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NAIROBI FOR REFCORD THOMAS-GREENFIELD
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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREF, RW, BY
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON BURUNDI REFUGEES, DISPLACED
PERSONS AND SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES

REFS: (A) GENEVA 2309, (B) KIGALI 606
(C) KIGALI 454

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1. SUMMARY. UNHCR REPORTS THAT BURUNDI REFUGEE NUMBERS REMAIN HIGH. MORTALITY RATES DECLINE BUT REMAIN FRAGILE AS FOOD SITUATION STABILIZES. ICRC PLANS TO PHASE OUT AID IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE FOLLOWING THE JUNE HARVEST, BUT IS CONTINUING TO ASSIST WAR-DISPLACED RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES IN THE RPF ZONE. NUMBERS OF SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES INCREASE AS UNHCR/WFP ASSISTANCE BEGINS. END SUMMARY.

2. DCM DISCUSSED RWANDA'S SEVERAL HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCIES LAST WEEK WITH KEY ASSISTANCE OFFICIALS. WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE RESULT OF TALKS WITH UNHCR EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEE EMERGENCY DANIEL BELLAMY, ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE PHILIPPE GAILLARD, AND UN FORCES (UNAMIR) HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS OFFICERS, COL. VAN PUT AND MAJOR PODEVIJN.

BURUNDI REFUGEES

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3. NUMBERS. UNHCR IS NOW USING 260,000 AS ITS PLANNING FIGURE FOR BURUNDI REFUGEES, JUST 12,000 FEWER THAN COUNTED IN THE LATE DECEMBER CENSUS. EVEN THOUGH UNHCR HAS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 30,000 HAVE REPATRIATED, THE NUMBERS SLEEPING AND RECEIVING FOOD IN THE CAMPS DO NOT REFLECT THIS NUMBER. THE SLOWER PACE OF REPATRIATION FROM RWANDA IS ATTRIBUTED TO CONTINUING INSECURITY IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCES OF KIRUNDO AND NGOZI. OF THE 272,000 REFUGEES ENUMERATED IN DECEMBER, 143,500 CAME FROM KIRUNDO AND 65,500 CAME FROM NGOZI.

4. REPATRIATION. UNHCR'S EMERGENCY COORDINATOR NOTED IN THE CENSUS STATISTICS THAT MANY OF THE REFUGEES COME FROM PROVINCES WHERE FLIGHT WAS CONCENTRATED FROM A SINGLE COMMUNE. HE HAS ASKED UNHCR/BURUNDI THAT THEY INVESTIGATE SECURITY IN SOME OF THESE SELECTED COMMUNES AND, IF THE SECURITY SITUATION PERMITS, HE WILL PROPOSE THE REFUGEES, WITH UNHCR ASSISTANCE, SEND A GROUP TO VISIT AND SEE FOR THEMSELVES THE SITUATION IN THEIR HOME AREAS.

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ASKED ABOUT UNHCR'S PREDICTION REPORTED REF A, THAT ONLY 150,000 REFUGEES WOULD REMAIN IN RWANDA BY END MARCH, BELLAMY SAID HE BELIEVES THIS IS NOW OVERLY OPTIMISTIC GIVEN RECENT EVENTS IN BURUNDI. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO PUT ALL THE FOOD FOR THE REFUGEES IN BURUNDI. IT WOULD, HE SPECULATED, PROBABLY DRAW THEM IMMEDIATELY BACK INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 01107 01 OF 06 151508Z AN UNCERTAIN SECURITY SITUATION.

5. COMMENT. UNHCR SPECIAL ENVOY ON BURUNDI REFUGEES, MICHEL MOUSSALLI, CALLED ON PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA 3/14. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, HE TOLD THE PRESS THAT CONTINUING INSECURITY IN BURUNDI IS HINDERING REPATRIATION. END COMMENT.

6. HEALTH STATUS. OVERALL, MORTALITY RATES CONTINUE

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THEIR STEADY DECLINE, ALTHOUGH BELLAMY RECOGNIZES THE
SITUATION REMAINS PRECARIOUS.. FIGURES REPORTED BY
UNHCR 3/7 SHOW A DROP IN THE GLOAL DEATH RATE TO
0.99 PERSONS/DAY/10,000, DOWN FROM 1.39 THREE WEEKS
EARLIER. HOWEVER, THE DEATH RATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER
5 REMAINS AN UNACCEPTABLE 2.22/DAY/10,000, DOWN FROM
3.68. A QUARTER OF THE DEATHS RESULT FROM DYSENTARY
(DOWN FROM NEARLY HALF) AND A QUARTER FROM MALARIA.
MALNUTRITION REMAINS UNACCEPTABLY HIGH IN CERTAIN
CAMPS. AT THE NEW CAMP OF MAZA, SOUTH OF KIGALI, 1
20|;"&43-34,000, THE RATE IS 43 PERCENT, AND AT
GAHARA IN KIBUNGO, IT IS 40 PERCENT. UNHCR PLANS
SEVERAL SURVEYS IN THESE CAMPS.

7. FOOD. UNHCR EMERGENCY COORDINATOR BELLAMY TOLD
DCM THAT HE IS NOW GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE FOOD
QUANTITY, QUALITY, AND MIB, AND WITH PPDT

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BKNVROMN KCALS JREEEKT GWQPPM ROTTEN MAIZE AND
MAIZE FLOUR HAVE XZN WITHDRAWN FROM STOCKS. THE
PIPELINE FOR BEANS, WHICH HAS BEEN THE MOST DIFFICULT
TO SEN

QU
WVRIWMTOM CHINA, DUE AT THE END OF APRIL.

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FOUR UN VOLUNTEERS HAVE ARRIVED (OF THE 8 REQUESTED,
4 WERE ASSIGNED TO BURUNDI) TO HELP MONITOR FOOD
DISTRIBUTIONS AND, WITH INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
RED CROSS (IFRC) MONITORS, TO ASSURE THE ACCURACY OF
AMOUNTS DISTRIBUTED. DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS REMAIN AT
SOME CAMPS, HOWEVER, DUE IN PART TO INACCURATE
COMPUTERIZED LISTS. DCM SAW ABOUT 100 PEOPLE WHO HAD
JUST BEEN MOVED INTO THE NEW MAZA CAMP WAITING FOR
FOOD BECAUSE THEIR NAMES DID NOT FIGURE ON THE LISTS,
EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE HOLDING RATION CARDS. AT SOME
CAMPS THE FULL FOOD RATION IS NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

8. STOCK RUPTURE. BELLAMY ACKNOWLEDGES, HOWEVER,
THAT THE FOOD SITUATION REMAINS PRECARIOUS. FOOD
WAREHOUSES NEAR THE CAMPS HOLD LIMITED QUANTITIES.
RAINS COULD DELAY DELIVERIES TO CAMP SITES. THE
CIVIL UNREST IN KIGALI 2/21-23 HALTED ALL RELIEF
ACTIVITY FOR 3 DAYS. REFUGEES DUE FOR A 15-DAY FOOD
DISTRIBUTION DURING THOSE DAYS WENT WITHOUT. A LOCAL
RED CROSS WORKER AT MAZA CAMP VERIFIED TO DCM THAT HE
HAD NO FOOD TO DISTRIBUTE DURING THOSE DAYS.
ALTHOUGH THERE WAS FOOD IN THE WAREHOUSE NOT FAR FROM
THE CAMP, HE SAID HE HAD NO TRUCK TO FETCH IT. NOW
UNHCR STATIONS A TRUCK AND DRIVER AT THE CAMP.
BELLAMY PREDICTS THAT THIS 3-DAY STOCK RUPTURE WILL
HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON NUTRITION RATES IN A MONTH
OR TWO.

9. WATER AND SANITATION. THE WATER SYSTEMS IN THE
VARIOUS CAMPS NOW PROVIDE AN AVERAGE OF 11 LITERS PER
PERSON PER DAY. UNHCR'S COORDINATOR FOR WATER AND

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INFRASTRUCTUREM

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MMFGMCRAIG SANDERS (AN AMERICAN CONTRACTOR), SAID THAT THIS AMOUNT APPEARED TO BE SUFFICIENT, BASED ON THE FACT THAT CAMP RESERVOIRS STILL CONTAINED WATER AT THE END OF EACH DAY. HE SAID THE AMOUNT AVAILABLE, THOUGH SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW UNHCR'S RECOMMENDED 20 LITERS/DAY, WAS ABOVE THE AVERAGE USED BY RWANDANS, DETERMINED BY UNICEF TO BE ABOUT 8 LITERS/DAY. LATRINES NOW SERVE ABOUT 40 PERSONS EACH, DOWN BY HALF FROM EARLY FEBRUARY DATA.

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10. INFRASTRUCTURE. BY THE END OF MARCH, A TOTAL OF 50,000 REFUGEES WILL HAVE BEEN MOVED FROM THEIR ORIGINAL SITES TO NEW, PLANNED CAMPS. TWO CAMPS IN BUGESERA HAVE JUST BEEN CLOSED AND ANOTHER REDUCED BY HALF (TO 19,000) FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF MAZA, A NEW CAMP ON A VIRTUALLY EMPTY RESEARCH STATION. MAZA, LAID OUT IN SQUARES, IS CONSIDERABLY LESS CONGESTED THAN WHAT UNHCR CALLS THE FIRST GENERATION CAMPS, EVEN THOUGH IT HOLDS 34,000 PERSONS. LACK OF WATER AND CONGESTION WERE THE PRIMARY REASONS FOR THE MOVE. SEVERAL OTHER MOVES TO NEWLY ORGANIZED SITES HAVE ALREADY OCCURRED. NO FURTHER MOVES ARE PLANNED FOR NOW. UNHCR/KIGALI BELIEVES NO FURTHER MOVES ARE WARRANTED, DESPITE AN EARLY UNHCR SURVEY RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE ABOUT 2/3 OF THE REFUGEE POPULATION FROM THEIR INITIAL SITES. UNHCR COMMENDED THE ROLE GTZ TRUCK AND DRIVERS, BROUGHT FROM ETHIOPIA FOR THE EMERGENCY, PLAYED IN THE MOVE. BELLAMY NOTED THEY HAD NO/NO ACCIDENTS SINCE ARRIVING IN RWANDA.

11. SECURITY. UNAMIR AGREED TO ASSURE SECURITY OF THE KIGALI WAREHOUSES OF THE VARIOUS REFUGEE

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ASSISTANCE AGENCIES. UNAMIR WILL ALSO ESCORT FOOD

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CONVOYS TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF KIGALI AT SPECIFIED, COORDINATED TIMES. SOME AGENCIES HAVE HAD TO WITHDRAW PERSONNEL TEMPORARILY FROM CERTAIN CAMPS UNDER THREAT OF DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST UNHCR AND IFRC OVER FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS.

12. APPEAL. BELLAMY EXPECTS A NEW APPEAL FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEE EMERGENCY TO BE ISSUED SOON THROUGH THE UN DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (DHA). ALTHOUGH THE CURRENT APPEAL RUNS THROUGH THE END OF MARCH, BELLAMY HAS PROPOSED TO HEADQUARTERS THAT THE NBW APPEAL PICK UP WITH 3/1 AND RUN THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR. UNHCR'S HEADQUARTERS COORDINATOR FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEE EMERGENCY, JIDDO VAN DRUNEN, ALONG WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S SPECIAL ENVOY, MICHEL MOUSSALI, ARE BOTH IN KIGALI NOW TO UPDATE THEMSELVES ON THE CURRENT SITUATION.

13. COORDINATION. A UNHCR-WFP REGIONAL COORDINATION MEETING ON THE BURUNDI REFUGEE EMERGENCY IS TO TAKE PLACE IN BUJUMBURA 3/16-18.

DISPLACED PERSONS

14. NUMBERS: DMZ AND GOVERNMENT ZONES. ICRC IS ASSISTING 160,000 DROUGHT-AFFECTED PERSONS IN THE BYUMBA PREFECTURE PART OF THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE (DMZ) IN NORTHERN RWANDA. OF THESE PEOPLE ARE AMONG THE 600,000 PERSONS DISPLACED BY HOSTILITIES A YEAR AGO WHO RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES LAST AUGUST. ICRC
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ALSO ASSISTS 335,000 DISPLACED FROM THE RPF-HELD TERRITORY AT THE RWANDAN BORDER WITH UGANDA WHO STILL LIVE IN CAMPS IN EITHER THE GOVERNMENT ZONE AND OR THE DMZ.

15. NUMBERS: RPF ZONE. IN ADDITION, ICRC HELPS 35,000 PERSONS NOW LIVING IN RPF-HELD TERRITORY, 25,000 OF WHOM RETURNED SINCE JANUARY. OF THESE, 20,000 RETURNED TO BUTARO IN RUHENGERI PREFECTURE

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(THE FARTHEST WEST COMMUNE IN RPF-HELD TERRITORY) AND 5,000 TO KIVUYE IN BYUMBA PREFECTURE (THE NEXT FARTHEST WEST COMMUNE). MOST OF THESE PEOPLE, ICRC SAID, HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR OWN LAND. THE RPF GAVE ICRC LISTS CONTAINING NAMES OF THESE "RETURNEES", FAMILY SIZE, PLACE OF ORIGIN, AND THE SITE WHERE THEY PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED DISTRIBUTIONS. ICRC IS DROPPING THESE PEOPLE FROM DISTRIBUTION LISTS AT PREVIOUS SITES.

16. FOOD AID. ICRC WILL TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOOD FOR ALL DISPLACED FROM WFP AS OF 4/1. ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE PHILIPPIECGILLARD SAID THAT ICRC IS ALREADY EFFECTIVELY HANDLING THIS TASK, HOWEVER, FOLLOWING DIVERSION OF WFP STOCKS TO THE BURUNDI REFUGEE CRISIS IN THE SOUTH. HE SAID WFP HAS PLEDGED TO REPLACE DIVERTED STOCKS, BUT THAT WOULD BE DONE AT THE ROME-GENEVA LEVEL RATHER THAN IN THE FIELD.

17. AID TO THE GOVERNMENT ZONE. ICRC SAYS THAT ASSISTANCE TO WAR-DISPLACED REMAINING IN CAMPS IS RUNNING LIKE CLOCKWORK. PROBLEMS THAT PLAGUED THE OPERATION EARLIER -- FOOD DIVERSIONS, INACCURATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DISTRIBUTION LISTS -- HAVE BEEN OVERCOME.

18. AID TO THE DMZ. GAILLARD SAID ICRC PLANS TO END ALL AID TO THE 160,000 PERSONS STILL BEING ASSISTED IN THE DMZ FOLLOWING THE JUNE HARVEST. BEFORE THEN, ICRC WILL MAKE THREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS. IN MARCH IT WILL DISTRIBUTE PARTIAL RATIONS (AT THE 1600 KCAL LEVEL) TO 7 BYUMBA COMMUNES; IN APRIL, TO NINE; AND IN MAY, TO SIX. SEEDS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO ALL FOR PLANTING NOW FOR HARVEST IN JUNE.

19. AID TO THE RPF ZONE. ICRC IS FOLLOWING THE DISPLACED WHO RETURN TO THE RPF ZONE. ICRC HAS DISTRIBUTED FOOD AND NON-FOOD ITEMS TO THE 25,000 NEWCOMERS THROUGH THE BELGIAN RED CROSS. ALL HAVE

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RECEIVED MACHETES, POTATO SEEDS, BLANKETS, SOAP AND IMPROVED STOVES. THE OTHER 10,000 PERSONS IN THE RPF ZONE OF ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE RPF ZONE. THEY INTEND TO MAKE A TARGETED DISTRIBUTION OF BEAN, MAIZE, WHEAT, OR POTATO SEEDS IMMEDIATELY SO THE PEOPLE CAN PLANT FOR THE JUNE HARVEST.

20. RPF SEEKS NGO HELP. THE RPF HAS APPROACHED SEVERAL NGOS DIRECTLY FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE DISPLACED RETURNING TO THE RPF ZONE, INCLUDING MSF/BELGIUM, CARITAS, AND AFRICARE. AT AN NGO MEETING 3/2, THE NGOS AGREED THAT, FOR NOW, ICRC WOULD BE THE "COORDINATOR" OF ASSISTANCE ACTIVITY IN THE RPF ZONE AND THAT DIRECT REQUESTS WOULD BE REFERRED TO ICRC.

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21. APPEAL FOR DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION. GAILLARD URGED THE US TO INTERVENE WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO ENABLE ALL WHO WANT TO RETURN TO THE RPF ZONE TO BE ALLOWED TO DO SO. HE SAID THE MOVEMENT TO DATE HAS BEEN MOSTLY ON THE RUHENGERI SIDE WHERE THE GOR PRESENCE IS LESS PERVASIVE. ON THE BYUMBA SIDE, HE SAID IT IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE WHO

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MIGMT WANT TO REACH THE RPF ZONE TO CROSS FROM THE
GOVERNMENT ZONE INTO THE DMZ. HE SAID THAT SOLDIERS
AT THE MILITARY CHECKPOINT ON THE BUYMBA ROAD EN
ROUTE TO THE RPF ZONE HAS ORDERS NOT/NOT TO LET
DISPLACED PERSONS PASS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY, HE
CONFIRMED THAT THE RPF HAD APPEALED IN JANUARY TO ALL
DISPLACED VIA ITS RADIO MUHABURA TO RETURN TO THE RPF
ZONE IF THEY SO WISHED.

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22. SECURITY. GAILLARD SAID HE WORRIES THAT SOME PEOPLE WHO DISAPPROVE OF ICRC HELPING PERSONS RETURNING TO THE RPF ZONE MIGHT DECIDE TO SEND A MESSAGE VIA A LANDMINE ACCIDENT, SIMILAR TO THE ONE THAT DESTROYED A BELGIAN RED CROSS TRUCK IN THE DMZ IN LATE NOVEMBER. HE NOTED, THOUGH, THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO/NO LANDMINE ACCIDENTS AMONG THE 35,000 PERSONS LIVING IN THE RPF ZONE.

SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES

23. NUMBERS. THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES WHO HAVE SPONTANEOUSLY RETURNED TO RPF-HELD TERRITORY FROM UGANDA NOW NUMBER ABOUT 8,500, ACCORDING TO THE UN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORCE COMMANDER IN THE ZONE. THE PREVIOUS FIGURE OF 7,000 HAS BEEN AUGMENTED RECENTLY BY THE ARRIVAL, IN TRUCKS, OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. UNAMIR CONTENDS THE FAMILIES MAY COME FROM TANZANIA AND BURUNDI AS WELL AS FROM UGANDA. ALL RETURNEES REMAIN A FEW KILOMETERS FROM THE FRONTIER (WHERE THE BORDER FORMS A SO-CALLED "BEAK") SPREAD OUT OVER AN AREA OF ABOUT NINE SQUARE MILES. THE RESULTS OF UNHCR'S CENSUS SHOULD BE AVAILABLE THIS WEEK.

24. FOOD. ON FEBRUARY 21, WFP DELIVERED ENOUGH FOOD FOR 6,500 PERSONS FOR ONE MONTH TO A WAREHOUSE NOT FAR FROM THE AREA. THE RPF TOOK CHARGE OF THE WAREHOUSE AND THE DISTRIBUTIONS TO THE RETURNEES AT FOUR SITES. THE FOOD CONSISTED OF A 1900 KCAL RATION SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE BURUNDI REFUGEES, INCLUDING MAIZE (400 GMS), BEANS (60 GMS), AND OIL.

25. NON-FOOD ITEMS. UNHCR PROVIDED AND DISTRIBUTED BLANKETS (1/FAMILY), GERRY-CANS (1/FAMILY), AND SOAP TO THE RETURNEES BEGINNING 2/11. A UNHCR STAFFER WHO WATCHED THE DISTRIBUTION FEBRUARY 12 SAID THE RPF MANAGED IT SUPERBLY.

26. MEDICINES. ICRC HAS OPENED A HEALTH CLINIC WHERE THE RETURNEES HAVE SETTLED AND PROVIDED THEM WITH MEDICINES FOR MALARIA AND DIARRHEA. AN RPF DOCTOR IS STAFFING THE CLINIC AND DISPENSING THE MEDICINES. (NOTE. THIS ACTION WAS TAKEN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ICRC'S COMMITMENT TO REHABILITATE ONE

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MEDICAL CENTER PER COMMUNE IN THE RPF ZONE, OR 6-7
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CENTERS AT USD 10-15,000 EACH. END NOTE.)

27. NEEDS ASSESSMENT. THE RELIEF DISTRIBUTED TO
DATE HAS NOT/NOT BEEN BASED ON A NEEDS ASSESSMENT.
THE RPF REFUSED ACCESS TO THE INTERAGENCY TEAM
SCHEDULED TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT IN MID-FEBRUARY ON
GROUNDS THAT, UNTIL FOOD WAS DELIVERED, THERE COULD
BE NO MORE VISITS (THE TEAM WOULD HAVE BEEN THE
FOURTH).

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ACTION RP-10

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	AMAD-01	CA-02	CIAE-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	EUR-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	ADS-00	NSAE-00	OIC-02	SR-00	FMP-00	/044W	

-----301FAA 151518Z /38

P 151448Z MAR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5962
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME

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USDAO YAOUNDE
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SAA//
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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STATE FOR RP
GENEVA FOR RMA
KINSHASA PLEASE PASS AF/C RENDER
ROME FOR FODAG

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NAIROBI FOR REFCORD THOMAS-GREENFIELD
ADDIS FOR FARNSWORTH
YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREF, RW, BY
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON BURUNDI REFUGEES, DISPLACED

28. COMMENT. THE EMBASSY HAS STRESSED THAT ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE CAREFULLY TAILORED TO A NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN ORDER TO REMOVE ALL SUSPICION THAT THE RPF ITSELF MIGHT BE THE BENEFICIARY OF THE AID. UNHCR IS IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THIS POSITION. END COMMENT.

29. OPERATIONAL PARTNER. SO FAR UNHCR CANNOT IDENTIFY A SUITABLE OPERATIONAL PARTNER FOR ITS ASSISTANCE TO THE REPATRIATES (SEE REF B). IT IS NOW EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES WITH THE BELGIAN RED CROSS WHICH IS ALREADY HELPING ICRC ASSIST THE RETURNING WAR-DISPLACED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE RPF ZONE.

30. SITE SELECTION. FOR NOW, UNHCR AND UNAMIR HAVE ABANDONED THE IDEAS (REF B) OF LOCATING THE RETURNEES IN CAMPS OUTSIDE THE RPF ZONE. UNAMIR TOLD DCM TFP IDENTIFYING SUCH A SITE IS UNFEASIBLE UNTIL THERE IS A GOVERNMENT IN PLACE.

31. UNHCR-RPF RELATIONS. UNHCR AND RPF GOT OFF TO A STORMY START IN THEIR COLLABORATION ON THIS EMERGENCY. WITH STAFF CHANGES, THE RELATIONSHIP

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APPEARS TO HAVE IMPROVED.

COMMENT

32. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON ASKING
ASKING FODAG/ROME AND RMA/GENEVA TO FOLLOW UP AT WFP
AND ICRC HEADQUARTERS ON THEIR GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT
TO HAVE WFP RESTORE TO ICRC COMMODITIES BORROWED FROM
THE DISPLACED EMERGENCY IN THE NORTH FOR THE REFUGEE
EMERGENCY IN THE SOUTH. THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO
MONITORING THAT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR US HERE TO
ACCOMPLISH.

33. WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD IMPRESS ON THE RPF AT
EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT, WHILE WE WANT TO ASSIST
PEOPLE IN NEED, INTERNATIONAL DONOR ASSISTANCE IS
ALWAYS BASED ON NEEDS ASSESSMENTS CARRIED OUT BY
INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL
OFFICIALS AND AFFECTED GROUPS. WE SEEK THEIR
COOPERATION IN DETERMINING THE NEEDS OF THE
SPONTANEOUS RETURNEES SO THAT SCARE RESOURCES CAN BE
USED EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.

RAWSON

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