Uganda Police News

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On Saturday morning, intelligence personnel and police raided the offices of The Independent newsmagazine in Kamwokya and arrested Managing Editor Andrew Mwenda and Consulting Editor Odoobo Bichachi for alleged sedition. Sunday Monitor photojournalist Joseph Kiggundu, who was taking pictures of the raid on The Independent offices, was not spared either. He was manhandled, beaten up, blindfolded and driven away in a very humiliating manner. The security personnel first raided Mwenda's home in Kololo in search of seditious material. He was manhandled, handcuffed and bundled into a security car. Several editors of the independent press such as Daily Monitor and Weekly Observer are already making endless trips to CID headquarters and court for interrogation or trial on diverse charges ranging from sedition to promoting sectarianism. All lovers of press freedom must come together to condemn such callous brutality of the police against harmless journalists. As we mark the Press Freedom Day on May 3, these are the issues we must reflect upon.