



Weekly Report

Democratic Republic of the Congo

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MAY 3 - 8, 2014

- 1** DRC Court Clears the Majority of Soldiers of Rape
- 2** US Secretary of State Arrives in the DRC

DRC Court Clears the Majority of Soldiers of Rape

- After the largest rape trial in DRC's history, only 2 of 39 government soldiers were convicted by a military court.
- The trial related to the alleged mass rapes of 130 women by 39 soldiers in the DRC's eastern South Kivu province.
- Convictions for rape in the DRC are extremely rare and prosecuting the soldiers was a step forward in combating sexual violence.
- Source: Aljazeera

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/05/drc-court-clears-soldiers-rape-murder-201455133937482573.html>

"The biggest rape trial in the history of the Democratic Republic of Congo has delivered just two guilty verdicts against government soldiers."

US Secretary of State Arrives in the DRC

- John Kerry, US Secretary of State, arrived in Kinshasa on May 03, 2014 to meet with DRC President Joseph Kabila and discuss recent security gains.
- Kerry said that the "Obama administration is committed to helping African leaders resolve conflicts that threaten economic growth and social development."
- Source: Voice of America

<http://www.voanews.com/content/kerry-vows-continued-us-support-for-resolving-african-conflicts-/1906801.html>