

[1 CONFIDENTIAL]

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SERIES S-1062

BOX 8

FILE 3

ACC. 1998/0282

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TO : FC FILE: 3000.13(OPS)
FROM : DCOS(OPS) DATE: 12 Sep 95

PREVISIT BRIEF
SHANGUGU SECTOR

Reference:

A.

GENERAL

1. I visited Kibuye, Shagasha and Changuu on 11 Sep 95 as part of my familiarization tour of the UNAMIR AO.

2. Following up this visit I received a memo asking me to accompany you to this very sector on the 13 Sep 95.

3. I wish to update you on issues raised during the briefing by the MILOBs, Formed troops Sector Comd (Malawi) and the Humanitarian Officers. The points raised are summarised below with my comments:

a. Transport. This problem applies to the three groups mentioned in para 3 above. Their problem is inadequacy of vehs and where even there are quite enough numbers the types are not suitable for operations in their type of terrain; eg a Mini bus instead of 4 x 4 and the APC (Clumsy) instead of TCV or 4 x 4 for the Malawi Coy.

b. Communication. This applies mostly to the MILOBs at Changuu. They have been allotted only one tel line for both fax and normal tele use; and certain team locations are difficult to pick on the radios. The solution to this problem is to relocate some of the team posns and a second tel line provided aside that for the fax.

c. State of Roads. UNAMIR cannot maintain all roads in the Sector, but the essential ones like the access road from the main road to Malicoy HQ must be done with speed in view of the onset of the rains. The engineers have however started work already.

d. Relations between locals & RPA. This is reported to be fair since any local that interacts with our

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personnel in the Kibuye Sector is sanctioned by the RPA and also in Changugu, locals are said to be told not to give any info to the UNAMIR Personnel. In the Shagasha area (Malawi), the tense situation that existed between the RPA and Malawi Coy has abated and they now have good working relations.

e. Humanitarian Issues. The occasional receipt of refugees and their transportation to transit camps and home Communes is still on according to rules. From the border posts to transit camps assisted by UNAMIR and from Transit to Communes by UNHCR. The problem is the many assistance requests to UNAMIR which the UNAMIR Personnel were advised not to promise any help but to consolidate requests and forward to UNAMIR HQ for proper evaluation and advice or directives.

f. Nyagotera Transit Camp. At the time of visit to this camp, there was practically no refugee. All had been transported to their home Communes.

g. Violence. There are reported killings through use of fire arms and grenades and explosive devices. This was of concern to the UNAMIR Personnel in Kibuye Sector.

CONCLUSION

4. The above mentioned areas are significant to your visit and these problems might be posed to you during your visit.

5. I suggest the following as solutions to the issues:

a. All Sectors should fwd Vehicle States at least twice a month for solutions to be found.

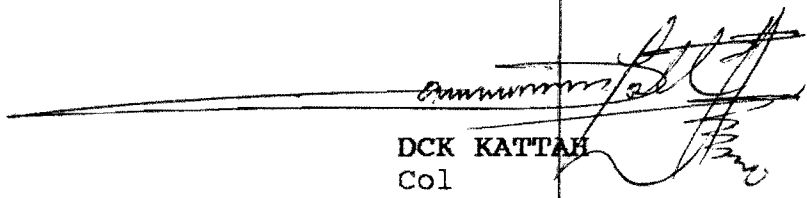
b. FSO to visit the mentioned areas and identify the Communication problems and correct them.

c. Access roads especially to Sector/team HQ must be rehabilitated by our engineers. (It takes a lot of resources).

d. We must keep on cultivating the RPA for a good working relations. The CO Malawi Coy must be congratulated on smoking the peace pipe with the RPA in his Sector.

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- e. Instructions must be issued regarding the use of protective clothing especially the helmets and Frag jackets. Drivers must also avoid driving off the road and use sand bags on the floor of their cars if possible to avoid these roadside explosives causing serious damages to personnel and the vehs.
6. A final report with appropriate recommendations will be submitted on completion of my visit to all Sectors.
7. It is my pleasure to welcome you back from your well deserved leave.
8. I shall be with you during your proposed visit to Changugu and I look forward to many more of such opportunities.


DCK KATTAN
Col
DCOS OPS