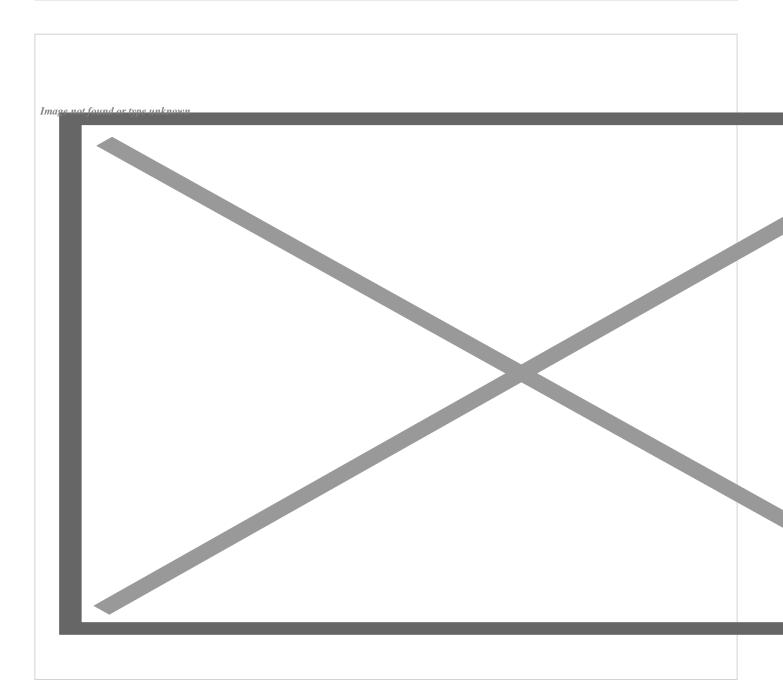
Gabon coup leaders say deposed leader Ali Bongo has been freed from house arrest



Libreville, September 7 (RHC)-- In Gabon, leaders of last week's coup said Wednesday ousted President Ali Bongo has been released from house arrest and is free to seek medical care abroad.

Col. Ulrich Manfoumbi Manfoumbi: "The former president of the republic, Ali Bongo Ondimba, is free to move about. He may, if he wishes, travel abroad for medical checkups."

Ali Bongo suffered a stroke five years ago that left him partially paralyzed. Members of his family, including his wife and son, remain under house arrest. They're accused of "high treason" for looting Gabon's treasury and enriching themselves at the expense of the country.

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