

RELEASED

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

8 April 1994

Dear Mr. President,

The members of the Security Council are aware of the tragic situation in Rwanda, and have been kept informed of the reports being received from my Special Representative and the Force Commander of UNAMIR.

UNAMIR is engaged in intensive efforts to secure agreement on a cease-fire in Kigali, and to promote the establishment of an interim political authority to fill the present vacuum until some normality can be restored. Unfortunately, so far these efforts have been unsuccessful, but are continuing.

The Security Council, in the Presidential Statement of 7 April 1994, has expressed concern about the safety and security of the civilian population and of the foreign communities living in Rwanda as well as of UNAMIR and other United Nations personnel. I fully share this concern and have been in contact with the Force Commander of UNAMIR in this regard.

It is quite possible that the evacuation of civilian staff from the United Nations system, as well as other foreign nationals, might become unavoidable, in which event UNAMIR would be hindered in providing assistance under its present mandate and rules of engagement. The members of the Security Council might wish to give this matter their urgent attention.

Should UNAMIR be required to effect such an evacuation, the Force Commander estimates that he would require two to three additional battalions for that purpose.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Boutros Boutros-Ghali'.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali

His Excellency  
Mr. Colin Keating  
President of the Security Council  
New York