



UPDF BOSS ARRESTED IN MAK SAGA

BY CHARLES ETUKURI

Complaints of brutal torture from both the students and the international community prompted the Uganda People's Defence Forces to arrest Capt. Ronald Lubeera of the Military Police, who was in charge of the operation to quell riots, *Sunday Vision* has learnt.

Senior security sources said several delegations had reported the brutality occasioned on the students by the army to President Yoweri Museveni, who ordered the immediate withdrawal of the army on Tuesday. The army and Police stormed the university after students went on strike last week, protesting a 15% increment in tuition fees.

On Friday, army spokesperson Richard Karemire confirmed the arrest, but declined to discuss details.

"Lubeera has been arrested and detained at Makindye. He commanded the troops in Makerere. A board of inquiry led by Lt Col Richard Ochen Okum has been set up to establish details of what happened and findings will guide the next course of action," Karemire stated in a statement.

Last Friday, the deputy army spokesperson, Lt Col Deo Akiiki Asiimwe, confirmed to *Saturday Vision* that some elements of military Police were part of the different security agencies supporting the Police to restore sanity at the institution.

"A night destructive move by students was thwarted by joint security and a lot was saved. Minimum force was applied in most cases, where the organisers of the night attack proved violent and started attacking the forces. Students and the general public should desist from attempting to violently attack security. It is a deadly move and criminal," Akiiki said.

Among those who condemned the violence included the US Embassy in Uganda, which on Wednesday noted it was concerned about the violence in Makerere University.

The European Union also on Friday issued a statement condemning the brutality against students and journalists at Makerere University. The EU said the Police and army must refrain from acts of violence and respect freedom of assembly and expression.

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