

- FDLR -
FORCES DEMOCRATIQUES DE LIBERATION DU RWANDA
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**THE FDLR CONDEMN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF AID-WORKERS IN
EASTERN DRC**

According to international news agencies citing MONUC officials in Kinshasa on Thursday August 7, 2003, eleven aid workers associated with the British NGO Tearfund and believed to have been abducted by Rwandan and Burundian rebels in an Eastern Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (RDC) have been killed.

The Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR) condemn any kidnapping and killing of innocent civilians. Hence, the FDLR condemn the killings of the eleven aid workers and ask the MONUC to conduct a thorough and objective investigation to find the culprits and bring them to justice.

However, according to reliable information the FDLR received from Kinshasa, the statement made by MONUC officials was not based on any facts, and were issued following affirmations from local sources. No inquiry was conducted, and so far, the whereabouts of the kidnapped aid workers is not known and no bodies were found, to make these grave accusations against Burundian and Rwandan rebels.

The FDLR take this opportunity to ask the MONUC and other organizations involved in the DRC to abstain from making unsubstantiated claims and accusations which may inflame an already explosive situation.

Augustin Dukuze, Ph.D.
Information Commissioner and Spokesperson

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