

General denies role in coup attempt

A Burkino Faso general last week denied leading a 2015 coup attempt in the West African state. **'I neither ordered, nor planned, nor organised, nor executed what some people are calling a *coup d'etat* on 16 September 2015,'** Gilbert Diendere told a military court in the capital Ouagadougou. A report on the [News24](#) site notes that Diendere is the former head of the elite Presidential Security Regiment that guarded President Blaise Compaore, who was ousted in a popular uprising in 2014. Compaore ruled the former French colony for 27 years after coming to power after a military coup. Diendere is charged with treason, murder and threatening state security.