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UNAMIR  
26 SEP 94

UNITED NATIONS  
ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA

NATIONS UNIES  
MISSION D'ASSISTANCE AU RWANDA

OUTGOING FAX NO. 2002

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*for Haddow Lt Col RM*

TO: MR ANNAN DPKO	FROM: NGEN TOUSIGNANT FORCE COMMANDER UNAMIR, KIGALI
ATTN:	DATE: 26 SEP 94
FAX NO: 212-963-9222	PHONE: 1 212 963 3092
INFO: INTERNAL: ED, CPAO.	FAX NO: 1 212 963 3090
FAX NO: <i>MIR-1904</i>	DRAFTED BY: Lt Col Haddow MA to FC
SUBJECT: <u>RWANDAN GOVT STATEMENTS FOLLOWING GERSONY REVELATIONS</u>	
REFERENCE: TELECON TOUSIGNANT/ANNAN OF 26 SEP.	

1. ATTACHED IS:

A. A JOINT STATEMENT BY COL MUGAMBAGE AND MS NYINAWUKWANI,  
WHICH FORMS THE RWANDAN GOVT'S POSITION ON RECENT  
REVELATIONS.

B. A TRANSCRIPT OF THE DAILY RADIO RWANDA REPORT COVERING  
MATERIAL BROADCAST ON 25 SEP 94.

2. PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

3. BEST REGARDS.

*RC/9*  
*Mr. Aime*  
*Col: Mr. Correll*  
*Mr. Goulding*  
*Mr. Hansen*  
*Mr. Gharekhan*  
*Mr. Rize*  
*Mr. Annabi*

From : ~~SECRET~~  
To : BYL OFFICE

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25th September 1994

**STATEMENT ON THE QUESTION OF REFUGEES AND SECURITY IN RWANDA**

Following the April genocide and the resumption of war in April 1994 over a million Rwandese ran to neighbouring countries. Given that we already had over one million Rwandese living in exile for 3 1/2 decades, the refugee problem acquired an unprecedented dimension.

In order to explain properly the current nature of the refugee problem in our country, we wish to inform the International Community that the latest wave of refugees which began in April 1994 was a result of a number of factors, and the refugees themselves fall into different categories.

- The first category includes the criminals who had committed the genocide and feared being brought to justice by the new government.
- The second category of refugees includes those innocent people who were confused by the propaganda of the criminal clique and were actually intimidated and coerced into running away to exile.
- The third category includes the people who genuinely ran away, because the situation in the country was highly volatile.

When the genocide started in April this year the RPF took up arms to remove from power the criminal elements that were responsible for the holocaust.

This was accomplished in July this year and the Broadbased Government of National Unity was installed. Since then Peace and Security have returned to the country.

It has been a major pre-occupation of the Government to see to it that all Rwandese Refugees return to their country. To this end a number of steps have been taken including the following:

- \* Committees have been set up to facilitate the return of refugees. Such committees include the Crisis Committee in Gishyamba and the Zaire - Rwandais Inter-Governmental Committee.
- \* There have been meetings between Rwandese and Zairean Local Administration Officials on both sides of the border. Similar meetings have also taken place on the Rwanda-Tanzania border.

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- High Ranking Government Officials have made visits around the Country, meeting people and encouraging them to settle down and invite their friends and relatives still in exile to return.
- High Ranking Government Officials have visited neighbouring and other countries requesting them to assist in the repatriation of refugees.
- The National Radio has from time to time broadcast messages inviting all Rwandese refugees to return home.

Unfortunately these efforts have been frustrated by a number of forces:

- Criminal elements from the last regime who are now living in refugee camps in neighbouring countries intimidate and coerce Rwandese refugees to prevent them from returning home. These criminal elements use all means including killing those who insist on returning home. They also use propaganda and misinformation, alleging that there is insecurity in the country and that they shall be killed on return.
- Some members of the International Community frustrate the efforts of the Government by indulging in propaganda and misinformation, making unfounded allegations.
- There is evident reluctance by the International Community to set up the International Tribunal to expose and punish the criminals who are still at large. This is tantamount to diluting the question of genocide that was committed in Rwanda.
- There is also irresponsible reporting through the Media that encourage divisive mentalities among the Rwandese along "ethnic" lines.

We categorically deny the following unfounded allegations made by the Officials of the USHCR:

- (1) That there is systematic and organised killings by the Government causing insecurity in the county.
- (2) That there is mass exodus of people fleeing the country to neighbouring Tanzania.
- (3) That refugees do not return due to the alleged insecurity in the county.

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REALITIES ON THE GROUND

- All refugees still outside the country wish to return home except the criminal clique that masterminded the genocide. Many returnees testify to this fact and also tell of horror stories of militias and former RGF who harass the refugees and almost make it impossible for them to return. The truth is that the refugees are hindered from returning due to this harassment prevailing in camps in the countries of asylum.
- There is no exodus of people from Rwanda to Tanzania. What is actually happening is that some refugees are crossing from Burundi to Tanzania because of the apparent insecurity in Burundi. There are also systematic movements of refugees from Zaire to Tanzania with hostile intentions of destabilising the Government of Rwanda. A few cases are reported where militias infiltrate inside Rwanda either to collect their families or coerce some people to join them outside the country.
- The Rwanda Government is transparent, Aid agencies and International Radio work and move freely throughout the country. We are open to International Human Rights Observers and there is a UNAMIR force deployed in all parts of the country. Surely, no significant incidences can take place without being noticed and reported in an objective manner.

We request the International Community to reinforce Government efforts by:

- Ensuring that all aid earmarked for Rwanda is directed inside the country. The resulting improvement in welfare shall encourage refugees to return and help those who have already returned to stabilise.
- Committing funds to Government so as to improve its efficiency, and capacity to implement programmes.
- Setting up as soon as possible the International tribunal that shall try the criminals.
- Giving factual and objective information on Rwanda.
- Desisting from any acts that may frustrate the efforts of the new Broadbased Government of National Unity.

In particular we would like to express our disappointment about the manner in which UNHCR has handled itself vis-a-vis the problems in our country.

- At the height of the genocide in April May this year UNHCR Officials dared make a false report that RPF forces were responsible for the genocide. Yet the whole world witnessed the MRND-CDR militias and former RGF butchering innocent

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people in broad daylight.

- The UNHCR accepted and widely publicized false reports by MRND-CDR militias in the refugee camp in NGARA, TANZANIA, which alleged that RPF forces had killed people at a Church in Kibungo. When these reports were cross-checked by the U.S. Committee for Refugees and by Independent journalists they were found to be false. The dead bodies alleged to be the work of RPF were proved to have died long before RPF appeared in the area.
- In the "French free zone" in the South West of the country UNHCR Officials encouraged the people to run to Zaire lest they be killed by RPF forces when the French forces left. When no such killings occurred when the RPF came in, the UNHCR Officials were markedly disappointed.
- UNHCR reported bodies in Akagera river in early September reportedly as a result of Government atrocities. Following this, the President made a week long verification tour in areas along the river and did not come across a single body in the river.
- At the same time it is very surprising to see that in the existing refugee camps in neighbouring countries the administrative structures are still in the hands of the known militias yet UNHCR overlooks and pays these administrators highly. This discourages the refugees to return.

The above cases raise suspicions that UNHCR could be having other motives not yet known to us. Otherwise how does one explain their continued baseless and unfounded allegations up to this day.

The Rwanda Government re-affirms its commitment to providing peace and security and to encourage the refugees to return home, since it is their right.

Signed by: COL. Frank MUGAMBAGE  
for MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

: MS Christine UMUTONI NYINAWUBWAMI  
for MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION  
AND SOCIAL RE-INTEGRATION

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DAILY REPORT ON RADIO RWANDA PROGRAMMES

Kigali, 26 Sept.94 - Professor Jean Pierre Chretien, a French historian and researcher in a delegation together with members of Reporters Sans Frontières, Sunday ended their mission of investigations in Rwanda. Their mission was aimed at analysing the conduct of the press and its responsibility in the massacres in Rwanda. In his interview with Radio Rwanda, Professor Chretien advised investigators and reporters on Rwanda to study first of all the history of Rwanda. He pointed out that what has recently happened in Rwanda is a genocide because Tutsis were killed just because of their ethnic origin and Hutus for being just "Total collaborators". He also confirmed the responsibility of RTLM (Radio Television libre Des Mille Collines) and Kangura newspaper in the ethnic massacres.

Kigali, 26 Sept.94 - President Pasteur Bizimungu of Rwanda Sunday received in audience for talks the UNHCR representative in Rwanda and UNAMIR force commander NGEN Guy Toussignant and their subject of discussions was the recent UNHCR report on the alleged massacres by government soldiers on Hutu returning refugees, said Sunday Radio Rwanda quoting a press communique from the President's office.

President Bizimungu expressed surprise that an inquiry was carried out by UNHCR on Rwandan soil without the knowledge of the government of Rwanda. Ngen Toussignant declared that UNAMIR has no knowledge of the reports of killings. The UNHCR representative denied the existence of a report by UNHCR workers alleging that government soldiers have been harassing and killing returning refugees, and said that he was not aware of the report.

In the 20 hours news bulletin, the journalist on Radio Rwanda strongly attacks UNHCR wondering "why the UNHCR did not give the report to Rwandan government and preferred to hand it rather to international media". He underlined what he called "UNHCR's traditional bias against the RPF and even the close collaboration between UNHCR workers and Interahamwe militias in Zaire and Tanzania".

Kigali, 26 Sept.94 - In a programme entitled "Programme on Armed forces" on Sunday at 19:30, Colonel Frank Mugambage, in charge of discipline and political education in the office of the army chief of staff faces questions of a journalist on the alleged misconduct of armed forces.

Colonel Mugabage admits " the existence of some abuses ". He says that an office has now been opened in Kigali military camp to deal with the problems arising between soldiers and civilians. On the question of soldiers who have occupied houses of civilians by force or chase civilians from their homes, Colonel Mugabage admits the existence of increasing conflicts between soldiers and civilians and even between civilians themselves on the problem of occupation of houses but underlines that the problem is exaggerated and much is propaganda to tarnish the reputation of the ruling government. On reports of murders allegedly carried out by government soldiers on returning refugees, Colonel Mugabage says that all is the propaganda carried by exiled government officials.

Colonel Mugabage strongly criticizes UNHCR which " has been for long conducting an anti-RPF campaign e.g before and during the war, saying that the RPF was carrying out massacres. e.g in the former French security zone, the UNHCR predicted mass exodus with the departure of French troops but the exodus did not take place."

Colonel Mugabage also says that " UNAMIR and MCO's operating in Rwanda never reported killings by RPF soldiers but UNHCR reports killings without providing facts or evidence". " Anybody who makes accusations should bring evidence". Those who fled the country have supporters everywhere even in international organizations which relay their propaganda". " I affirm that no killings were carried out by government soldiers".

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