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BOX 116

FILE 8

ACC. 1998/0283

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TAC HQ
BUTARE

OPS/22

07 MARCH, 1995

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DEATH OF THE PREFECT OF BUTARE-
DR PRUCLAVER
ON 4 MARCH 1995

References:

- A. Incident Report dated 04 Mar 95.
- B. Ops 494 dated 5 Mar 95.
1. The emerging information concerning the death of the Prefect of Butare suggests that his death was more or less premeditated.
2. Earlier in the day of Sat 4 Mar 95, the Prefect had travelled to Kigali. He was said to have visited the Prime Minister of Rwanda and some government officials. While returning to Butare, he stopped over to see the Bourgermester of Rusitira. By the time he left Rusitira, it has become very dark.
3. At about 042055 hours, his car was stopped at Mbazi Commune GR 738183 by about 5 men who were dressed in jeans and their faces partially covered. After he has been fully identified by the assailants he was fired upon at point blank, killing him instantly and two others (his son and driver). The armed RPA escort who accompanied the Prefect was shot in the arm and in the leg.
4. An informant who saw the assailant at the scene was unable to identify any, neither could he remember the number. But the RPA escort put the number at about five.
5. It was also disclosed that if the assailant have meant to kill other people, the informant would have been killed because he passed so close to them that the flashes from their rifles were noticeable in the car. This made him to believe that there was firing from inside the car. He also met a motor cyclist immediately after the incident heading towards the place of the incident. Infact he presumed that the motor cyclist could be an RPA soldier. Suffice is to say that this is an area well dominated by RPA soldiers.
6. Another interesting feature was that there was a truck packed not far away from the scene. He could also not identify this truck.

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7. After the evacuation of the wounded RPA soldier, suggestions were made that the corpses of the victims be evacuated but this was ignored by the RPA. Further suggestion for a search of the immediate surroundings for vital evidence on Sunday morning following the incident was also turned down.

8. After the death of the Prefect of Butare on Saturday night, the Vice President, Maj Gen Paul Kagame visited Butare the following Sunday accompanied by a large number of RPA soldiers.

9. On Monday, 6 March 1995, at 1530 hours, the remains of the Prefect and his son were interred according to Catholic Rites. In attendance were the President, the Prime Minister of Rwanda and some government Ministers. The Special Representative to the Secretary General (SRSG) to Rwanda Mr Shaka Khan was also present. He laid a wreath on behalf of UNAMIR and the Chief Operations Officer also laid another wreath on behalf of Tactical Headquarters.

10. The death of the Prefect, although took everybody by surprise, it has by no means further threatened the security of the area as everybody goes on his normal business unmolested. This further suggests that the death was sinister. However, the opinion of the Government Forces here was that it was the handwork of militia.

11. To curb such ugly incidents in future, it is suggested that all dignitaries if possible, should not travel at night and should not travel in a convoy of less than two vehicles.

13. Grateful acknowledge receipt.


H OSAE-ADDAE
Col
Chief Operations Officer

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