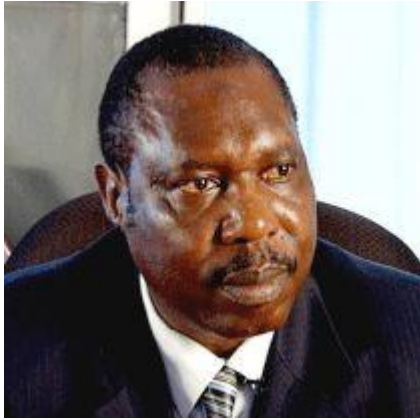




Voices from the Rwanda Tribunal

Official Transcript: Saidou Guindo (Part 7 of 8)



Role:	Detention Warden
Country of Origin:	Mali
Interview Date:	16 October 2008
Location:	Arusha, Tanzania
Interviewers:	Donald J Horowitz Lisa P. Nathan
Videographers:	Max Andrews Nell Carden Grey
Interpreter:	None

Interview Summary

Saidou Guindo discusses the detention facilities used to house those accused and indicted by the ICTR in Arusha. He describes instances where inmates went on hunger strikes in protest against decisions taken by the Tribunal. Guindo also comments on the common critique that the ICTR detention facilities are far more comfortable than those in Rwanda that house people indicted for lesser offenses. Guindo asserts that the ICTR has a duty to meet the minimum detention standards guaranteed under international law.

The transcript of Part 7 begins on the following page.

Part 7

- 00:00** Lisa P. Nathan: So you were saying that many of your staff are being, have been recruited or are being recruited to go to other co-, to other detention and prisons.
- 00:09 Yeah. Yeah.
- 00:10** LPN: So what do you do here or what do you recommend to others as they train their staff? Can you think of a few things that you would like others in this role to know about doing the job?
- 00:26 Experience, how to deal – how to communicate with the detainees. How to deal with this kind of detainees, because, you know, in, generally on national level we don't have – we don't deal with these kind of prisoners or detainees; well-educated. We have a different category; you have thieves, you have criminals, some kind of criminals and then it's totally different.
- 01:02 But here you have people who are involved on political matters and then because of the way they handle issues it went in to, to, to the massacre, ma-, massacres; genocide. Yeah.
- 01:21** LPN: Yeah.
- 01:25 And those, those staff who are going there they don't have problem how to, to, to deal, to, to, to, what they say, to manage these kinds of persons. That's why they're recruited. Every time they apply they're, they are now recruited.
- 01:45 And the feedback we are receiving are really encouraging and good. Because I'm very firm with them; I show them what supposed to be done, what's not supposed to be done. Which type of conduct they're supposed to, to, to have, which type of conduct they're su-, not supposed to have, and if they are, at the beginning when I was very firm with the detainees when I came, they were scared.
- 02:12 So what happens? Because some of them at the beginning when they had a problem with the detainee, (_____) just write a letter, "We don't want to see these security officers here." And then they remove them.
- 02:24 I said, "No, you had a problem. If one of them here, they say, 'Ah we don't want.' They did everything; they wrote a letter, group letter they don't want my team of operations to be here," I said, "No, you stay here."
- 02:38 It is not up to a detainee to ask a, a staff to be removed, no. Since that time, they understand that they are dealing with somebody or some people who are really – knows their duty.
- 02:59** LPN: So big clarity there.

03:01 Yeah, because when I came here they even start writing, “Oh, we give him six months. After six months we are going to kick him out.” They say, yeah, we have those letters here, written by detainees. But I’m now here almost, we’re here almost ten years now.