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## INFORMATION NOTE

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**TO:** All Media

**DATE:** 11 December 1995

**FROM:** The Office of the Spokesman <sup>AD</sup> UNAMIR

**SUBJECT:** Press Conference

1. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Shaharyar M. Khan, will hold a press briefing on Wednesday, 13 December 1995 at 11 a.m.
2. All the media, official and private, printed and audio-visual, national and international are welcome.
3. The meeting will take place in the Briefing Room on the ground floor of UNAMIR Headquarters (Hotel Amahoro).

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84496, 84539 ext.: # 11075 or 11077 .



## NOTE D'INFORMATION

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**A:** Tous Média

**DATE:** 22 novembre 1995

**DE:** Bureau du Porte-parole ~~MINUAR~~

**OBJET:** Conférence de Presse

1. Le Représentant spécial du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies pour le Rwanda, l'Ambassadeur Shaharyar M. Khan, donnera vendredi 24 novembre 1995 à 11h00, une conférence de presse à l'intention des média publics et privés (presse écrite et audio-visuelle), nationaux et internationaux.
2. La séance d'information se déroulera dans la salle de briefing, au rez-de-chaussée du siège de la MINUAR (Hôtel Amahoro).

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Pour de plus amples informations, contactez le bureau du Porte-Parole:  
tél. 84496, 84539, poste 11075 ou 11081 or 11077.

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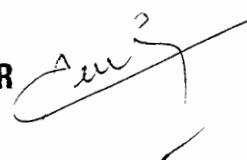
## INFORMATION NOTE

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**TO:** All Media

**DATE:** 25 October 1995

**FROM:** The Office of the Spokesman, UNAMIR



**SUBJECT:** Press Conference

1. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Shaharyar M. Khan, will hold a press briefing on Monday, 30 October 1995 at 11 a.m.
2. All the media, official and private, printed and audio-visual, national and international are welcome.
3. The meeting will take place in the Briefing Room on the ground floor of UNAMIR Headquarters (Hotel Amahoro).

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84266 ext.: # 11065 or 11081.



## NOTE D'INFORMATION

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**A:** Tous Média

**DATE:** 25 octobre 1995

**DE:** Bureau du Porte-parole, MINUAR

**OBJET:** Conférence de Presse

1. Le Représentant spécial du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies pour le Rwanda, l'Ambassadeur Shaharyar M. Khan, donnera lundi 30 octobre 1995 à 11h00, une conférence de presse à l'intention des média publics et privés (presse écrite et audio-visuelle), nationaux et internationaux.

2. La séance d'information se déroulera dans la salle de briefing, au rez-de-chaussée du siège de la MINUAR (Hôtel Amahoro).

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Pour de plus amples informations, contactez le bureau du Porte-Parole:  
tél. 84266, poste 11065 ou 11081.



SRSG  
Press?

## INFORMATION NOTE

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TO: All Media

DATE: 2 October 1995

FROM: The Office of the Spokesman, UNAMIR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jury", is written over the "FROM:" line.

SUBJECT: Press Briefing

1. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Shaharyar M. Khan, will hold a press briefing on Wednesday, 4 October 1995 at 11 a.m.
2. All the media, official and private, printed and audio-visual, national and international are welcome.
3. The meeting will take place in the Briefing Room on the ground floor of UNAMIR Headquarters (Hotel Amahoro).

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84266 ext.: # 11065 or 11081.



*File: fcs*

## NOTE D'INFORMATION

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**A:** Tous Média

**DATE:** 18 septembre 1995

**DE:** Bureau du Porte-parole, MINUAR

**OBJET:** Séance d'Information

1. Le Représentant spécial du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies pour le Rwanda, l'Ambassadeur Shaharyar M. Khan, donnera mercredi 20 septembre 1995 à 11h00, une conférence de presse à l'intention des média publics et privés (presse écrite et audio-visuelle) locaux, nationaux et internationaux.

2. La séance d'information se déroulera dans la salle de briefing, au rez-de-chaussée du siège de la MINUAR (Hôtel Amahoro).

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Pour de plus amples informations, contactez le bureau du Porte-Parole: tél. 84266, poste 11065



*Press*

## INFORMATION NOTE

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**TO:** All Media

**DATE:** 4 September 1995

**FROM:** The Office of the Spokesman, UNAMIR

*WMC*

**SUBJECT:** Press Briefing

1. The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Shaharyar M. Khan, will hold a press briefing on Wednesday, 6 September 1995 at 11 a.m.
2. All the media, official and private, printed and audio-visual, national and international are welcome.
3. The meeting will take place in the Briefing Room on the ground floor of UNAMIR Headquarters (Hotel Amahoro).

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84266 ext.: # 11076 or 11081 or 11066.

## NOTE D'INFORMATION

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**A:** Tous Média

**DATE:** 4 septembre 1995

**DE:** Bureau du Porte-parole, MINUAR



**OBJET:** Séance d'Information

1. Le Représentant spécial du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies pour le Rwanda, l'Ambassadeur Shaharyar M. Khan, donnera mercredi 6 septembre 1995 à 11h00, une conférence de presse à l'intention des média publics et privés (presse écrite et audio-visuelle) locaux, nationaux et internationaux.
2. La séance d'information se déroulera dans la salle de briefing, au rez-de-chaussée du siège de la MINUAR (Hôtel Amahoro).

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**Pour de plus amples informations, contactez le bureau du Porte-Parole:**  
**tél. 84266, poste 11076 ou 11081 ou 11066.**

UN  
PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES A GENÈVE

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

SERVICE DE L'INFORMATION



INFORMATION SERVICE

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Date :

30/8

Page 1 of 1

To :

MRS. I. REVERO  
UNAMIR  
KigaliFrom: ~~Thérèse Gastaut~~  
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As requested.

S. Robinson (MRS)

UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION SERVICE  
GENEVA

29 August 1995

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Press Conference by Prime Minister of Zaire, Léon Kengo Wa Dondo  
Palais des Nations

Léon Kengo Wa Dondo, Prime Minister of Zaire, held a press conference this afternoon at the Palais des Nations in Geneva at which he briefed reporters on his meeting with Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He recalled that on 16 August, the Security Council had adopted a resolution calling for the lifting of the arms embargo to Rwanda, and Zaire had considered this resolution to be directed against it. This was also the reason why the Prime Minister of Zaire had written to the Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on 17 August describing the persistent tensions at all levels of Zairean society, as well as the tense situation in the refugee camps.

He added that in order to counter the resolution, Zaire had called for the implementation of the General Assembly resolution of December last year on the territorial right to asylum, which stated that if the host country considered the presence of refugees a threat to its national security, then it could send them back. Accordingly, in his letter to the Secretary-General, the Prime Minister had asked to which country these refugees could be sent. The Security Council had been asked by the Secretary-General to consider the letter and on the 23 August, its President had issued a statement which had neither promoted peace nor reduced the political tension in the region.

The Prime Minister said that the Secretary-General had requested the High Commissioner to visit the region, and today during his meeting with Ms. Ogata he had requested that UNHCR take up the repatriation process which thus far, Zaire had carried out. This process should take place on a large scale, should be uninterrupted and should be completed before 31st December 1995. If the repatriation was not complete by that date, Zaire reserved the right to carry out this process itself.

A correspondent asked if Zaire would stop sending the refugees back before the deadline of 31 December? The Prime Minister said that UNHCR had requested and Zaire had accepted that UNHCR would assume responsibility for the repatriation and they had both agreed on the date. Monthly evaluations would be carried out.

Asked why Zaire was threatened by the lifting of the arms embargo and yet it had not been threatened by the presence of armed refugees and the remains of the Rwandese army on its territory, the Prime Minister said that if there had not been the resolution 1011 of 16 August, then it would have continued to feel hospitable towards the refugees. The lifting of the embargo had been a political decision and should be examined at that level before being applied at the humanitarian level. Why did Rwanda need to buy arms and who were they to fight against, he asked.

A journalist asked if the Zairean Government had ceased the repatriation process because it had received aid from the international community. The Prime Minister said nobody had given any aid to Zaire. The cessation of its handling of the repatriation process had come at the request of UNHCR and Zaire had acceded to the request and had asked UNHCR to take on the responsibility. Only in their own country would Rwandans be able to truly live again.

A correspondent said that UNHCR had stated that one of the major obstacles to voluntary repatriation was that leaders and supporters of the former Rwandan Government continued to tell the refugees that they would be killed if they went home to Rwanda. The UNHCR had said that the repatriation would go smoother if Zaire would arrest or separate these people from the other refugees.

The Prime Minister said that the UN had set up an International Tribunal and if persons were to be found guilty of genocide and war crimes then it was for the Tribunal to find them guilty. The international community wished for the refugees to return but the conditions on the ground were not conducive. The refugees should be persuaded to do so by the non-governmental organizations on the ground and the Rwandan authorities should welcome them. Zaire was a victim of its own generosity, the only African country to have received 2 million refugees and the international community should realise this fact.

In response to a question on why, if its national security was threatened, Zaire had not begun the repatriation with the armed militias who could not be considered as refugees, the Prime Minister said that it was the international press which had made a distinction between civilians and members of the army or between minority and majority persons. Zaire had made no such distinction. The embargo had not been lifted for the ex-army of the Rwanda but for the FPR and they are the ones who threatened Zaire. The Security Council resolution was bad for peace in the Great Lakes region and would raise the level of tension in the area. Zaire would not be responsible for the destabilisation of the entire region and therefore the Parliament had decided that the refugees had to leave. If they hid in the forests, then they would be sought and asked to leave. The General Assembly resolution on territorial asylum had guided the Government in its action.

Asked if the deadline of 31 December could be extended, he said it was a final deadline but added that a clause on "force majeure" had been built into the monthly evaluation procedure. A census and elections were upcoming in Zaire and that was made more complex by the huge number of refugees. There had been no break at all in the repatriation process as far as Zaire was concerned, it was just that now UNHCR had assumed responsibility for the process.

\* \* \* \* \*

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

TO: Mr. Shaharyar Khan  
SRSG  
UNAMIR, Kigali  
FAX #: 3.3090

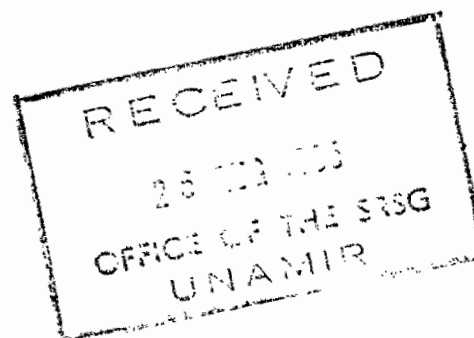
FROM: Ms. Lindenmayer's Office, UNATIONS, New York  
FAX #: 3.6460

DATE: 24 August 1995

PAGE: 1 of 11

For your information. Best regards.

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SFA  
Shaharyar  
SA/SRSG



THE TIMES (LONDON) - 22 August 1995

# Zaire expels 2,000 Rwanda refugees despite UN appeal

By INIGO GILMORE IN GOMA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ABOUT 2,000 people clutching cloth bundles, mattresses and cooking pots were herded on to buses and lorries at gunpoint in Goma yesterday as Zairean authorities stepped up their forced repatriation of Rwandan refugees from their territory.

In a day-long operation that began at first light, Zairean paratroopers and soldiers of the presidential guard swept into the sprawling Mugunga camp and ordered the refugees to board waiting vehicles. A harried green bus crammed with refugees sped, horns blaring, on the head of a procession of vehicles through Goma and to the Rwandan border.

There, the Rwandans were met by soldiers with machine-guns and handed over to a line of customs officials who wrote down their names. Barely protesting, they regrouped on the thin strip of land overlooking picturesque Lake Kivu that separates Zaire from Rwanda, and waited for several hours in the sweltering heat without food or drink.

Zaire said it would step up the repatriation today despite an appeal from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to stop expulsion of Rwandans from the east of the country.

But Muturi wa Bashara, who is the refugee adviser to Kengo wa Dondo, the Prime Minister, said: "Tomorrow we hope to speed things up."

The operation, which began on Saturday when 200 Rwandans were ordered across the border, has been widely welcomed in Zaire, where newspapers, even those opposed to the Government, are saying that, if anything, it had not been firm enough.

An estimated one million Rwandan refugees are in camps in eastern Zaire. Most are majority Hutus who fled former rebels who seized power from the Hutu-dominated government. An esti-

mated 500,000 people, mostly minority Tutsis, were killed in the genocide last year. Among the refugees are soldiers, militia and officials of the former government who are blamed for planning and carrying out the massacres. Most are afraid of being killed if they return.

Last night the UN said that in yesterday's operation about 20,000 refugees fled the Zairean camps to avoid the forced repatriation. Peter Kwasier, a UNHCR spokesman in Kenya, said the refugees fled to surrounding hills from near the town of Uvira.

In Geneva, Francis Kpandze, a UNHCR spokesman, said that another 140 Rwandan prisoners were taken from a jail in Bukavu and handed over to Rwandan authorities in the southwestern town of Cyangura, where they were detained. "The situation is very tense," the UNHCR in

Goma, clutching a cloth bundle. "I don't know why they took me. They woke me this morning and said: 'Hello, all of you are going back to Rwanda. We do not like foreigners here.' I am very sad."

Barely 50 yards away a group of tall, elegant soldiers from the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Army gazed at their compatriots who had fled to Zaire more than a year ago. Some claimed to have recognised members of the Hutu militia among the group and said they would be arrested. The refugees were forced back on to the buses and driven to a station about 14 miles inside Rwanda.

There were unconfirmed reports that six refugees died during the day. Many refugees were seen fleeing into the hills as the round-up struck fear into the 750,000-strong community living in Goma's camps. I was turned back by Zairean soldiers who were agitated when I attempted to speak with the refugees.

Local Zaireans and soldiers were clearly delighted. Officers kicked the refugees' belongings and took pictures of the human misery. "I cannot wait to see the back of them," said a border guard. "They have brought us nothing but problems."

The refugee situation has become a political issue in Zaire where the opposition, campaigning to oust Mr Kengo and to reinstate Etienne Tshisekedi as Prime Minister, is saying that the problem of more than one million refugees on Zairean soil should never have arisen.

And workers have been told not to enter the Goma camps. The whereabouts of the former Rwandan government leaders and their army is unclear, but there have been reports that in the past fortnight all but two battalions have moved to Bukavu.



Mubutu: his guard took part in repatriation

Geneva, said, the refugees said Zairean soldiers torched their makeshift dwellings during yesterday's expulsion, but the Zairean Army accused the refugees of perpetrating it themselves.

At the Rwandan border, in the middle of one group of expelled hunchbacked, women and sobbing babies, Nyira Mubutu, 25, stood with her head

IPS TERRAVIVA (NEW YORK) - 22 August 1995

**RIGHTS GROUPS WORRY AS  
ZAIRE EXPULSION GROWS***by Farhan Haq*

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 21 (IPS) - The expulsion this weekend of Rwandan refugees from Zaire was just the start of what may be a massive forced repatriation of refugees, U.N. officials and refugee rights activists warn. U.N. officials confirmed here Monday that the Zairean government's expulsion Saturday of at least hundreds of Rwandan refugees has been followed by further expulsions in the following days. One human rights official based in New York told IPS on condition of anonymity that the number of Rwandans expelled from the Zairean towns of Uvira and Bukavu may already approach 100,000. "Everything that's happening is growing by the hour as we speak," she said. The office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has not been able to confirm the number of expulsions, since it has relied primarily on Zairean troops to provide them with access to the refugee camps in the first place. So far, the agency could only confirm a few thousand expulsions based on the limited access they have to the refugee camps. During Monday alone, at least 3,000 Rwandans were driven out of Zaire, said Pirkko Kourula, UNHCR's deputy head in New York. In the largest camps at Goma, about 1,500 left for the Rwandan border while another 2,000 are awaiting transport, she said. More than 1,000 people left the camps at Uvira, with about 750 fleeing to Burundi and the remainder going to Rwanda. Kourula added. The flight of the Rwandans has been accompanied by unconfirmed reports of harassment and killings. "There was smok-

/...

ing coming from the huts and shops, and there was looting," Kourula said, describing UNHCR eyewitness accounts of the camps. "We fear there were some deaths, as well. It's been a confused situation." UNHCR and some 3,000 Zairean soldiers had been seeking to maintain security in the camps — which may boast perhaps a million Rwandans and some 50,000 militia forces and soldiers loyal to the former Rwandan government — since winter. But UNHCR was not informed of Zaire's intent to expel the refugees until troops started to clear out camps forcibly on Saturday, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said. Eckhard added that some of the refugees now seem to have voluntarily left Zaire to return to Rwanda following a year of exile near the border. "The Rwandan government is processing them, registering them and promised to provide UNHCR access," he said. He added that UNHCR would support the repatriations as long as they are truly voluntary. The human rights official, however, said there is a huge discrepancy between the number of people expelled and those who have actually crossed the border into Rwanda. "Those departed into Rwanda are very low," she said. "In the Uvira area, four camps are essentially empty, but people are in the hills, hiding."

Kourula confirmed the account, saying that UNHCR has a rough estimate of as many as 35,000 Rwandans hiding in the mountains near Uvira. For now, Zaire's motive in expelling the Rwandans remains a mystery. Officials were not available at Zaire's U.N. mission to answer requests for information. "We were astonished by the act of the Zairean government," said Rwandan diplomat Pierre-Emmanuel Ubalijoro. "To tell you the truth, we don't understand it." In recent days, Zairean officials had warned that they would oppose any U.N. efforts to lift an arms embargo placed last year on Rwanda. For weeks, Rwanda's new multi-ethnic government had lobbied the U.N. Security Council to lift the embargo, arguing that former Rwandan Army (FAR) forces had successfully re-armed at their bases in the Zairean camps and could attack Rwanda anew. But Zaire, an FAR ally, remained opposed, arguing in an Aug 10 statement that any new arms flows to Rwanda could destabilise the entire central African region. The human rights official argued that Zaire may thus have begun the expulsions to retaliate after the Security Council unanimously lifted the arms embargo on the Rwandan government last Wednesday. "Some of (the expulsion activity) may be just to destabilise the area," she added. But Ubalijoro noted that Zairean Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo wrote U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali a letter following the

Council decision that indicated Kinshasa would accept the U.N. body's resolution. "The letter from the Zairean prime minister said they were no longer opposed" to the lifting, Ubalijoro said. He added that Rwanda was prepared to accept all the refugees who desired to return to the country. But he warned of Zaire's expulsions, "They should not do it with brutality." The mood in Zaire itself, meanwhile, has grown more hostile as the refugees began their second year in exile. Most of the refugees came last July when the FAR, blamed for last year's genocidal massacres of as many as one million Rwandans, was defeated by the present government. "The mood in Zaire is very pro-expulsion," the human rights official warned. ■

THE TIMES (LONDON) - 23 August 1995

## Arms for Rwanda led to expulsions

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations lifted the arms embargo on Rwanda in spite of a warning by Zaire that it could provoke the mass expulsion of refugees.

The Security Council voted unanimously last Wednesday to suspend the embargo for one year, allowing arms shipments to the Rwandan Government provided that they went through specific entry points and were registered with the United Nations. On September 1, 1996, the embargo will be lifted entirely, unless Security Council members raise objections after receiving a final report from the UN Secretary-General.

The current Rwandan Government had been arguing for months that it should not be bound by UN sanctions im-

posed in May 1994 on the previous Hutu-led regime to prevent it waging a campaign of genocide against the Tutsi minority. Rwandan officials said they needed weapons to defend the country from attacks by Hutu extremists across the border in Zaire.

Hearing echoes of Bosnia, the United States, Germany and non-aligned nations decided that the internationally recognised Rwandan Government should be allowed to exercise its legitimate right of self-defence. Zaire, however, expressed concern that the Rwandan Government would use its new firepower to attack refugee camps on Zaire's soil.

The Zairean Government told the resident representative of the UN Development

Programme in Kinshasa that the lifting of the arms embargo would prompt mass expulsions, a warning conveyed to the Security Council.

The president of the Security Council summoned Zaire's charge d'affaires in New York, Lucien Khabouzi N'Zaji, who said that changes to the resolution imposing monitoring requirements, had met Zaire's concerns.

In a speech just before the Security Council vote, however, Mr N'Zaji delivered a much harsher message. By suspending the embargo on the supply of arms to Rwanda for a trial period of one year, the Security Council would authorise Rwanda to obtain military equipment and other modern, sophisticated war

material at a time when it is barely concealing its warlike intentions and when it is threatening to attack refugee camps in Zaire.

"Facing this situation, Zaire is justified in derogating from the principle that refugees should not be subjected to measures such as refusal of entry at the border or, if they have already entered a territory where they seek asylum, expulsion or deportation."

**Envoy chosen:** The UN is to appoint Cape Verde's former ambassador at the UN as a special envoy to deal with the refugee crisis in Central Africa. José Luis Jesus will travel to the area for talks on stopping the expulsion of refugees and setting up a regional security conference.

THE WASHINGTON POST - 23 August 1995

# 10,000 Rwandans Ousted By Zaire; 60,000 Flee

*U.N. and U.S. Denounce Massive Ouster*

From News Services

GOMA, Zaire, Aug. 22—Setting fire to huts and looting refugee camps, Zairian soldiers forced thousands of Rwandans back to their country today, spurring another 60,000 refugees to flee into the hills to escape the expulsions.

The Zairian troops sent an estimated 10,000 across the border, the most since Zaire began expelling Rwandans on Saturday. U.N. spokesman Ron Redmond said the removal of refugees from camps in eastern Zaire could turn into a disaster if not stopped.

Zairian officials gave no explanation, but the government of dictator Mobutu Sese Seko appeared to be pressing the United Nations to find another country to take the refugees. Zaire borders nine countries and has 1.8 million refugees, more than any other nation in the world.

At U.N. headquarters in New York, the Security Council president told Zaire to stop expelling refugees to Rwanda, and Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali asked the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, to make an urgent trip to Zaire for talks with the government.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said, "The United States is very concerned that Zaire has chosen to take action that not only violates international humanitarian principles but could precipitate a human disaster if tens of thousands of refugees continue to be uprooted."

An estimated 1.2 million Rwandans, most of them from the majority Hutu tribe, fled to Zaire after Tutsi-led rebels seized power from the Hutu-dominated government in July 1994. The rebel takeover followed a campaign of mass tribal slaughter orchestrated by the government and Hutu militias that killed an estimated 800,000 people, mostly Tutsis.

Among the refugees are soldiers, militiamen and officials of the former government who are blamed for planning and carrying out the massacre. Rwanda's government has charged that the Hutu militants were rearming in the refugee camps and preparing to attack Rwanda.

Many of the refugees feared retaliation for the mass killings if they returned. The Rwandan government was screening those who returned, searching for the perpetrators of last year's killings.

Gunfire sounded this morning at the Goma camps. U.N. refugee spokesman Peter Kessler reported. It was not immediately clear who was shooting or if there were casualties.

Zairian troops used trucks, buses and private vehicles to ferry refugees from the Mugunga camp near Goma to the Rwandan border, said U.N. refugee spokesman Chris Bowera. Refugees complained about being beaten by soldiers and having their belongings stolen. They said smoke billowed from Mugunga after soldiers set fire to some refugees' huts to encourage them to leave.

"Let them go," said one Zairian immigration official who refused to give his name. "They have been killing us. They have been stealing from us. They are more than we are."

Most of the refugees at Goma were women, elderly men and children who seemed resigned to being forced back to Rwanda. They carried plastic buckets of water, straw sleeping mats and bundles of food.

"If they say we must go, we go," said Ngeremanyera Bititwayechi, 50, as he waited at the border for his eight children, who were separated from him during the roundup.

After refugees crossed the border, they were being bused to a U.N. transit camp 15 miles south of the Rwandan town of Gisenyi.

In an effort to escape the expulsions, thousands more Rwandan refugees ran for cover into eastern Zaire's gorilla parks, forests and lush hills. "Entire families are just taking off, running into the woods and national parks," said an exhausted U.N. field official at Rwanda's northwestern border crossing to Zaire, as refugees were being dumped.

"It's a real mess. There are people all over the place," he added, gesturing to hills overlooking the blue waters of Lake Kivu, a popular honeymoon spot for foreign tourists until the Rwandan refugees swept in last year.

## US Taps African Despot for Help In Rwanda Crisis

By George Moffett

Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

WASHINGTON

UNITED States officials are increasingly concerned about the prospect of renewed violence in the battered nation of Rwanda. To help forestall such a catastrophe, the US is quietly turning for help to a notorious African despot it has shunned for years: Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko.

US officials are under no illusions about Mr. Mobutu, whose 30-year rule has been marred by corruption and human rights violations and whose own rule is so precarious that he lives on an isolated estate hundreds of miles from the Zairian capital.

Whether Mobutu will help remains to be seen. As of this writing Zaire continued to forcibly expatriate thousands of Rwandan refugees who have encamped on its soil for

months. Aid officials said they believed Zaire's leaders are trying to force the United Nations to find another country to share the Rwanda refugee burden.

At the same time, US officials recognize that by virtue of geographical proximity and historically close ties to the former Rwandan Hutu leadership, the wily Mobutu is uniquely positioned to help solve the Rwandan crisis.

According to Clinton administration sources, low-level talks are quietly being held in Washington through an intermediary said to be close to Mobutu. One purpose of the talks is to explore ways in which the Zairian leader can help prevent the renewal of a conflict that has already claimed more than half-a-million lives.

"We've got to deal with what we've got, and Mobutu is a real politician who understands the game," says one senior administration source. "Mobutu is an absolutely critical dynamic in the situation."

### The Mobutu gambit

"Given the unwillingness of the international community to do anything, it's hard to see any other way of handling the situation in Rwanda other than a Mobutu gambit," concurs a well-placed congressional source.

The administration official quickly adds that the US will neither engage in direct talks with Mobutu in the US nor grant Mobutu a long-sought visa to come to Washington unless he takes specific steps to democratize Zaire. The minimum requirement, the official says, will be a timetable for elections and international verification of the entire election process.

"Until he does something on the democratization front in Zaire — regardless of what he does for Rwanda and Burundi — the US will not grant Mobutu a visa to come to Washington," the official says.

An orgy of ethnic violence was touched off in Rwanda last year following an unexplained plane crash that killed the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi. The violence abated after members of the country's minority Tutsi tribe took control of the government and 1.5 million of its majority Hutu population fled to neighboring Zaire. Another 700,000 fled to Tanzania.

But with the rapid rearming and training of members of the former Rwandan Armed Forces (ex-FAR's) in the Zairian refugee camps, Western observers are concerned about a new wave of violence — which is where Mobutu comes in.

Diplomatic observers say one way to prevent future violence would be to create an "interpositional force" made up of Zairian soldiers to keep the armed rebels and Rwandan government forces

separated.

Fifteen hundred soldiers from Mobutu's Israeli-trained elite guard are already deployed to maintain order in the refugee camps. US officials estimate that between 5,000 and 10,000 additional regular Army troops would be needed to form a fire wall or *cordon sanitaire* between the ex-FARs and 15,000 heavily armed Rwandan troops that have been mobilized along the border to ward off large-scale incursions.

Mobutu's forces could also play a useful role by seizing the ringleaders of the genocide perpetrated by the Hutus, most of whom are now in camps in Goma and Bukavu that are patrolled by Zairian soldiers.

US officials say solving the Rwanda crisis begins with bringing some 400 principle offenders to trial at the International Court of Justice at the Hague — a task only Zaire can perform, many observers say — then for the Rwandan government to declare a general amnesty for all others.

That would remove the fear of prosecution that dissuaded all but about 400 families per week from crossing back over the border — until they started expelling them in larger numbers over the weekend.

As many as 11,000 Rwandans from the giant Mugunga refugee camp have now driven back into their homeland by Zairian soldiers. UN officials on-scene reported that some refugees were robbed by the troops. Upward of 60,000 other

UNAMIR  
PRESS RELEASE



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*Office of the Spokesman*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**UNAMIR NR 95-49**

**13 December 1995**

**Mandate**

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ambassador Shaharyar M. Khan welcomed the Security Council's decision to renew the mandate for a period of three months. The focus of UNAMIR's activities would be related to encouraging the voluntary return of refugees. Ambassador Khan noted that the 3-month mandate would be UNAMIR's last and that it had been agreed that, after concluding its mandate on March 8, UNAMIR would wind up in 6 weeks. Apart from providing good offices and logistic support for returning refugees, UNAMIR would assist the UNHCR and other International Agencies in encouraging the return of refugees. It would support the Government of Rwanda in promoting a climate of trust. UNAMIR would also protect the International Tribunal during this period. The CIVPOL element of UNAMIR would be withdrawn. Ambassador Khan noted that H.E. President Bizimungu had paid tribute to UNAMIR II's role.

**Tribunal Indictments**

SRSR referred to the indictments issued on 12th December by the International Tribunal in Arusha as a positive step forward in the process of bringing to justice persons accused of genocide and crimes against humanity. Ambassador Khan stated that although the people of Rwanda had waited over a year for the Tribunal to start functioning, Judge Goldstone, the Chief Prosecutor, had kept to his word that the first indictments would be made in 1995. Ambassador Shaharyar Khan added that this was the beginning of the process which would gather momentum. He expressed the hope that all member States would cooperate with the Tribunal. Ambassador Khan stated that he was encouraged by the response of regional member States at the Cairo Summit. Kenya had also indicated clearly to the Tribunal that it would cooperate with its decisions. Ambassador Khan expressed the hope that the national judicial system would be revived in the near future.

**NGOs and arrests**

SRSR expressed concern at the announcement that 38 NGOs had recently been ordered out of the country. Ambassador Khan stated that while it was Rwanda's sovereign right to decide on the activities of NGOs operating in the country, he hoped that the appeals by the NGOs would be given due consideration by the Government.

Ambassador Khan also expressed concern at the arrest of Mr. Jean-Baptiste Barambirwa, President of CLADHO after he had made a speech on Sunday. Ambassador Khan stated that freedom of speech was a basic pillar of human rights. SRSR noted that Mr. Barambirwa would be presented before the Procurer today and he expressed the hope that Mr. Barambirwa would be treated with transparent justice.

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*Office of the Spokesman*

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25 November 1995

**JUST A REMINDER**

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**Members of the Security Council up to 31 December 1995**

China  
France  
Russian Federation  
United Kingdom  
United States of America  
Argentina  
Botswana  
Czech Republic  
Germany  
Honduras  
Indonesia  
Italy  
Nigeria  
Oman  
Rwanda

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**The G. 10 are**

Belgium  
Canada  
France  
Germany  
Ghana  
India  
The Netherlands  
Nigeria  
United Kingdom  
United States of America

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**For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84266 ext.: # 11075 or 11081 or 111077.**



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*Office of the Spokesman*

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**UNAMIR NR 95-48**

**7 November 1995**

**VISIT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY  
ACTIVITY IN RWANDESE REFUGEE CAMPS**

The members of the International Commission of Inquiry on Rwandese refugees' military training and arms supplies to refugee camps will arrive in Kigali tomorrow, Wednesday 8 November 1995. Upon their arrival at the Airport at 9:45 a.m. they will give a press conference, to which all media are invited.

The Commission was appointed by the Secretary-General, in accordance with Security Council Resolution 1013 (1995) of 7 September 1995, which requested, as a matter of urgency, the establishment of such a Commission to investigate reports of arms transfer to former Rwandese government forces and military training of Rwandese refugees in the Great Lakes' region. Its membership is as follows:

<b>Ambassador Mahmoud Kassem, Egypt</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Inspector Jean-Michel Hanssens, Canada</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Col. Jürgen G.H. Almeling, Germany</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Lt. Colonel Jan Meijvogel, Netherlands</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Brigadier Mujahid Alam, Pakistan</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Colonel Lamek Mutanzda, Zimbabwe</b>	-	<b>Member</b>

The Commission is expected to proceed to Zaire after Kigali. It will later visit Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania.

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84496, 94539, 84510 ext.: # 11075 or 11081 or 11077.

(2) 5036

Press Release

See the full version of the release has  
been posted to UNRIS' spokesperson and will  
be on request

14/9 14/02/95  
14/02/95  
14/02/95



UNITED NATIONS  
ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA

NATIONS UNIES  
MISSION POUR L'ASSISTANCE AU RWANDA

UNAMIR - MINUAR

## NEWS RELEASE

UNAMIR NR 95.35

13 Sep 95

KIGALI, RWANDA -- United Nations military observers have confirmed first-hand that 101 men, women and children have been found shot dead in three separate sites at Kanama commune in Gisenyi prefecture. Eyewitnesses to the attacks further reported that eight more people were killed. 24 people were killed at the first site, 22 at the second site and 55 at the third site spread over a 4 km area. Periodic exchanges of fire in the area were reported over a period of ten hours commencing at 7 p.m. on 11 Sep through to 5:30 a.m. on 12 Sep. Those who died were killed by gunfire, although of 16 injured and hospitalized, some suffered machete wounds. One of the dead included the Bourgemestre of Kanama commune.

The attacks took place in a predominantly Hutu area which was regarded as a hot bed of activity by infiltrators and saboteurs from Zaire over the past six months and as a result is heavily patrolled by soldiers of the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA). The RPA have carried out a number of local cordon and search operations in the area recently. On 11 Sep, a RPA Lieutenant had been killed in an ambush in the same area and an intensive cordon and search operation to flush out the infiltrators/saboteurs appears to have taken place. The deaths occurred during this operation.

UNAMIR officials are consulting with the Rwandan Government and Human Rights to further assess who was responsible and why the incident took place. UNAMIR military observers, Human Rights monitors, UN Civilian Police, the Rwandese Gendarmerie and the local RPA have agreed to a joint inquiry into the incident. The preliminary results are expected later in the evening. Vice President Paul Kagame has proceeded to the area as have Human Rights

monitoring teams.

The Special Representative to the Secretary General, Ambassador Shaharyar Khan, has expressed his profound concern at the deaths in the Kanama incident. He stated, "We are trying to determine who was responsible and will press for appropriate measures to take place. A terrible incident like this also represents a serious setback to efforts to convince refugees to return to Rwanda."

**Note to editors: For more information, please contact the UNAMIR Military Spokesperson, Lt(N) Kent Page at (212) 963-3582, ext 11124 or at (212) 963-9906, ext 11124.**

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**PRESS  
BRIEFINGS**



## INFORMATION NOTE

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**TO:** All Media

**DATE:** 21 November 1995

**FROM:** The Office of the Spokesman, <sup>NSD</sup>UNAMIR

**SUBJECT:** Press Conference

The Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, Justice Richard Goldstone, will visit Rwanda on Thursday, 23 November, 1995.

At the conclusion of his visit on that same date, he will hold at 3.30 p.m. a press conference at the VIP Lounge of the International Airport, to which all media are invited.

You are therefore welcome to attend the event.

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For more information, please contact the Office of the Spokesman in Kigali: phone: 84496, 84539 ext.: # 11075 or 11081 or 11077.

PRESS

RWANDESE PRESS

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(MILITARY)