

[6 CONFIDENTIAL]

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BOX 1

FILE 4

ACC. 1998/0278



OUTGOING CODE CABLE

From: / TOUSIGNANT, UNAMIR, KIGALI
To: ANNAN, UNATIONS, NEW YORK
Date: 4 August 1995
Number: *MIR-2810*
Subject: SOMA VIOLATIONS OF 1 AUGUST
Reference: Your 2526 dated 2 August

1. As requested in the reference and further to our 27604, a written protest was submitted to the Government through the Vice-President. Furthermore, a press release was issued.
2. UNAMIR personnel have indeed received instructions regarding how to react to VIP motorcades and have been repeatedly instructed by myself and my staff as a matter of course to respect local laws and customs, including Rwandan driving regulations. We are most aware of our obligations in this regard.
3. Contrary to the reference this is not a frequent transgression by UNAMIR personnel since the only other occurrence of this type was in the fall of 94, when a single UNAMIR vehicle under very similar circumstances, briefly entered a motorcade before pulling over to the side of the road. Subsequently, that driver was physically assaulted as well. As a result of that incident, the RPA were requested to properly mark these type of convoys with vehicle mounted sirens/horns and flashing lights as it is frequently difficult to determine whether indeed a formed motorcade is present since large gaps exist between vehicles of those motorcades; the RPA has by and large complied with our suggestion.
4. I trust that the above clarifies the incident in question.

FC

UNAMIR
11 13



UNAMIR - MINUAR

CODE CABLE

TO: ANNAN/VAN KAPPAN, UNATIONS

FROM: TOUSIGNANT, UNAMIR/KIGALI

DATE: 01 AUGUST 1995

MIR NO:

NO. OF PAGES: TWO

SUBJECT: SOMA VIOLATION - IMPOUNDING OF AUSMED VEH AND
ASSAULTING OF AUSMED PERSONNEL

1. AT APPROX 01 0920 B AUG 95, ONE AUSMED VEH WAS STOPPED BY RPA WHILST EN ROUTE FROM AUSMED GARRISON TO KIGALI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. VEH WAS STOPPED AT GR 093847. ONE OTHER AS VEH WAS TRAVELLING IN FRONT OF THIS VEH WHICH WAS NOT STOPPED BY THE RPA.

2. AUSMED VEH INVOLVED WAS A LANDROVER. THERE WERE FIVE PERS AT THE INCIDENT SITE.

3. THERE WERE UP TO APPROXIMATELY 70(+) RPA AT THE INCIDENT SITE. THREE VEH WERE PRESENT. TWO WERE FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHs WITH ONE 50 CAL MOUNTED ON EACH VEH. THE THIRD RPA VEH HAD NO WPNS MOUNTED.

4. THE RPA VERBALLY AND PHYSICALLY ABUSED THE AUSMED PERS, BELIEVING THAT THE AUSMED VEH HAD TRIED TO INTERVENE IN AN RPA ESCORT OF A PRESIDENTIAL MOTORCADE. THE AUSMED PERS WERE FORCIBLY REMOVED FM THEIR VEH AND ASSAULTED. PERS WPNS (TWO F88 STEYRS AND AMMUNITION) AND COMMS WERE CONFISCATED. INJURIES SUSTAINED BY TWO SGTS., ONE CAPT. AND ONE PVT AS UNDER.

A. CPT. RECEIVED RFL BUTT STROKE TO BACK OF HEAD. ADMITTED TO CHK WITH CONCUSSION, CURRENTLY UNDER OBSERVATION.

B. SGT. RECEIVED RFL BUTT STROKE TO LEGS AND WAS KICKED IN ABDOMEN. NOT ADMITTED TO CHK.

C. SGT. SLUNG TO GND AND PUNCHED. NOT ADMITTED TO CHK.

D. PTE. KICKED IN BACK. NOT ADMITTED TO CHK.

5. THE AUSMED PERS WERE ESCORTED IN THE LANDROVER BY RPA VEHs TO AN RPA COMPOUND VIC MERIDIEN HOTEL. AN RPA MAJOR (BELIEVED TO BE A MAJOR JACKA) BECAME INVOLVED ON ARRIVAL AT THE RPA COMPOUND WHICH SETTLED THE SITUATION.

6. WHILST EN ROUTE, UNAMIR MPS TRIED TO ASSIST THE AUSMED VEH BUT WERE STOPPED BY RPA RD BLOCK AND SHOW OF FORCE WITH DEPLOYED TPS AND RPG.

7. THE RPA INSISTED THAT THE AUSMED PERS MOV UNDER ESCORT TO THE GENDARMERIE'S REMERA BDE LOC. EN ROUTE TO REMERA THE AUSMED PERS, WPNS, COMMS AND VEH WERE RELEASED FOLLOWING NEGOTIATIONS BY THE PROVOST MARSHAL AND THE RPA MAJOR. THEREAFTER THE VEH RETURNED TO CHK TO ALLOW MED TREATMENT OF INJURED PERS.

8. THOUGH UNAMIR VEHS IN PAST HAVE BEEN IMPOUNDED FOR OVERTAKING OR NOT GIVING PASS TO A VIP MOTORCADE, THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR INCIDENT WHERE UNAMIR PERSONNEL WERE PHYSICALLY ABUSED. SUCH INCIDENTS HAVE HIGH POTENTIAL OF SELF-ESCALATION AND RESULTANT CONFRONTATION. THOUGH THE TIMELY INTERVENTION OF AN RPA MAJ HELPED DIFFUSE THE SITUATION, THESE ARE IN GROSS VIOLATION OF SOMA AND THE MATTER IS BEING TAKEN UP WITH RPA AND GOVT AUTHORITIES. THOUGH THE SITUATION/INCIDENT APPEARS TO BE A LOCALISED ACTION, SUCH HIGH-HANDEDNESS IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO UNAMIR. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH PERMANENT REP OF RWANDA TO U.N. END.



CODE CABLE

95 JUN -6

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CRN095-6

MIR # 1989

TO: BARIL/ANNAN UNATIONS NEWYORK

INFO: KHAN UNATIONS NY, CAO UNAMIR

FROM: TOUSIGNANT, UNAMIR KIGALI

DATE: 06 JUNE 95

TOTAL PAGES - 3

SUBJECT: VACATION OF SOME BUILDING CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY UNAMIR

1. THE RPA/GOVT OF RWANDA HAVE REQUESTED SOME OF THE ACCOMMODATION CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY UNAMIR TO BE VACATED BY 20 JUN 95, FAILING WHICH THEY WILL DEPLOY THEIR GENDARMERIE TO FORCE VACATION. COPY OF RPA LO'S LETTER DATED 05 JUN 95 IS ATTACHED.
2. EXCEPT AN EARLIER REQUEST FOR VACATION OF AUSMED ACCOMMODATION (MILITARY ACADEMY) WHICH WAS RENEGOTIATED BY ME WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND RPA OVER THE PAST FIVE MONTHS, ALL OTHERS WERE NEITHER RAISED IN THE PAST NOR ANY FEELERS GIVEN. IT WAS AGREED EARLIER THAT THE ACADEMY WOULD BE RETAINED BY AUSMED TILL AUG 95 AND ON THEIR ROTATION WILL NOT BE OCCUPIED BY THEIR RELIEF.
3. IT IS NEITHER PRACTICAL NOR FEASIBLE TO VACATE ABOVE ACCOMMODATION IN THE TIME FRAME SPECIFIED AS NO ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATION HAS BEEN OFFERED OR IS AVAILABLE. WHAT IS REALLY DISTURBING IS THE ARBITRARY MANNER IN WHICH THE VACATION HAS BEEN ORDERED INCLUDING THE THREAT FOR FORCIBLE EVICTION. THIS IS IN TOTAL CONTRAVENTION OF SOMA, WHICH THE GOVT NEVER FEELS IS OBLIGATED TO RESPECT AND ADHERE TO.

-2-

~~OBLIGATED TO RESPECT AND ADHERE TO.~~

4. THOUGH ALL EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH APPROPRIATE GOVT AUTHORITIES AND RPA, IT IS ONCE AGAIN REITERATED THAT IN THE REVISED MANDATE A CLAUSE BE INCLUDED AND ENSURED THAT UNLESS THE GOVT OF RWANDA UPHOLDS IN TOTALITY TO THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF SOMA, CONTINUED DEPLOYMENT OF UNAMIR WILL BE TERMINATED. IF THE GOVT IS UNWILLING TO ADHERE TO SOMA, WITH REDUCED FORCE LEVEL IT WOULD ONLY AGGRAVATE EXISTING PROBLEMS LEADING TO FURTHER CONFRONTATION WITH THE GOVT AND RPA. YOU ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO PURSUE THE ISSUE WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL, SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF RWANDA TO UN AND ADVISE ACTION ACCORDINGLY.

5. AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE/ADVICE IS REQUESTED.



TO: The SRSB to Rwanda
 FROM: RPA Liaison Officer
 DATE: 5 June 1995
 SUBJECT: Vacation from some buildings

Sir,

As per instructions, you are requested to vacate from the following premises not later than 20 June 1995.

The premises to be vacated are as follows:

- a. Military Academy (Residence of Ausmed);
- b. UNICEF Building (NZIRORERA's house opposite chez Lando);
- c. MILOBS HQs Sector 6 (behind Meridien Hotel);
- d. Residence of some indians near Former American Residence (it was the former Kigali, sector HQs MILOBS);
- e. MILOBS HQs Kimihurura;

The above premises mentioned if not vacated by the date mentioned above, Gendarmerie will deploy their to force the vacation.

Reference letter dated 6 March 1995 to you regarding the demand of a minibus which was previously rented by UNAMIR and now parked in UNAMIR HQs compound, no reply and its needed as soon as possible.

Your cooperation into the matter will be highly appreciated.

Regards

Joseph NDAHIRO
 Date: 05 JUNE 1995
 C. LT.
 RPA LIAISON OFFICER
 Off. of Force

CC:

- Vice President and Minister for Defence
- UNAMIR Force Commander
- Army Chief of Staff
- Gendarmerie COS
- UNAMIR Chief of Administration (OIC)
- CHIEF OF STAFF UNAMIR ✓

06/6

ROUTING - REQUEST

CNR 154 P1/2

Please

☐ READ

☒ HANDLE

☐ APPROVE

and

☐ FORWARD

☐ RETURN

☐ KEEP OR DISCARD

☐ REVIEW WITH ME

Date 7 June 95

To ED
For you to read and
action please in
accordance with
guidelines from NV.
Thanks
From [Signature]

CODE CABLE

GALI
OK

1995 JUN -6 P 8:00

UNITED NATIONS
OPERATIONS

NUMBER: 1000

SUBJECT: Vacation of some building currently occupied by UNAMIR

1. Reference your MIR-1989. We are very concerned by Government of Rwanda's request, without prior notice and in disregard of SOMA, that we vacate some UNAMIR accommodations. We are particularly disturbed by implicit threat of use of force to evict UNAMIR in case of non-compliance.

2. As you know, we are pursuing consultations on the future mandate with the Rwandan delegation here and raised the issue with them this morning. They minimized the significance of the Government's initiative in Kigali. We will of course pursue this matter vigorously, especially since the Security Council will start its consideration of the Secretary-General's report on 7 June.

3. In the meantime kindly send a reply to the Government at high level, expressing surprise at the tone of the letter and pointing out that:

- Vice-President had assured SRSG that Ausmed could remain in their present accommodation until their rotation in August.
- The other premises have been brought up for the first time and will require further discussion with Government in context of SOMA.

CNR 154 P2/2

You may also refer to the implied threat of force and request confirmation that this was not intent as position of Government, as this would have very serious implications. In conversation, you might mention that, if not confirmed, this would have to be brought to the attention of the Council.

4. Please inform us asap of how this issue develops.

Best regards.

MIAMIR
95 JUN -7 05 02