Mzee Lawrence has not left us unprepared. As much as he has physically departed from us, he left us many presents to unwrap. He left us with virtues of decency, sincerity, and kindness, for which we shall be eternally grateful. He was a great and noble man of God that has run his race successfully till the end”. He showed great admiration and honour for the great man.

The family paid special tribute to the team of doctors that took care of Mzee in his evening days. Among them was AIGP Dr. Moses Byaruhanga, Director Police Health

Services, Dr. Fred Okuku and Dr. Dennis Mubiru of the Uganda Cancer Institute Mulago, Dr. Brian Kiggundu of Kampala Hospital, and ASP. Sr. Carolyn Kasozi Ntambi, from the Police Health Services. The family vowed to always walk in the ways Mzee Lawrence taught them to walk, “loving people and serving God dutifully.” That resolve speaks volumes. Rest in peace, Eng. Lawrence Okoth Ocheng Mboti Nyangonda.

The writer is a senior police officer in Uganda.



A Tribute to Women in Uniform

Globally, until now, joining the armed forces was an unfathomable desire for most women. The few that braved enlistment in the Uganda Police Force, for instance, have shown remarkable acts of valour while on training and even on duty. These milestones should not be glossed over without a squint of recognition. And Women's Day falls in the month of March, where, here and beyond, we have to truly recognise their heroic acts of nationalism and patriotism.

By PC Ojula Michael



The police training kicks off with military drills so as to acquaint trainees with weapon and combat skills. During this period, there are certain drills that one would ordinarily imagine women could not succeed. Surprisingly, some of these women turn out to be sources of inspiration in the midst of great temptation to hang up hope.

Women emerging as the best shooters in the range and displaying such stellar martial arts skills is a testament to the fact that there is still a huge resource that has not been fully exploited by this gender, making it crystal clear that women are a stronger specie. And that waters down the generational stereotype that asserts, “women are the weaker sex.”

We are at an age where women's emancipation campaigns no longer have traction as they did a few decades ago. Legislations entrenching gender equality has immensely contributed toward the achievement of a close to a more equal society.

It has been 39 years or so of NRM superintendence of the political and socio-economic affairs of Uganda. If we went to a vote on the great successes the President Museveni-led government has achieved through this period, it may be a ‘Vladimir Putin’s’ kind of victory in favor of

gender equality. Many women are now in active politics and other managerial positions than ever before, since the founding of this country. And boy, some women assertively state that, “what men can do, women can do better.”

Before the former NRA rebels captured power, women's participation in serious state affairs was not something one could even be tempted to think about. Women were relegated to third class citizenship. During the recently held international women's day celebrations in Katakwi district, the President is noted as saying that in the Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA), there was hardly any woman allowed to be enlisted in the army, for they were perceived as a weak gender, not capable to delivering on Herculean tasks that describe military service.

The Uganda Police Force now has very high-ranking women at the level of Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIGP). Many

women now in command positions have turned out to be even better commanders than their male counterparts. Some have become police drivers, chauffeuring heavy vehicles that include armoured vehicles in the battle fields of Somalia and South Sudan, as well as main Sudan, ambulances, riot control vehicles, troop carriers and a host of others—a job description that was typically a preserve of male officers.

Even when duty calls, women in the Uganda Police Force remain devoted to motherhood and their nurturing roles as given by the Holy Book; the Bible. They have the duty of being wives at home. It's true that juggling family responsibilities and demands of service in the force can be a daunting task. They balance them all. And when they seemingly fail, they are harshly judged!

Take, for example, women deployed in very operational units like Counter Terrorism (CT), Field Force Unit (FFU), Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU), and others where duty can take one out of physical touch with family for days. The sacrifices that such women in uniform go through are something we all have to recognise and appreciate. For those of us that live and work with them, we see and, to a great extent know their struggles. We greatly appreciate their sense of resilience, sacrifice, and patriotism. We salute you!

Sirimavo Bandaranaike of Ceylon (present-day Sri Lanka), was the first woman ever to be elected to lead her country as Prime Minister in 1960. After her tenure, many other women have taken the mantle to lead their countries, including in Africa. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf led Liberia as President from 2006 to 2018, Joyce Banda

was head of government in Malawi from 2012 to 2014, and now Samia Suluhu Hassan leads the United Republic of Tanzania after the demise of President John Pombe Magufuli.

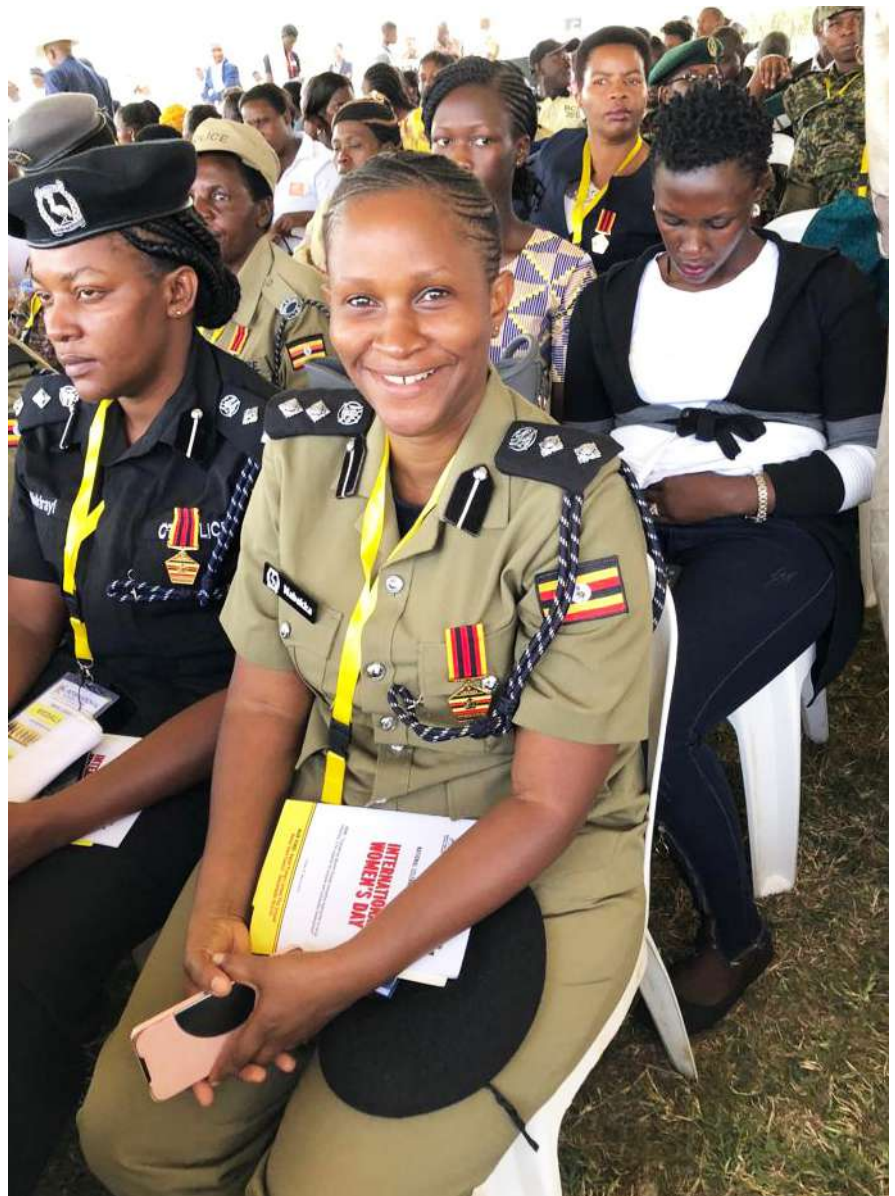
Women have scored so much politically, but there still exists a challenge to gender equity. It should be noted that not many women have been chiefs of either the police force or the UPDF in Uganda and other armies on the globe, save for Jamaican Admiral Antonette Wemyss-Gorman, who is the only female Chief of Defense Staff in the world. There are very few notable

successes in women leading armed forces as chiefs.

With increased advocacy on gender equity and equality in the armed forces the future for women's empowerment looks rosy.

In Uganda, hope is alive. It is in the near future. It will be a red-letter day when a woman is appointed to the prestigious positions of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) and also, Chief of Defense Forces (CDF).

The writer is a Police Constable deployed in the Uganda Police Band. He loves writing and sharing ideas through prose and poetry.



Honour with Admiration

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude and best wishes as you retire from your distinguished career with the Uganda Police. Your tenure as the Inspector General of Police has been marked by exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment, and a dedication to serving and protecting the citizens of our nation.

By Dr. Aggrey Wunyi



Throughout your tenure, you have demonstrated exemplary professionalism, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to upholding the rule of law. Under your guidance,

the Uganda Police has made significant strides in improving security, enhancing community engagement, and combating crime. Your strategic vision and tireless efforts have contributed

to the modernisation of the police force and the enhancement of its capabilities in maintaining law and order.

Your leadership has inspired countless police officers and

instilled a sense of pride and commitment in the service of our nation. Your emphasis on professionalism, ethical conduct, and accountability has laid a solid foundation for the future of the Uganda Police Force, ensuring that it continues to evolve and adapt to the ever-changing landscape of law enforcement.

Beyond your professional accomplishments, your compassionate approach to community policing and your efforts to bridge the gap between the police and the public have had a profound impact on our society. Your commitment to promoting a culture of transparency,

accountability, and respect for human rights within the police force has earned the force, the highest value of the servant of the people—trust and admiration.

As you embark on the next chapter of your life, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your steadfast dedication to the service of our nation and its people. Your contributions to the Uganda Police Force have been invaluable, and your legacy will endure as a testament to your unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of justice and equality.

I wish you a well-deserved retirement filled with joy, fulfillment, and the opportunity

to pursue your interests outside of law enforcement. May this new chapter in your life be marked by peace, prosperity, and the warmth of family and loved ones.

Once again, thank you for your exceptional service to the Uganda Police Force. Your legacy will continue to inspire current and future generations of law enforcement officers, and your impact on our nation will be remembered with gratitude and admiration.

With profound respect and warmest regards,

**Aggrey Wunyi, Undersecretary/
Uganda Police Force**



Peace for Prosperity in Karamoja

Karamoja Subregion is widely defined in terms of famine, cattle rustling, trafficking in persons, and low levels of education by a greater majority of the public in and outside Uganda. That is partly true. It is not entirely right, though.

By CP Elias Kassirabo PSC

Not many people seem to get to know, let alone appreciate, the good people and good deeds of the Karamajong, and in particular, the women in the region, when it comes to pacification, peace, and sustainable development.

Take note: women in the Karamoja region play a pivotal role in the pacification of the region. Unfortunately, it almost goes unnoticed. We have a duty to recognise and appreciate them. Their efforts truly evoke emotions, give a ray of hope that, as day follows night, we shall enjoy the fruits of our concerted efforts in this journey of making Karamoja peaceful, habitable, and lovable.

For the record, Karamoja is a rich region with mineral resources such as tin, gold, copper, and marble. It is also endowed with a rich culture of people from Uganda, Kenya, and Sudan. The region boasts of Kidepo Valley National Park, the most magnificent of all Parks in Uganda, and it ranks among Africa's finest wilderness. In the park, the most common wildlife found includes

among others; buffalos, elephants, giraffes, and zebras.

The principle ethnic groups in Karamoja are identified within the "Karamoja cluster" the Dodoth in the north, the Jie in the center, and the Karimojong in the center-south. They further divide themselves into three major regional and ethnic subgroups; Matheniko, Bokora and Pian.

In Karamoja, they love and respect the Karamoja cultural day that brings Karamoja clans together every year. During the September 2023 Karamoja Cultural Day, Karamajong women were seen organising themselves; and singing peace songs in an attempt to persuade men to accept peace for prosperity. That was a good message sent across the region.

Women have been seen organising peaceful processions, passing a message that restrains men from engaging in cattle rustling. They rightly argue that the vice has impoverished the region. They tell whoever cares to listen how they have remained widows because of raids and are calling

for the peaceful coexistence of all the clans in Karamoja Subregion. The current disarmament exercise in Karamoja began on July 17, 2021, and is still ongoing, bearing fruit each single day. We commend His Excellency, the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, the entire security sector, and the foot soldiers executing the difficult mission of building peace in the region.

The process began with voluntary disarmament and the establishment of gun-reception centres in every Subcounty where one woman was put as a member at the reception centre to receive guns brought by female counterparts. Although women are to some extent accused of facilitating raids by selling to men intoxicating liquor in villages as they go for raids, preparing dry ratio for the men, setting shoes for the husbands to put on, keeping home livestock with children while their husbands go for raids, their role in this aspect is minimal. To a large extent, their efforts are geared toward peace building.

For their protection, I will not name names. But we know and admire many for playing this important role pacifying Karamoja. In the presidential amnesty for voluntary handover of illegal guns, women have maintained a positive trajectory in the mobilisation of all people concerned to hate the vice and return the guns. To their credit, by the dawn of 2024, over 120 guns had been recovered due to their initiative and effort.

reveal where these illegal guns are hidden. We protect their identities, and continue to build the relations, and the government is carrying out sustainable development programs to strengthen these efforts and ensure total peace in the foreseeable future.

We applaud the women of Karamoja and can only promise them total support as far as pacification of the region is concerned. It is our resolve to build peace. Therefore, all peace



During the arrest of men suspected to be in possession of illegal firearms, women are always tasked by their husbands to retrieve guns from hideouts and hand them over to security. This has always been done with success and has helped in the recovery of illegal weapons, thereby lessening the burden and creating peace in the region.

There are also instances when illegal guns are recovered by the sole role of women when they

initiatives geared toward pacifying Karamoja are welcome.

Yes, with gun violence dying out, the other crime-related incidents will proportionally and significantly go down. And, Karamoja will get its glory, tapping into the numerous opportunities that include a rich culture, strategic regional positioning, and a variety of mineral resources at their disposal.

The writer is the Commandant Anti-Stock Theft Unit (ASTU).

What you did not know about IGP Emeritus J.M. Okoth- Ochola

Before becoming a cop, a dude from Makerere University Law School worked with Kampala as a legal assistant in Kampala City Council for three years before joining the Uganda Police Force in 1988.

By Keneth Kimuli



He was arguably among the first few lawyers to join the Uganda Police Force at the time. It was not the kind of place a graduate, especially in law, would want to join since it did not pass as a lucrative white collar job.

Given his humility and amiable character, it's hard to believe that he was the officer in charge at Entebbe International Airport in 1989, a time when illegal immigration and drug trafficking were rampant. For the record, he left no scandal.

Nothing much is known about his family and children in the public domain. He is very protective of them, which is a plus for a person of his rank and status. The closest we got to know about his

family was when he married his sweetheart, Ms. Judith Hellen Akoth, in 2013 after several years of living together.

They met in 1988 and had a customary marriage that cleared them to start a family as they waited for the wedding that came to pass in 2013. That was the last time some of us saw him at a social gathering.

It's very rare to come across a photo of Afande Ochola at a kwanjula, wedding, concert, or kafunda in or around Kampala. Hopefully he starts an events organising company in his retirement to compensate for the last 36 years of absence from social events.

He attended three primary schools before joining high school. The circumstances that led to this are still obscure, but we suspect he was too bright for the first and second schools, forcing his

caretakers to look for a bigger challenge. No wonder he ended up at the enviable Namilyango College for his secondary education, all the way from Mulanda, in Tororo district.

IGP Emeritus Martins Okoth-Ochola, through his career, has exhibited professional skills. He has investigated serious criminal cases that include corruption allegations and other high profile cases involving the high and mighty. He

He often cracks jokes that leave his audiences laughing their hearts out. One day while at Mbuya Catholic Parish in the requiem mass for the late IGP Emeritus John Kisémbó, he joked that there was a suspect on his list that was yet to be apprehended to answer charges of desertion from the Uganda Police Force. That was in reference to two generals; Hon. Jim Muhwezi and Ssejjusa, who were with John Kisémbó in Tanzania for



remains cool and composed, does his work, and goes home intact.

He has equally supervised many such cases as an investigator and chief investigating officer at the helm of CID at one time in his career. I recall a case involving powerful ministers that he personally interrogated, and he still maintained his cool throughout the investigations. It's no surprise that his name has not been a topic of conversation in the corridors of power and the dusty streets of Kampala.

their initial training. One of them was present at church. The whole church laughed!

We haven't yet known his retirement plan, but he made mention of the fact that he was going to take care of his personal and family business. Hopefully, he bounces back as the most successful farmer in Mualnda, in Tororo District.

Often referred to as senior counsel, John Martins Okoth-Ochola will always be remembered among his peers for the objective

and straight forward legal counsel he freely gives. There could have been some challenges that made his work heavy, but it is truly hard to notice with our roving eyes.

On behalf of his admirers. I will only wish Afande IGP Emeritus John Martin Okoth-Ochola, a peaceful and fruitful retirement phase of life.

Pablo is a Ugandan writer, published author, and television personality who loves and practices clean comedy.

The **Life** and **Legacy** of **J.M. Okoth-Ochola (Esq.)**

When I was appointed the Uganda Police Force Spokesperson in November 2017, I received hundreds of thousands of messages congratulating me on the elevation and growth in the police career. My tour of duty ended in February 2019, having served only one year and 3 months. I had never truly known the weight of policing until then, yet the docket of spokesperson is way far away from that of the Inspector General of Police or Directors in the Uganda Police Force. That is why I salute a cop who strives to serve people, walking the extra mile no matter the work related challenges. In the same spirit, we salute IGP J.M. Okoth-Ochola (Esq.) and celebrate him for accomplishing his tenure in a manner that was so admirable and satisfying.

By ACP Emilian Kayima

By March 4, 2024, he had spent exactly six years in the coveted office of IGP. On this day, he handed over office and opened a fresh page in his life, choosing to retire after serving the Uganda Police Force for a straight 36 years. I had not seen the IGP as happy as he was when he was bidding us farewell. He wore a designer suit, looked smart and elegant but most of all, he wore a big smile as he addressed staff, cracking jokes here and there and making everyone there relaxed. He is known for cracking jokes. He took photos with the senior members of the police administration as well as all his staff. He has been accused of being media shy and rarely takes photographs for the sake of the photos. That is him.

I did a study on the most feared subject of retirement and my respondents were both senior

and junior police officers. I did not have a chance to have him as my respondent. I now know what I missed. When many officials reach the mandatory retirement age, there is often panic. Some alter the record to gain more than two or three years at the job. Others tearfully request contract extensions, which can either be granted or denied depending on the mood and wish of the appointing authority. But then comes IGP J.M. Okoth-Ochola, that smiles ear to ear as he bids us farewell. He did not only challenge us but also taught us to accept change and always learn to turn to the fresh page every time the opportunity presents itself. He beat me at this.

I will celebrate him on five fronts: his level of calmness yet very firm, his love of police procedures in the execution of work; respect of rule of law; his sense of humour

even in situations that are tense; and most of all; his dedication to write a column for our great *Police Habari Magazine*. For the record, he wrote his column with so much dedication and love. He never missed an edition. He never delayed its production. He simply loved the magazine and gave us our total support, leaving us to run it as we planned. That taught us lessons we shall live to tell.

It is the reason we agreed that we dedicate this 17th edition to him as we celebrate his life. It is something we feel obliged to do for him and for all our leaders in the Uganda Police Force. The senior counsel, J.M. Okoth-Ochola (Esq.) presided over the rebirth of the *Police Habari Magazine* in 2019, an act of strategy and kindness we shall live to remember.

Handing over office to the Deputy Inspector General of Police,

Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Katsigazi Tumusiime, IGP Ochola, beaming with joy and smiling from ear to ear, had this to say; *“When I took over the steering of affairs of this great institution at about this time exactly 6 years ago, the task was clear professionalising and rebuilding the image of the Institution,”* he stated, emphasising the collective achievements that have fostered a sense of calmness, togetherness, and belonging within the nation, to which all those in attendance unanimously agreed, and clapped.

Under his stewardship, the

Affairs, the police authority and his comrades, the Service Chiefs; Commander of the Defence Forces (CDF) and the Commissioner General of Uganda Prisons Service, the rank and file, civilian staff, and the media, for invariably making positive contributions to supporting his efforts in the delivery of the mandate. Again, the outgoing IGP did not shy away from acknowledging that all was done as planned. He pointed out a couple of challenges that the new team ought to address in order to be able to bring policing

His departure marks the end of a significant chapter in Uganda’s policing history, where policing procedures were practiced more than ever before.

It is most probable that he will have a perfect rest after 36 years of service. If it were the proverbial old good days, his home would be filled by grand children and great children that would bring so much joy when he was in their company. Today parent, are mean with their children. Probably they too miss them and want to have them during holidays, which reason they



Uganda Police Force boasts of many achievements and thanks to the unwavering dedication of a remarkable team of officers that performed as expected, bending backwards to serve their nation, Uganda. He firmly expressed his gratitude toward the president for his vision and leadership, which were instrumental in enabling him and his team to deliver on their mandate. Equally, he acknowledged the enormous support he consistently received from the Ministry of Internal

services closer to the people. He also expressed appreciation for the support from his family, which has been his backbone throughout his service.

The parting words often draw a tear from the principal or the audience. In his address, I saw only cheers. He said with a smile, “I carry with me the fond memories of our accomplishments. May the UPF continue to be a beacon of excellence and a force for positive change in the enforcement of law and order.”

rarely allow them to go live with grandparents. He deserves a job that will enable him serve humanity in other capacities other than policing. It is my wish that God grants him a long, healthy life where we shall be visiting him to learn a thing or two, drinking from the real fountain of knowledge and wisdom he is. Enjoy your retirement, and kindly keep your doors open to us, who will keep calling and paying a courtesy call on you once in a while. .

The writer is the Managing Editor of Police Habari Magazine.

Serving with Wellness for 360–Degrees Impact



While institutions such as the Uganda Police and Uganda Prisons Service may have policies that support marriage and family relations for women in uniform, it is not easy to have the 360-degree impact everyone desires.

By Dr Annette Kirabira (PhD)

Norms that constrain the participation of women in policing will reinforce the belief that policing is ‘a man’s job’ (The Centre for Justice Studies and Innovations, 2021). With this in mind, women in the police force might not get as much support to promote impact in all aspects of their lives; after all, they chose a role that’s not suited to them, so some argue.

Social norms, particularly those that define policing as a masculine pursuit, give rise to certain expectations in respect of women in terms of work and community life. In our Ugandan society, patriarchy

still defines social relationships between men and women, girls and boys. Similarly, the power relations between women and men stifle women’s choices, especially with statements such as: ‘not many men would want to marry a police officer.’

It is these stereotypes that shape the way in which individuals interact with one another (The Centre for Justice Studies and Innovations, 2021). Despite these barriers, more women are climbing the ranks in Africa (UN Women Newsletter, 2016), which is proof that they can thrive and become self-actualised; having the 360–degrees impact most desired.

Some tips on maintaining healthy balance for 360-degree impact include, but are not limited to, the following listed below:

- ◆ Strengthening unity to foster mutual support and shared

learning. To learn, unlearn, and re-learn makes one more effective; hence it prevents the numerous bottlenecks that result from struggles with one’s duties and roles.

- ◆ Seeking mentorship: the institution has a duty to put in place support networks and advocate strengthening policies that support the overall well-being of all, paying critical attention to the unique needs of female duty bearers.
- ◆ Breaking societal stereotypes so that women police officers can access more support, respect, and empathy in society. The lady officers have a pivotal role to play in this aspect by being exemplary and great performers in their roles.
- ◆ Encourage men to support women officers without putting the men on the defensive.

- ◆ Mindfully and strategically integrate women into the fabric of police leadership at all levels possible.
- ◆ Emphasise the importance of Work-Life Balance (WLB) by taking advantage of any time off and other services that may support work-life balance.

improves, and workers are likely derive satisfaction from their jobs.

- ◆ Set healthy boundaries; no one individual can be everything to everyone. Police work is a helping profession. However, police officers, more so, lady officers, must remember that

Should one feel overwhelmed, they should seek support from loved ones. To seek therapy is not a weakness but a strength that keeps one afloat.

- ◆ Practice self-care; prevention is better than cure. Therefore, practicing self-care will buffer one from the overwhelming



Have a mindset change that work can still continue with you off duty. Learn and practice delegation, take leave, and build trust among the rank and file.

- ◆ Prioritise your health and well-being; maximise rest time, exercise, eat a balanced diet, drink plenty of water, maintain physical and mental fitness, and pay attention to substance abuse. Leave a meaningful life.
- ◆ Manage your time effectively; the more organised an individual is, the more one minimises stress triggering activities. When time is well managed, productivity

they might not be in a position to do all the work at the same time, and so, should allow other officers to handle some work in the course of duty.

- ◆ Use your off-duty time wisely; do not self-sabotage, use rest time when provided, and do what you planned to do while off-duty well. The benefits are enormous.
- ◆ Build and maintain strong relationships; do not neglect family, friends, and colleagues in the name of work. Relationships are key to a thriving, impactful life.
- ◆ Seek help when needed; particularly do not stigmatise.

work load and conditions of work that come with the nature of the roles and duties of an officer.

Long shifts, daily exposure to trauma and stress, and strain on the family as a result can all add up to a poor state of mental health for police officers, but if the above tips are practiced, officers will notice great improvement, hence contributing to health and impact all round.

The writer is a counselling psychologist, teacher and CEO of Rahab (U), a local NGO.

Living a Life of Service



Yes! It was a visit by appointment to meet the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Rtd. Martins Okoth Ochola (Esq.) at the police headquarters in Naguru. For the first time, I was a little nervous! We went through various checkpoints and were even told to leave all our phones, including our car keys with his security detail at the office.

By Bwebare Nicholas

We were going to meet a very important person in the Uganda Police Force. From a waiting lounge, we were later told to move to his office. We cautiously walked there, and a cheerful smile from the IGP welcomed us as we also extended our calculated 'mean smiles' and formal greetings in a calm manner. A simple joke to his colleagues who had accompanied us, made us feel at 'office'. With such a humorous character that livened the mood around us, the first impression of him was made. He was in a relaxed mood while performing his duties. The IGP put aside what he was doing and listened to us. He gave us a moment to talk to him. The meeting was brief and to the point.



We later shook hands and left his office. I felt warm in my heart and appreciated my parents, who educated me to become a useful citizen. Many other people were waiting to walk into the office and meet him too.

The Rtd. Martins Okoth–Ochola (Esq.) lived a life of service. Most people considered him having a warm character, not snobbish, and an individual who preferred to stay away from the media. He was rarely



seen in public or at functions, and he diligently performed his duties. He created teams, delegated duties, and held each office accountable. He regularly contributed to writing in the *Habari Magazine* of the Uganda Police Force, which is a quarterly publication. Rtd. Martins Okoth-Ochola (Esq.) who served from March 4, 2018 to March 4, 2024, is credited with a number of achievements during his tenure of office. He was known for overseeing the Ugandan Police Force during a period of reform. He worked his way up the ranks, holding positions like Deputy IGP, Director of Criminal Investigations (CID), and various leadership roles within the police force. His legacy is based on the focus of professionalizing the police force, cracking down on corruption, and improving public trust. Ochola retired on March 4, 2024, after 36 years of service. He used his intellect to diligently serve the Uganda Police Force and help the institution improve its image, and make a positive impact on the police.

The former IGP, Rtd. Martins Okoth-Ochola (Esq.) embodied the Ugandan spirit of service throughout his distinguished

career. From the day he desired to join the police force at a young age, he seemingly felt a calling to serve his country. He joined the Uganda Police Force, rising through the ranks with dedication and integrity. Ochola was known for his unwavering commitment to professionalism. He Emphasised community policing, believing that trust between officers and citizens was vital for maintaining order. He championed officer training and implemented reforms to strengthen the force's

efficiency and transparency. His leadership style extended beyond police headquarters in Naguru. He actively participated in peace building initiatives, fostering dialogue and understanding within Uganda and beyond our borders. His tireless efforts earned him the respect of Ugandans from all walks of life and within the region.

After a long and illustrious career, the former IGP, Rtd. Martins Okoth Ochola (Esq.) retired, leaving behind a legacy of service. He transformed the Uganda Police Force, making it a more respected and effective institution. Even in retirement, he will remain a pillar of his community, offering guidance and mentorship to aspiring police officers. Rtd. Martins Okoth Ochola's life in the Uganda Police Force serves as an inspiration to all who value justice and service. He demonstrated a transformative power of dedication and the positive impact a leader can have on a nation. He was a man who lived a life of service!

The writer is an associate editor with Fountain Publishers, Kampala.



Life of a Female Cop in Uganda



I was commissioned to anchor one of those lavish, high-end weddings that called for tight security from different security agencies. As the designated emcee, I was subjected to thorough checks just in case I was harbouring Al Qaeda ideas. I noticed a lady cop sympathetically looking at me. I smiled at her, and she returned the smile with a motherly wave.

By Keneth Kimuli

As the wedding unfolded, I noticed the lady cop pacing around on the phone with her hand, demonstrating frustration. During the wedding dinner break, I chose to indulge her in a conversation, not to make her feel left out just because she's in uniform. I offered her a soft drink and kick started a chat about her accomplishments, future plans, and dream job, among others.

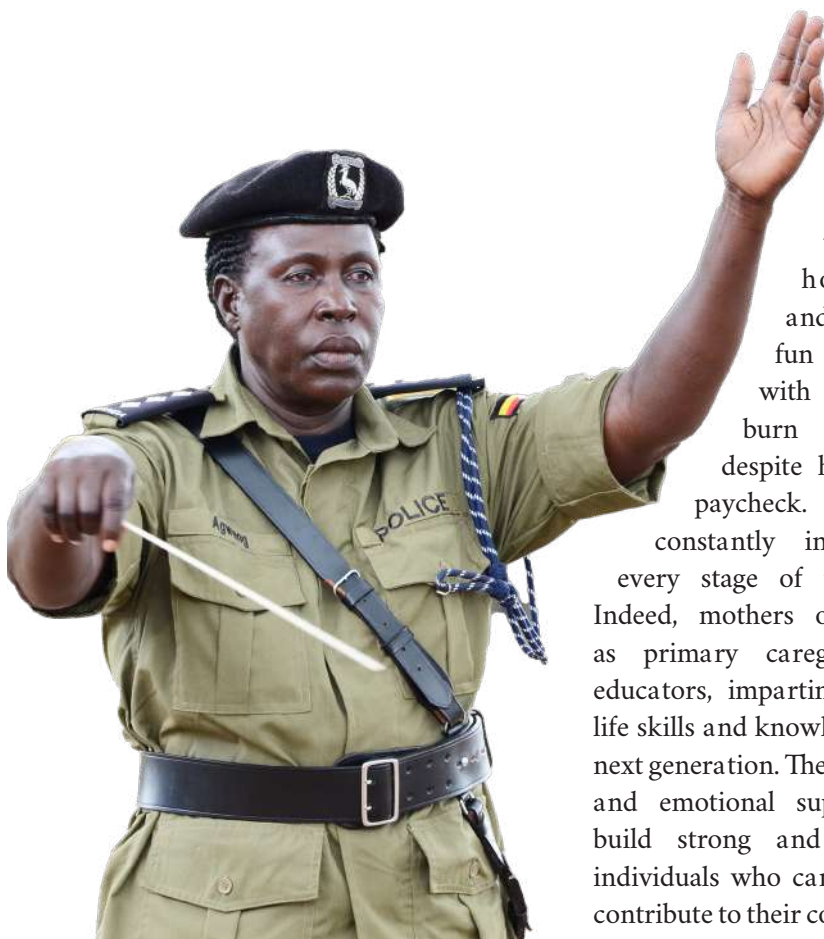
I was pleasantly surprised when she mentioned that she wants to be a cop for life, serving humanity. Some of her outstanding accomplishments included having a husband, two children, and several dependents. I was quick to

ask her how she managed to juggle her role, as a policewoman, mother, and wife. She wore a cheeky smile and confirmed that it was tough, but once in the kitchen, you stand the heat. I was curious to know what the husband does to earn a living and found out he was a junior staff member in one of the government ministries.

A police career may involve the officer walking the streets, keeping the peace, and apprehending lawbreakers. This exposes the cop to possibilities of violence, unnecessary media attention, stress, strict public scrutiny and public criticism. As for my newly found friend, her main challenge was marriage. The police

deployment that comes when least expected, sometimes throwing them far from home, jeopardises her conjugal expectations from her partner. The husband feels insecure because she is deployed with male officers, and he doesn't trust adrenaline in men when they are next to what our French brothers call, "*mademoiselles*". She has to constantly reassure him of his undying love to calm his fears. Trust has to be built between the two partners.

She confessed that she hardly has time for the children based on the job demands, but when the opportunity shows up, she maximises it by teaching them domestic chores,



helping them with homework, and going on fun outings with them to burn the steam despite her meager paycheck. She is constantly involved at every stage of their lives. Indeed, mothers often serve as primary caregivers and educators, imparting essential life skills and knowledge to the next generation. Their guidance and emotional support help build strong and confident individuals who can positively contribute to their communities and society at large.

I asked her what challenges she had so far faced in the

course of her career. She earnestly admitted that the job comes with a lot of stress, especially when dealing with complicated cases, and you have to go back home and pretend as if all is well. I have also noticed that a police career is a challenging and sometimes dangerous choice. It is not just writing out tickets or making traffic stops. The main responsibility of the police is to keep law and order and, as such, expect and train them on how to deal with stress.

It was time for me to return to my emceeding obligations. I begged to leave, but before I could step away, she casually asked me if I could marry a policewoman. I didn't have an immediate answer because they needed me to go and announce a car plate number that had blocked the bridal entourage from accessing their parking space.

Pablo is a Ugandan writer, published author, and television personality that loves clean comedy.

The Film Stars

By PC Yowasi Omadang



I once asked myself
How a rose flower
Manages to sit among thorns
And I consoled
Myself maybe,
It's
Through perseverance
and a positive life
And deaf ears to critics
With scorn.
It's
With utmost reverence
That great woman
In police tread on,
A homemaker is a peacemaker
A peacemaker is an arbitrator
And women police
Are goddesses
Of mediation
And
Godly policing.
Perhaps
You have never looked
At a woman police officer with low eyes,
And imagined
How she did her training,
You committed an offence
Whose best judge
Is beyond the firmament.
A film star
Who plays her script?
With courage
And spins the wheels
Of her home
Husband, children
And work with pressure
But throws none.
She who earns trust
Is a woman police of God
Whose efforts
Are watered to mature forever.
I've heard women in effecting arrest
Being equated to hares
For their intelligence
And cost effective means,
And this calls for one voice
To beef up more women
For
An efficient
And effective police..

The writer is a police officer working with FFU.

The “She” Era to Lead

By Abigail Muloki

By Abigail Muloki

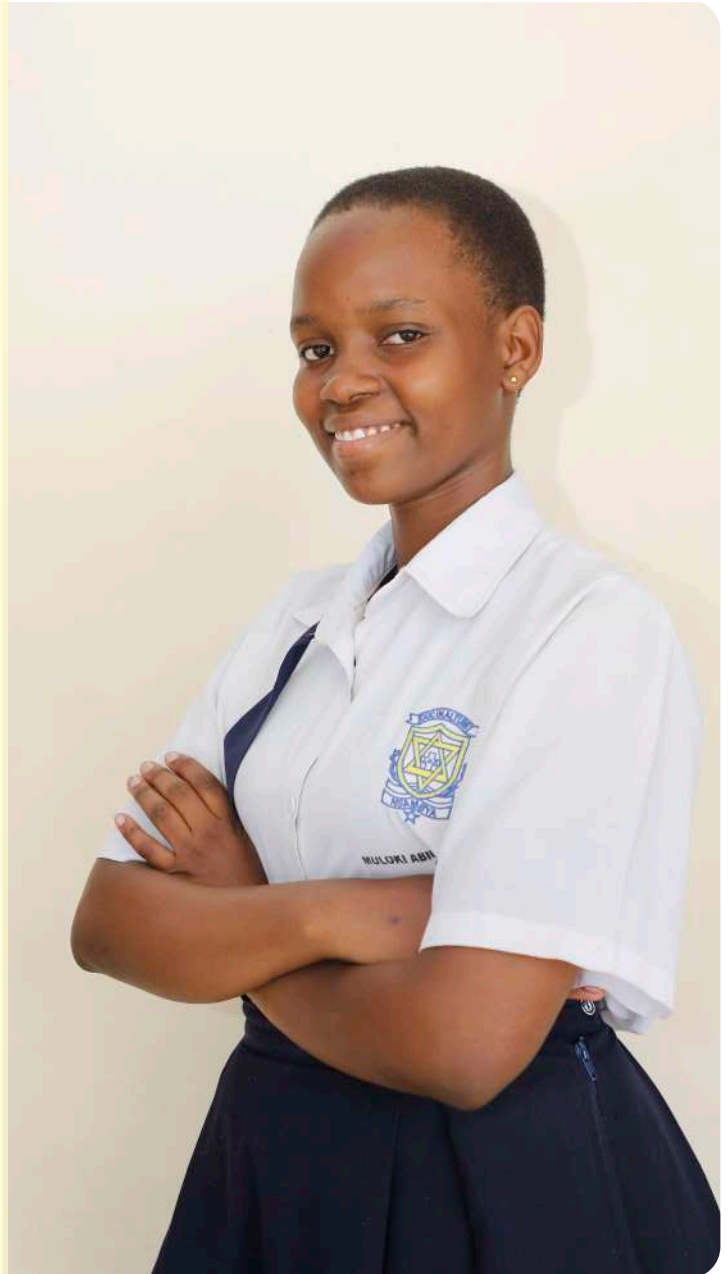
The days never to forget
 The days never to regret
 They once called her demeaning names
 They often said;
 She must be confined to the kitchen
 She was born to satisfy the groom

She took none of the above
 For she knew it was all stereotype
 They forgot the urge that they instilled in her
 The urge to plant a seed and water it to sprout
 The urge to fight for what is right,
 When they said that;

Only boys shall enjoy this, that, and more,
 Pushing her not to brag but to guarantee a fierce
 rebuttal to prove them wrong
 To remind them that she too can dare the status
 quo
 To reaffirm to them that she too can take the lead
 To confirm to them that she can confront the
 greatest intricacies of society
 To deliver a clear message that she can solve the
 puzzle

She is not mousy, not even clumsy
 She looks not at her freedom as a favour or a
 prospect
 She looks not for approval from her boy friend
 All she craves is a pint of respect
 She is the one in the lead, the girl to lead

Ms. Abigail Muloki loves poetry. She is a Form 3 student at St. Joseph's Nsambya Senior Secondary School.



Telling Truth to a Mountain

By Allan Nshimiy'Imana Rugayampunzi



If broken pieces of my mind
Find their way to you, in my skewed opinion
Don't mentally froth or cry from onion
For it is surely not my intention
To spread fake news for fake views
If my love for you is not constant
Coming in bits like a slow internet
Or resisting like an earlier protestant
Don't tick internally and boom all of a sudden
Take what's left of my pieces and carry your
burden

Poems may no longer sweetly rhyme
Songs have become mumbling mimes
Watches on the wrist but you cannot keep time
Honor and honesty are long gone
It is now nuclear arms in the hands of a stupid
man with a smart phone
Beggars share dirty streets with sweaty preachers
Schools declining to enroll children of their own
teachers
We cry more about the death of pet dogs
For Sudan the rhino and Rafiki the gorilla
While in South Sudan hungry children are harassed
by flies
In Bwindi, the forest is closed to hungry hunters
Constitutions are amended to ease the egos of
one man
But you still want George Floyd to rhyme with a
knee on his neck, mujooga!
Let us not confess our sins to pedophile priests
Don't declare your wealth to thieving auditors
Don't celebrate the birth or growth of your twins
(yes those other twins your Senga told you about)
Don't you bow down to kiss the shoes of false
prophets
And of all things,
Remember, the new world is a den of fangs.

The writer is a Police officer currently pursuing further studies at Moshi University in Tanzania.



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Tracking Ochola's Sporting Legacy in the Uganda Police Force



Sports have long been woven into the fabric of the Uganda Police Force. Gen. Kale Kayihura greatly promoted sports, and his successor, IGP Emeritus J.M. Okoth-Ochola carried forward the legacy and even grew it to greater heights. Ochola embarked on a journey to elevate sports within the force, leaving an incredible mark on its athletic landscape as he retired from his 36 years of policing, with 6 at the helm as IGP.

By CPL Bakari Mugah Bashir

Part of his everlasting legacy was the inception of the IGP Cup in March 2023. This tournament saw 16 police units compete against each other, vying for glory. So far, the 2024 edition is approaching the final bend, where Crime Intelligence Unit will lock horns with the Police Presidential Guard Unit.

The event serves as a platform to foster comradeship and foster unity among the rank and file. Teams from various regions do participate, which obviously amplifies the tournament, thereby showcasing its significance.

Central to the IGP Cup's mission was support for the Uganda Police Football Club, which competes in

the FUFA Big League, the second most-ranked league in Uganda's football landscape.

During Ochola's reign, the club managed to ascend to the top position, with aspirations of gaining promotion to the Uganda Premier League. Currently, it's at the top of the Big League with 37 points.

Beyond mere competition, Ochola recognised the broader impact of sports, nurturing a culture of fitness and talent development among police officers. Moreover, the inclusion of both police officers and civilians in the team not only promoted diversity, but also strengthened ties between the force and the community. We did not see

him on the pitch, but all our efforts had his brains and total support.

His unwavering commitment to the Police Football Club outside the field of play made the team a force to be reckoned with. At times of financial struggles, Ochola intervened, and previously, in the financial year 2022–2023 only, 370 million shillings was allocated to the club to clear arrears and ensure stability by instructing their inclusion on the payroll.

This great gesture alone not only illustrated Ochola's dedication to the club but also underscored his understanding of the role sports play in fostering community relations and morale within the force.



However, Ochola's vision extended far beyond football. Under his leadership, various sports within the force experienced a gradual acceleration and transformation, competing both nationally and internationally with remarkable success.

In the realm of athletics, the Police Athletic team, led by ASP Joshua Cheptegei, emerged as a force to be admired globally. At the 14th edition of the All African Games held in Accra, Ghana, in March 2024, the team showcased their prowess on the continental stage, bringing home prestige, pride, and honour.

Notable achievements included IP Chemutai Peruth's silver medal in the 3000m steeplechase and PC Lalam Josephine's bronze medal in javelin. These triumphs, coupled with the great performances of athletes such as ASP Joshua Cheptegei, IP Chelangat, PC Shida Leni, and Jacent Nyamahunde in field trucks, showed the

transformative impact of Ochola's admired leadership abilities on the horizon.

Crucial to the success of these athletes was the establishment of the Police Training Camp at Kapchorwa, providing a nurturing environment for young sportsmen and women to sharpen their skills. His support, encompassing financial assistance, the provision of necessities, and mentorship, laid a strong foundation for their achievements, propelling them onto the global stage.

Beyond football and athletics, Ochola's tenure witnessed a wave in participation and success across a spectrum of sports within the force. Disciplines such as taekwondo, netball, volleyball, judo, karate, boxing and handball flourished, contributing significantly to the national team and competing at various levels worldwide.

This diverse display of sporting talent showcased the multifaceted talents within the force but also

served as a testament to Ochola's inclusive and forward-thinking approach to sports development.

IGP Emeritus John Martins Okoth Ochola's legacy within the Uganda Police Force exceeds mere law enforcement but is a landmark in sports history.

Through his visionary leadership, he not only elevated the stature of sports within the force but also fostered a culture of excellence, inclusivity, and community engagement.

As he bowed out with a wide smile rarely seen in his policing career, Ochola left behind a legacy that will continue to inspire and empower generations of police officers, athletes, and communities alike. I trust that the next IGP, pretty much like him, will find this as a strong foundation unto which to boost sports in the UPF.

The writer is a sports enthusiast currently at PTS Kabalye for further training.

Exodus SACCO Keeps the Growth Curve High



“We all need to recognize that the mindset and attitudes of the members towards **saving, borrowing, and investment** determine the extent to which **Exodus SACCO** can achieve its mandate.

SCP Dr. Omoding Wilson Otuna
Board Chairperson

2023 Leadership Insights THE PERFORMANCE:

Registered Members

41,713

Member's Share Capital

Ugx. **14.22bn**

Up from Ugx. 9.44bn

Net Surplus

Ugx. **4.96bn**

Up from Ugx. 1.99bn

Loan Portfolio

Ugx. **50.20bn**

Up from Ugx. 30.92bn

Total Assets

Ugx. **70.76bn**

Up from Ugx. 59.56bn

Total Operating Income

Ugx. **9.48bn**

Up from Ugx. 6.98bn