

The General retirement

General, are you retired?

"Yes, I am. What's my retirement? It's to continue the battle in another way. The fight against idleness, absence, disconnection, and non-participation; managing to not become negative minded, remaining useful to my country and other countries, by sharing the acquired expertise and experience during my career. The younger generations need it. In fact, as long as the brain functions and the legs follow... forward, the rate can change."

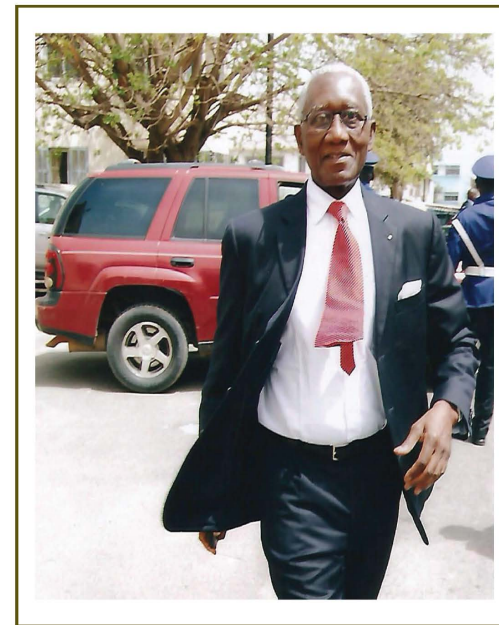
Thus, General Lamine Cissé never rests, he has always something to do, sometimes even late in the night. And he is often consulted, here and elsewhere. Three days after the outbreak of the crisis in Mali, he has spoken in these terms, in "African Democracy No. 12, April 2012": "...

We must bear in mind and insist that the Sahel-Saharan strip doesn't only include the four countries of Mali, Niger, Mauritania and Algeria, but it also spreads on the Atlantic (Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry) to the boundaries of Darfur.

The unfortunate action of the Malian military groups hasn't not only accelerated the occupation of a part of the territory of Mali by the Tuareg of Azawad, but it has simultaneously allowed the Al Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) to put a firm foot in the 'Sahel region, either directly or by proxy wars; in other words terrorism can set in, openly and by force in all the Sahel strip countries."

In another section on Mali, he said "... identity claims take often a lot of time to find definitive solutions. The most important is to silence the weapons: after that, everything becomes possible! Then, let's keep on trusting the local and international stakeholders, in order to maintain the interest and willingness of helping one another at a highest level. The most important is that the Malian people, including all ethnic groups, can meet and show their commitment to the path of tolerance and national reconciliation."

Besides, he talked about the difficulties of African countries in these terms: "The resolution of infrastructure issues and social needs is concomitant to strategic issues. The challenge for African leaders is mainly to achieve leading the fight on both fronts." Last November, he said, in the magazine "Magazine de l'Afrique, November 2015 N° 45", with regard to African diplomacy of France "France does not intend to Gendarmerie; the paradigms of a French military intervention in Africa, including in its former colonies,



have totally changed. However, if the vital interests of France were to be affected, it is possible that France reacts to the new situation and there would be a change of perspectives." It is on the basis of this awesome career through which General Lamine Cissé has accomplished a great job, for a better cooperation between civilian and military and a more inclusive approach related to the national and international security, that this brief biography is written to pay tribute to him.

His decorations

General of the Army Corps, Lamine Cissé holds the following decorations, among others:

- ▶ Grand Cross of the National Order of the Lion (Senegal);
- ▶ Grand Cross of the Order of Merit (Senegal);
- ▶ Officer of the French Legion of Honor;
- ▶ Grand Officer of the French Order of Merit;
- ▶ Grand Officer of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta;
- ▶ National Order of Nigeria.

*Cette plaquette a été initiée par Dr Adjaratou Wakha Aidara Ndiaye,
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Général Lamine Cissé Security, achievement of life



Godfather presentation

Chairman of the Board of Partners West Africa - Senegal.

Native of Sokone, General Lamine Cissé is an eminent senior officer in the barracks, very distinguished and highly respected in diplomatic and political circles.

He graduated from some renowned military schools such as Saint - Cyr. General Cissé brilliantly succeeded in a remarkable professional career crowned by the title of a General Chief Staff of the Army in 1996."

After his military retirement, he was appointed as Minister of the Interior. He organized peacefully in 2000, the elections which led to the first political democratic change in Senegal. His high sense of responsibility, his diplomatic skills and his humanity allowed him to be appealed by other countries. The international community has entrusted to him several sensitive issues that he has successfully piloted.

General Lamine Cissé was given several national and international awards, including the French Legion of Honor after the release of a French hostage and "Le Grand Croix de l'Ordre National du Lion" in Senegal.

General Cissé graduated from the Specialized Military School of Saint - Cyr in France in 1963 as a Second- Lieutenant. After some stays in troop corps, he was the Observers Contingent Leader to supervise the ceasefire between the front Liberation MORO and the Philippine government during the term of the President Ferdinand MARCOS, from 1976 to 1978.

This mission had allowed him to travel around many Southeastern countries of Asia. Thanks to both military and diplomatic actions, that he conducted with courage, strength and delicacy, in the jungle of southern Philippines (Mindanao), he was granted with the award of Knight of the Legion of Honor, a decoration given by France, in Camp des Loges, with the presence of the Troop Front in 1979. One of his old army friends from Saint-Cyr told us that, that was the first Legion of Honor of all their Bir Hakeim Promotion.

General Cissé took part in the drafting of additional protocols of the Agreement on Non Aggression and Assistance in Defense (ANAD), which was connecting the former African States Community of west (ECOWAS) since 1979; he also took part in the drafting of the Defense of ECOWAS original pact, which led to the creation of ECOMOG.

After leading the École Polytechnique in the city of Thiès, where he was the military site Commander, he was appointed, from 1987 to 1991, as the Director of Public Security, in the Ministry of Interior. He had direct command over the Public Safety Commissions, the Mobile and Intervention Squad, (MIS) and the Polyvalent Intervention Brigade (PIB). During this period, a part of the Gendarmerie was placed under his responsibility for six months.

After his brilliant career at the Ministry of Interior, General Cissé was sent to the United States of America at the National University of Defense in Washington DC where he graduated from, in June 1993 with the diplomas of the US National War College (NWC) and US Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF).

Promoted as a Brigade General on July 1st, 1993, he was appointed as a General Inspector of the Armed Forces. Thanks to this mission , the operational aptitude of all units of the Army and National Gendarmerie, including the smallest brigades inside and outside of Senegal, were checked by him, for three (03) years ; after each mission, a report was drawn up for the attention of the President of Republic.

From July 7th, 1996 to December 31st 1997, General Lamine Cissé was appointed as the Chief of General Staff of the Army. He was focusing on many



issues, referring to his former positions as Director of Public Security, assuring the security of the populations at the borders, particularly around the Falémé, which consists of Mali, Senegal and Mauritania.

This area was terrorized by robbers who plundered the populations by confiscating their livestock and properties. So he brought his Mauritanian and Malian counterparts to set up together a security policy of proximity.

The three countries were able to exchange on legal procedures related to cross-border insecurity and they significantly increase the staffing of the border brigades. Following this initiative, a military maneuver, limited to these three countries and circumscribed in the area, was implemented to complete this population security operation.

General Cissé persuaded the political authorities that there was no inconsistency between the French RECAP (African capacity of building peace) and the American ACRI (African Crisis Response Initiative), which were succeeded by ACOTA (African Contingency Operations Training and Assistance) in 2014.

ACOTA is still operational. Through these successful initiatives which highlighted the use of those operations for the populations, General Cissé, CEMGA, had then secretly and with care facilitated the adoption of a new approach related to the French and Senegalese maneuvers which are now international operations, with the involvement of other countries: this shows opening up.

Thus, the maneuvers of this kind started under his supervision and the first one was the Senegalese French one of GUIDIMAKA, which was involving other countries, in 1998 with 4 African and 4 non-African countries, including France; during the maneuver end defile in 1998, in Bakel (Senegal), ten foreign flags marched behind the Senegalese flag and its guards.

The same year (1998), France introduced the RECAP concept to Africans in Louvre (France). GUIDIMAKA achieved the expected success because six years later, in 2004, 16 African and 12 non-African countries partook in the RECAP trainings, with 21 countries that were contributors.

Nowadays, the American ACOTA manifests itself throughout the Flintlock trainings including the 2016 one, the most importantly ever well-organized one. It is on process in Senegal and will end on February 29th.

General Lamine Cissé also went through a national and international career

From January 15th, 1998 to the April 1st, 2000, General Lamine Cissé was the Senegalese Minister of Interior. As such, he organized the Parliamentary elections in 1998, the senatorial elections in 1999 and the presidential ones in 2000 , which established the first democratic transition in Senegal; It was also the first time that Senegal had experienced a 2nd round and a 40 years regime left the power after some fair and bloodless elections.

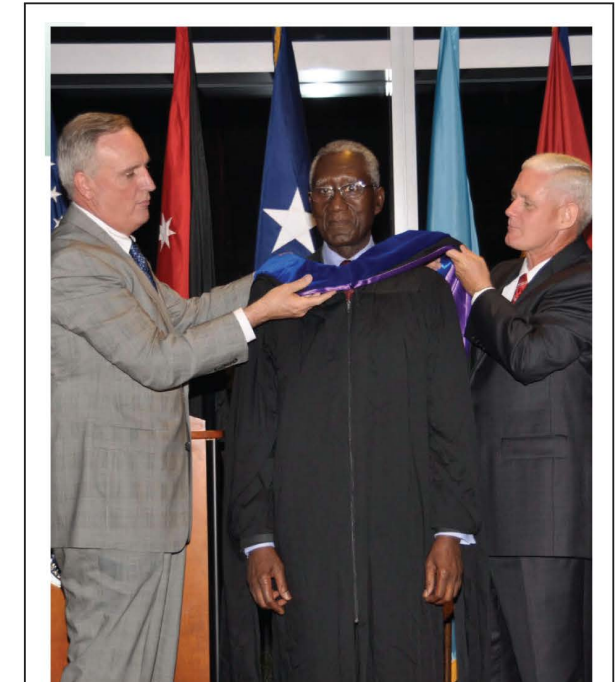
From 2001 to 2007, he was appointed as a Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General in the Central African Republic, and Head of the United Nations Office in Central Africa (BONUCA).

From 2007 to 2008, General Cissé was the Special Representative of the United Nations in Dakar for West Africa, and Head of the United Nation for West Africa (UNOWA), based in Dakar. In the framework of that mission, and as the president of the Cameroon / Nigeria commission for the border dispute in the Bakassi, he had to oversee the final signing of the delineation of the maritime boundary in this archipelago.

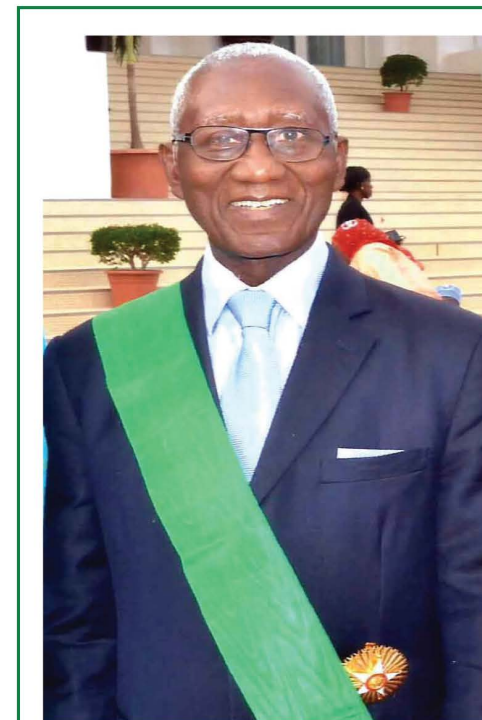
In 2010, General Cissé was the Special Envoy of ECOWAS in Guinea to assess the security system after the reformed sector in that country.

In 2011 he was appointed as the United Nations Coordinator for the Guinea Security Sector Reform.

What a coincidence! That is to say, that the Senegalese GUIDIMAKA, launched by the CEMGA General Cissé, was actually very convincing and a great success.



His distinctions



General Cissé was the first Senegalese admitted to the Hall of Fame of the US Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1997, and the first African admitted to the Hall of Fame of the National Defense University, Washington DC in 2004.

He won the Visionary Award given by Africa's Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS) Washington DC in 2008 after Alpha Oumar Konaré, the former President of Mali, in 2006 and Mrs Graça Simbine, wife of Nelson Mandela, in 2007.

General Cissé is the first non-American Honoris Causa from the University of National Defense US, Washington DC in 2010. When asked how he reached this exceptional distinction, he humbly replied, "they have their criteria, but what is important is that other African and other Senegalese are able to benefit from this honor".

He is a member of the 'International Security Sector Advisory Team' (ISSAT) which is a branch of the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) in Geneva. He is also a member of the African Security Sector Network (ASSN).

General Lamine Cissé is the Founding President of the International Observatory of Democracy and the Crisis Management and Conflict (OIDE).

He is the President of the France National Order of Merit Senegalese Association. General Cissé is the President of the Senegalese Association of Africa's Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS).