

[4 CONFIDENTIAL]

UN ARCHIVES

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UNAMIR - MINUAR

UNAMIR

OUTGOING CODE CABLE

1996 MAR -5 P 10: 52

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P.1/5

TO: ANNAN/GOULDING/HANSEN, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

INFO: KITTANI/GHAREKHAN, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

Shaharyar M. Khan

FROM: SHAHARYAR M. KHAN, UNAMIR, KIGALI

DATE: 5 MARCH 1996

NO.:

MIR

-532

NO. OF PAGES: 5

SUBJECT: Update on returnee figures for the month of February

1. An update of the figures of refugees who returned to Rwanda during the month of February is hereby provided, should it be required to brief orally the Security Council before the debate on the Secretary-General's report.

2. Please find attached a list of figures provided by UNHCR in Kigali. From 1st to 27th February, a total of 23,061 refugees had returned to Rwanda, of which 13,580 from Burundi, 7,606 from Zaire, 1,441 from Tanzania and 434 from Uganda. As these figures show, the administrative closure of some of the camps in the Goma region has not resulted in a massive influx of refugees. The situation in these camps continues to be stable.

3. On 26 February, the Government of Zaire was reshuffled. Mr. Malumba Mbangula, former Vice Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior, who was in charge of the operation of the closure of the refugee camps in Zaire, has left the Government. He has been replaced by Mr. Kamanda wa Kamanda, who was until then Vice Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs. It is yet too early to evaluate whether this reshuffling will have consequences on the return of refugees from Zaire.

4. From 26 to 28 February, a visit to their home communes in Rwanda by some 20 refugees from refugee camps of the Goma region took place, so that they could report to their fellow refugees in the camps about security conditions in Rwanda. This was the first time such a visit was organized for refugees from camps of the Goma region. The visit has proceeded well.

5. Best regards.

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CPD-03-75

UNAMIR

FEBRUARY 1996 DAILY RETURNEE STATISTICS BY COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM.

UNHCR Kigali February 1996			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	
BDI	Old	Spo.	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	11	0	0	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	281	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	1	7	0	5	1	0	1	11	0	0	5	3	4	0	0	0
		Org.	1,688	2,788	0	0	0	48	0	415	0	0	0	34	205	101	2,172	
	Total O/N		1,689	2,795	2	5	1	48	1	426	1	0	5	318	220	101	2,172	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAN	Old	Spo.	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	129	0	0	0	0	84	0	65	0	0	0	0	353	0	0
	Total O/N		0	133	0	0	1	0	86	0	65	0	0	1	2	353	0	0
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UGA	Old	Spo.	30	33	23	22	15	1	36	15	18	5	7	15	5	19	6	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total O/N		30	33	23	22	15	1	36	15	18	5	7	15	5	19	6	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ZRE	Old	Spo.	263	218	177	100	116	112	436	688	770	120	20	160	224	137	35	
		Org.	23	16	0	0	0	3	3	11	16	0	0	0	0	16	0	0
	New	Spo.	3	2	3	0	2	2	0	1	8	0	0	1	0	8	6	
		Org.	49	86	13	0	89	34	123	46	81	0	0	168	55	124	130	
	Total O/N		338	322	193	100	207	151	562	746	875	120	20	329	279	285	171	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTH	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total OTH		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOT	Old	Spo.	293	253	202	122	132	113	474	703	789	125	27	176	242	156	41	
		Org.	23	16	0	0	0	3	3	11	16	0	0	281	0	16	0	0
	New	Spo.	4	11	3	5	3	2	1	12	8	0	5	4	4	8	6	
		Org.	1,737	3,003	13	0	89	82	207	461	146	0	0	202	260	578	2,302	
	Total O/N		2,057	3,283	218	127	224	200	685	1,187	959	125	32	663	506	758	2,349	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Spo.		297	264	205	127	135	115	475	715	797	125	32	180	246	164	47	
		Org.	1,760	3,019	13	0	89	85	210	472	162	0	0	483	260	594	2,302	
	Old		316	269	202	122	132	116	477	714	805	125	27	457	242	172	41	
		New	1,741	3,014	16	5	92	84	208	473	154	0	5	206	264	586	2,308	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Grand total			2,057	3,283	218	127	224	200	685	1,187	959	125	32	663	506	758	2,349

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FEBRUARY 1996 DAILY RETURNEE STATISTICS BY COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM.

UNHCR Kigali February 1996			Day 16	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28	Day 29	Total Month	
BDI	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	17	35	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	281	
	New	Spo.	0	5	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	58
		Org.	579	194	0	166	3,511	639	336	39	0	0	0	42	0	249	13,206	
	Total O/N		579	199	12	166	3,511	640	336	39	0	4	0	42	0	268	13,580	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAN	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	
		Org.	265	0	0	0	0	256	0	0	0	0	0	216	0	31	1,399	
	Total O/N		265	0	0	0	0	258	14	15	0	0	1	216	0	31	1441	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UGA	Old	Spo.	25	28	14	39	36	15	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	434	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total O/N		25	28	14	39	36	15	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	434	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ZRE	Old	Spo.	196	42	4	9	75	86	7	10	39	6	14	6	150	147	4,367	
		Org.	2	0	0	16	2	1	2	55	0	0	3	5	4	0	178	
	New	Spo.	0	3	3	6	0	4	10	13	4	1	115	40	9	3	247	
		Org.	233	0	0	302	25	435	364	82	110	0	1	78	93	93	2,814	
	Total O/N		431	45	7	333	102	526	383	160	153	7	133	129	256	243	7606	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
OTH	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total OTH		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOT	Old	Spo.	221	70	18	48	111	103	48	25	39	10	14	6	150	164	4,875
Org.			2	0	0	16	2	1	2	55	0	0	3	5	4	0	459	
New		Spo.	0	8	15	6	0	5	10	13	4	1	116	40	9	5	308	
		Org.	1,077	194	0	468	3,536	1,330	700	121	110	0	1	336	93	373	17,419	
Total O/N		1,300	272	33	538	3,649	1,439	760	214	153	11	134	387	256	542	23,061		
Total	Spo.		221	78	33	54	111	108	58	38	43	11	130	46	159	169	5,183	
	Org.		1,079	194	0	484	3,538	1,331	702	176	110	0	4	341	97	373	17,878	
	Old		223	70	18	64	113	104	50	80	39	10	17	11	154	164	5,334	
	New		1,077	202	15	474	3,536	1,335	710	134	114	1	117	376	102	378	17,727	
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
Grand total			1,300	272	33	538	3,649	1,439	760	214	153	11	134	387	256	542	23,061	

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FEBRUARY 1996 DAILY RETURNEE STATISTICS BY RWANDESE ENTRY POINTS.

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UNHCR Kigali February 1996			Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15
BYU	Old	Spo.	30	33	23	22	15	1	36	15	18	5	7	15	5	19	6
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total O/N		30	33	23	22	15	1	36	15	18	5	7	15	5	19	6
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BUT	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	1	7	0	5	1	0	1	11	0	0	5	3	4	0	0
		Org.	986	884	0	0	0	48	0	407	0	0	0	0	186	101	2,002
	Total O/N		987	891	0	5	1	48	1	418	0	0	5	3	190	101	2,002
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CYA	Old	Spo.	17	0	2	0	116	0	13	0	1	14	0	0	11	6	17
		Org.	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	281	0	10	0
	New	Spo.	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	8	4
		Org.	6	52	0	0	89	0	27	0	33	0	0	34	0	27	0
	Total O/N		46	54	2	0	207	0	40	1	41	14	0	315	11	51	21
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GIS	Old	Spo.	246	218	177	100	0	112	423	688	770	106	20	160	224	131	18
		Org.	0	16	0	0	0	3	3	11	16	0	0	0	0	6	0
	New	Spo.	3	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
		Org.	43	34	13	0	0	34	96	46	48	0	0	168	55	97	130
	Total O/N		292	268	193	100	0	151	522	745	835	106	20	329	279	234	150
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KBG	Old	Spo.	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	129	0	0	0	0	84	0	65	0	0	0	0	353	0
	Total O/N		0	133	0	0	1	0	86	0	65	0	0	1	2	353	0
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KBY	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total O/N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKI	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	702	1,904	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	19	0
	Total O/N		702	1,904	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	19	0	170
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Spo.		297	264	205	127	135	115	475	715	797	125	32	180	246	164	47
	Org.		1,760	3,019	13	0	89	85	210	472	162	0	0	483	260	594	2,302
	Old		316	269	202	122	132	116	477	714	805	125	27	457	242	172	41
	New		1,741	3,014	16	5	92	84	208	473	154	0	5	206	264	586	2,308
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand total O/N			2,057	3,283	218	127	224	200	685	1,187	959	125	32	663	506	758	2,349

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FEBRUARY 1996 DAILY RETURNEE STATISTICS BY RWANDESE ENTRY POINTS.

UNHCR Kigali February 1996			Day 16	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28	Day 29	Total Month
BYU	Old	Spo.	25	28	14	39	36	15	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	434
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total O/N		25	28	14	39	36	15	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	434
BUT	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
		Org.	515	194	0	166	27	630	274	39	0	0	0	42	0	235	6,736
CYA	Total O/N		515	199	12	166	27	630	274	39	0	0	0	42	0	235	6,791
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	37	0	2	0	4	0	0	17	71	328
		Org.	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	330
	New	Spo.	0	0	2	0	0	1	10	9	0	0	0	37	2	2	87
Org.		176	0	0	54	24	39	235	33	110	0	0	15	0	39	993	
GIS	Total O/N		176	0	2	57	24	78	245	56	110	4	0	52	19	112	1,738
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Old	Spo.	196	42	4	9	75	49	7	8	39	6	14	6	133	93	4,074
		Org.	2	0	0	13	2	0	2	43	0	0	3	5	4	0	129
	New	Spo.	0	3	1	6	0	4	0	4	4	1	115	3	7	3	163
Org.		57	0	0	248	1	396	129	49	0	0	1	63	93	54	1,855	
KBG	Total O/N		255	45	5	276	78	449	138	104	43	7	133	77	237	150	6,221
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	2	14	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Org.		265	0	0	0	0	256	0	0	0	0	0	216	0	31	1,399	
KBY	Total O/N		265	0	0	0	0	258	14	15	0	0	1	216	0	31	1,441
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Org.		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SKI	Total O/N		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Old	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Org.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New	Spo.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Org.		64	0	0	0	3,484	9	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	6,436	
Total	Total O/N		64	0	0	0	3,484	9	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	6,436
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SPO.		221	78	33	54	111	108	58	38	43	11	130	46	159	169	5,183
	ORG.		1,079	194	0	484	3,538	1,331	702	176	110	0	4	341	97	373	17,878
	OLD		223	70	18	64	113	104	50	80	39	10	17	11	154	164	5,334
Grand total O/N	New	Spo.	1,077	202	15	474	3,536	1,335	710	134	114	1	117	376	102	378	17,727
		Org.	0	0	0	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	61
	Total O/N		1,300	272	33	538	3,649	1,439	760	214	153	11	134	387	256	542	23,061
	Refouled		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SPO.		221	78	33	54	111	108	58	38	43	11	130	46	159	169	5,183



UNAMIR - MINUAR

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OUTGOING CODE 246

CRN-059

P.1/3

TO: ANNAN/GOULDING, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

INFO: KITTANI/GHAREKHAN, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

FROM: SHAHARYAR M. KHAN, UNAMIR, KIGALI

Shaharyar M. Khan

DATE: 4 March 1996

NO.:

MIR - 517

NO. OF PAGES: 13

SUBJECT: Follow-up meeting on Bujumbura Plan of Action - February 29, 1996, Addis Ababa

1. I attended the above meeting which was co-chaired by OAU Secretary-General Dr. Salim A. Salim and Higher Commissioner for Refugees, Mme Ogata. Former President Julius Nyerere also attended the Conference. Assistant Secretary-General Lansana Kouyate represented the Secretary-General. Donor countries were represented by delegations led, mainly, at officials level, though the Belgian Minister for Cooperation was present. Rwanda was represented by the Minister for Rehabilitation Patrick Mazimpaka, Tanzania and Burundi by their respective Foreign Ministers, Zaire by their CDA (a cabinet reshuffle having taken place in Zaire immediately before the Conference). SRSGS from Burundi and Rwanda and as also Mr. Aldo Ajello, the European Special Envoy on the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region were also present. The main speeches were made by the Co-Chairmen, the Assistant Secretary-General Kouyate and the countries of origin and asylum. The final communiqué is attached.

2. I summarise below the salient features of the Conference:

- a) There was a marked improvement in the atmosphere between Rwanda and the asylum countries, notably Zaire. There was agreement across the board to take

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effective steps to implement the Bujumbura Action Plan. These included cross-border visits by Rwandan Ministers into refugee camps, separating political elements in the camps from the ordinary folk by moving them into different camps, the need for transparency and fair treatment by Rwanda to returning refugees and strong follow-up measures which included a 10 member Steering Committee.

b) Rwanda argued that, in fact, over 1.2 million refugees had returned in 1994, though not through regular channels. The Rwandan Minister acknowledged the role of justice and stated that the national system would be revived within the next few months. [He admitted to me, privately, that Rwanda had lost a year because the previous Minister of Justice was not a good organizer and administrator].

c) Rwanda called for the separation of the intimidators from the ordinary people. Tanzania and Zaire also supported measures for separation and stated that they were in the process of doing so. Zaire called for donor assistance to carry out its obligations.

d) The Conference supported the concept of effective follow-up action. It was agreed that a 10 member Steering Committee would meet every 3 months to ensure implementation. The SRSB's in Burundi and Rwanda have been included in the Steering Committee.

e) Rwanda continued to oppose the concept of an International Conference, recording a reservation in the final communiqué. Its stated reason is that the Bujumbura Action Plan should first be implemented before an International Conference is scheduled. Rwanda's real opposition stems from fear of political pressure being brought to bear on it to negotiate with the opposition.

3. In my brief intervention, I endorsed the co-chair's view that a 'convergence of interest' existed for the return of refugees as also a political will to implement the Bujumbura Accords. It was now necessary for all parties concerned - the countries of asylum, origin and donors - to take simultaneous, co-ordinated and sustained action to develop momentum. A quick solution should not be conceived but the main effort should be to engender momentum. I then suggested focus and fine-tuning of the Action Plan on the following four

issues:

- a) Separation of political elements (who might not necessarily be criminals) to more distant camps. This should not be confused with re-location which was a separate and more expensive plan that could be reviewed later.
- b) Revival of the entire pyramid of the judiciary in Rwanda which included the Triage Commission, communal police, gendarmerie etc.
- c) The need to project positive results, in the camps. I argued that while negative news travelled quickly on its own, positive results of which there were numerous examples needed to be carefully and deliberately projected. I stated that this projection had not taken place. I suggested greater use of UN Radio and the neutralisation of "hate radios".
- d) I referred to the negative effect of militarised infiltration and sabotage from the camps that created tensions and a vicious circle of violence. I underlined Zaire, Tanzania and UNHCR's concern at this development which took place despite their efforts to control this activity.

3. Generally, the Conference was more concerned with Burundi than with Rwanda. At a lunch convened by Secretary-General of the OAU, President Nyerere offered his personal services in Burundi to assist OAU in improving the political situation. At the Conference itself, concern was expressed at developments in Burundi. Ambassador Kouyate and SRSG Faguy will no doubt be sending their assessments of the Conference related to Burundi. My personal impression is that President 's Nyerere's initiative supported by OAU found general support with a few reservations. The Secretary-General's proposal for a reserve force, despite Burundi's opposition, found increasing favour and the concept of an International Conference was generally approved (except Rwanda) but seen as an event that should be well prepared and predicated on movement forward on the Bujumbura Action Plan.

Best regards.

CRS-059 4/13
7/11RECOMMENDATIONS

The Second Meeting of the Implementation of the Plan
of Action of Bujumbura, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
on February 29th, 1996

ALL STAFF

The Committee,

Recalling the principles of the Bujumbura Plan of Action, most particularly those outlined under Section C, D and E, concerning the measures to be taken by respectively, the countries of origin, the countries of asylum and the international community,

Recalling the concerns reflected in the Communiqué of the First Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region held on May 26, 1995 in Addis Ababa,

Having considered the progress report prepared by the OAU/UNHCR Secretariat on the Implementation of the Plan of Action of the Regional Conference of Bujumbura on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region,

Taking note of the statements made by the most affected countries in the Great Lakes Region, namely Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action,

Deeply concerned about the deterioration of the security situation in Burundi and its consequences on displacement of populations,

Conscious of the burden on asylum countries and the adverse effects of the presence of refugees on their environment, infrastructure and security of the local communities,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Members of the Follow-up Committee and the Joint OAU/UNHCR Secretariat in the implementation of the Bujumbura Conference Plan of Action, especially in the search for durable solutions to the humanitarian problems in the Great Lakes Region,

Taking note of the efforts undertaken by the Rwandese Government in addressing the issue of internally displaced persons as well as the success in implementing voluntary repatriation from Burundi,

Considering the obvious consensus that voluntary repatriation in conditions of safety and dignity remains the most viable solution,

Taking note of the positive role played by the Zairian camp security contingent and the Tanzanian police in cooperation with UNHCR in the improvement of the security condition in refugee camps,

Reaffirming the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps.

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A. COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN**Rwanda**

Calls on Rwanda to reinforce the confidence building measures to encourage and accelerate repatriation by adopting the following measures,

1. Intensify the mass information campaign through active and more regular contacts between Rwandese authorities at all levels and the refugees on one hand and the local population on the other. Urgent attention should be given to visits between Rwanda and Zaire,
2. Disseminate information on the rehabilitation of the judicial system, the categorization of culpability in crime of genocide, the arrest procedure and the functioning of the Commission de Triage (Screening Committee),
3. Address expeditiously and comprehensively the issue of property rights by :-
 - a) expediting the mobilization, disbursement of resources and allocation of land for the resettlement and reintegration of the old caseload returnees in Rwanda,
 - b) providing clear information and guidelines on the restitution of property to the new caseload of refugees,
4. Continue to collaborate with UNHCR and other concerned international organizations in the communes of return to ensure that monitoring activities receive the full cooperation and support of the local authorities,
5. Continue to contain security incidents and take appropriate measures in a transparent manner in order to correct the perception of refugees about the prevailing security situation in Rwanda,
6. Commends all parties to the various Tripartite Agreements with Rwanda for their efforts in making full use of this mechanism and encourages them to pursue this process,

Burundi

In view of the potential danger of the deteriorating political and security situation in Burundi,

7. Encourages the Government of Burundi in its effort to create confidence and the necessary security conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons.

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8. Calls upon the International Community to continue providing assistance to the internally displaced persons and refugees from Burundi and commends countries from the region which continue to grant asylum to Burundi nationals in need of protection and security,
9. Calls upon the Government of Burundi to continue in its efforts to ensure the voluntary and accelerated repatriation of Rwandese refugees,
10. Further calls upon the Government of Burundi to continue its sensitization campaign in collaboration with UNHCR on repatriation and to address the problem of intimidators,
11. Requests the Burundi authorities to ensure the security of the refugees pending their repatriation and to implement at the appropriate time its decision on the relocation of the residual caseload,
12. Urges the Government of Burundi to ensure the safety of humanitarian personnel and operations.

B. COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM

Appeals to countries of asylum to continue their efforts in the promotion of voluntary repatriation by :-

13. Expediting the process of separation from the refugee camps of the intimidators and political activists who are obstructing the voluntary repatriation of refugees,
14. Strengthening the measures aimed at curbing commercial activities in the camps and reducing other economic activities of refugees which motivate them to remain in exile,
15. Cooperating fully with the International Tribunal for Rwanda and initiating steps in accordance with the Resolution of the Security Council to enact national laws to enable them to prosecute suspected perpetrators of genocide in their respective territories,
16. Reviewing periodically, together with UNHCR, the need for protection and assistance of refugees on their territories,
17. Providing full support to UNHCR in its mass information campaign to promote repatriation by informing and correcting prevailing perceptions of the refugees on the security situation in the country of origin.

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C. INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

18. Expresses its appreciation for the role of the OAU Mission in Burundi (OMIB) and calls upon the international community to strengthen the OMIB's presence by providing additional resources,
19. Urges the international community to continue to assist the countries of asylum and meet the basic needs of refugees, especially by ensuring continuity in food supply,
20. Urges the international community to provide needed assistance to various agencies and organizations involved in the repatriation of refugees to Rwanda and to help Rwanda in its rehabilitation efforts and the reintegration of returnees,
21. Calls upon the international community to provide the needed resources for the functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and to cooperate with it in tracking suspected perpetrators of genocide.
22. Requests the international community to expeditiously locate hate-radios and to take appropriate measures to neutralize them,
23. Urges the international community to participate actively in and to support the work of concerned countries in their efforts to separate intimidators and dismantle political structures in the camps which discourage repatriation,
24. Supports the coordination of the various political initiatives aimed at finding a comprehensive solution to the prevailing situation in Burundi,
25. Takes note of the on-going initiatives aimed at finding a comprehensive solution to the crisis in the region and supports the convening, as soon as possible, of an international conference on peace, security and development under the auspices of the United Nations and the OAU, ^{1/}
26. Supports any initiatives aimed at restoring confidence in Burundi notably through the rehabilitation of the judicial system, education and the return of the internally displaced persons and calls upon the international community to approve the comprehensive plan adopted by the Government of Burundi,

1 NB:

The Rwandese delegation expressed its reservation regarding the convening of the International Conference on Peace, Stability and Development under the auspices of United Nations and OAU to which it does not wish to be associated with.

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27. Supports the initiatives of donor countries to assist countries of asylum on bilateral basis to cope with the adverse impact of large numbers of refugees on the environment, infrastructure and local communities and urges them to continue funding such activities.
28. Having considered the progress report on the UNDP/UNHCR initiative in the Great Lakes Region, approves the short term strategy for assistance to countries of asylum and calls upon the donor community to honour its financial commitments as soon as possible; furthermore, it endorses the establishment by UNDP, in close liaison with the host countries of a coordination and information mechanism for its implementation and reiterates the importance of convening a Round Table at some stage.
29. Requests that the bilateral and multilateral assistance to the refugee affected areas should be given wide publicity to inform and educate the general public on international solidarity, the burden sharing with the host countries and the coordination mechanism.

D. FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

30. Having reviewed the present Follow-up Mechanism of the Bujumbura Conference Plan of Action recommends :-
 1. The setting up of a Steering Committee composed of ten Members with equal distribution between affected and donor countries, namely Burundi, Rwanda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaïre, the United States of America, the Representative of the European Union, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi, the Representative of the Secretary General in Rwanda, the OAU and UNHCR. The competence of this Steering Committee, will be to monitor and evaluate on a regular basis the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action and report to the Follow-up Committee,
 2. The Steering Committee will be alternatively chaired by the Secretary General of the OAU and the High Commissioner for Refugees and will meet every three months,
 3. The setting up of sub-committees of the Steering Committee at national levels in the countries of the region to facilitate follow up action in the implementation of the Plan of Action,
 4. The strengthening of the OAU/UNHCR Secretariat by designating focal points in both Addis Ababa and Geneva to ensure close interaction and better communication between the two institutions.

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RECOMMANDATIONS

Deuxième Réunion pour la Mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura, tenue à Addis-Abeba, Ethiopie, le 29 février 1996

Le Comité.

Rappelant les principes du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura, plus particulièrement ceux reflétés dans les Sections C, D, et E relatifs aux mesures qui doivent être prises par les pays d'origine, les pays d'asile et la communauté internationale respectivement,

Rappelant les préoccupations exprimées dans le Communiqué de la première réunion du Comité de Suivi de la Conférence Régionale sur l' Assistance aux réfugiés, Rapatriés et Personnes déplacées dans la Région des Grands Lacs tenue le 26 mai 1995 à Addis-Abeba,

Ayant examiné le rapport d'évaluation élaboré par le Secrétariat OUA/HCR sur la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de la Conférence Régionale de Bujumbura sur l'Assistance aux Réfugiés, Rapatriés et Personnes déplacées dans la région des Grands Lacs,

Prenant acte des déclarations des pays les plus touchés dans la Région des Grands Lacs à savoir le Burundi, le Rwanda, la Tanzanie et le Zaïre sur les progrès réalisés dans la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura,

Profondément préoccupé par la détérioration de la situation sécuritaire au Burundi et de ses conséquences sur les populations déplacées,

Conscient de la lourde charge que supportent les pays d'asile et des conséquences résultant de la présence des réfugiés sur l'environnement, l'infrastructure et la sécurité des communautés locales.

Notant avec appréciation les efforts déployés par les membres du Comité de Suivi et du Secrétariat conjoint OUA/HCR dans la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de la conférence de Bujumbura, en particulier dans la recherche de solutions durables aux problèmes humanitaires dans la Région des Grands Lacs,

Prenant note des efforts déployés par le gouvernement rwandais dans le traitement du problème des personnes déplacées ainsi que du succès réalisé dans la mise en oeuvre du rapatriement volontaire à partir du Burundi,

Considérant le consensus évident selon lequel le rapatriement librement consenti dans des conditions de sécurité et de dignité demeure la solution la plus viable,

Prenant note du rôle positif joué par le contingent zaïrois pour la sécurité dans les camps et par la police tanzanienne en coopération avec le HCR dans l'amélioration des conditions de sécurité dans les camps de réfugiés.

Réaffirmant le caractère civil et humanitaire des camps de réfugiés,

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Demande au Gouvernement Rwandais de renforcer les mesures de restauration de confiance en vue d'encourager et d'accélérer le processus de rapatriement en adoptant les mesures ci-après:

1. Dans le cadre de la Campagne d'Information de Masse, intensifier la campagne de sensibilisation de masse à travers des contacts plus actifs et réguliers entre les autorités rwandaises à tous les niveaux et les réfugiés d'une part et les autorités rwandaises, à tous les niveaux et la population locale d'autre part. Une attention urgente doit être accordée aux visites entre le Rwanda et le Zaïre,
2. Diffuser l'information sur la réhabilitation du système judiciaire, la catégorisation des crimes liés au génocide, la procédure d'arrestation et le fonctionnement de la Commission de Triage,
3. Traiter rapidement et globalement la question des droits de propriété par:
 - a) l'accélération de la mobilisation et du décaissement des ressources et de l'attribution des terres pour l'installation et la réintégration des anciens réfugiés au Rwanda,
 - b) la fourniture d'information et de directives détaillées sur la restitution des biens aux nouveaux réfugiés,
4. Continuer à collaborer avec le HCR et les autres organisations internationales concernées dans les communes de retour pour s'assurer que les activités de suivi des rapatriés, sont l'objet d'une coopération et d'un appui entiers des autorités locales,
5. Continuer à contrôler les incidents de sécurité et assurer la transparence des mesures prises afin de corriger l'image que se font les réfugiés de la situation sécuritaire au Rwanda,
6. Louer les efforts déployés par toutes les parties aux différents accords tripartites dans la mise en oeuvre de ce mécanisme et les encourage à poursuivre ce processus,

Burundi

Vu le danger potentiel de la détérioration de la situation politique et sécuritaire au Burundi,

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7. Encourage le gouvernement burundais dans ses efforts visant à créer la confiance et les conditions de sécurité nécessaires pour le retour des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées.
8. Lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour qu'elle poursuive son assistance aux personnes déplacées, aux réfugiés et aux demandeurs d'asile burundais et loue les efforts des pays de la région qui continuent de donner asile aux nationaux burundais en besoin de protection et de sécurité,
9. Lance un appel au gouvernement du Burundi de poursuivre ses efforts pour le rapatriement volontaire et accéléré des réfugiés rwandais,
10. Lance en outre un appel au gouvernement du Burundi pour continuer, en collaboration avec le HCR, sa campagne de sensibilisation sur le rapatriement des réfugiés et le traitement du problème des intimidateurs,
11. Demande aux autorités burundaises de garantir la sécurité des réfugiés en attendant leur rapatriement et de mettre en oeuvre, le moment venu, la décision relative au transfert des cas résiduels,
12. Exhorte le gouvernement du Burundi à assurer la sécurité du personnel et des opérations humanitaires,

B. PAYS D'ASILE

Lance un appel aux pays d'asile pour poursuivre leurs efforts dans la promotion du rapatriement volontaire par:

13. Une accélération du processus d'isolement des intimidateurs et activistes politiques qui entravent le rapatriement volontaire des réfugiés,
14. Un renforcement des mesures visant à réduire les activités commerciales dans les camps et à limiter les autres activités économiques des réfugiés qui les encouragent à rester en exil,
15. Une pleine coopération avec le Tribunal International pour le Rwanda et l'adoption, conformément à la résolution pertinente du Conseil de Sécurité, d'une législation nationale leur permettant de poursuivre les auteurs présumés du génocide sur leurs territoires respectifs,
16. Un examen périodique, en collaboration avec le HCR, du besoin de protection et d'assistance des réfugiés sur leurs territoires,
17. Un soutien entier au HCR dans sa campagne d'information de masse visant à promouvoir le rapatriement par la sensibilisation et la correction de l'image que les réfugiés se font de la situation de sécurité dans le pays d'origine.

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C. COMMUNAUTÉ INTERNATIONALE

18. Exprime son appréciation pour le rôle de la mission de l'OUA au Burundi (MIOB) et lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour le renforcement de la présence de la MIOB par la fourniture de ressources supplémentaires.
19. Exhorte la communauté internationale à continuer d'assister les pays d'asile et à faire face aux besoins essentiels des réfugiés en assurant notamment la continuité en matière d'approvisionnement en vivres,
20. Exhorte en outre la communauté internationale à fournir l'assistance aux agences et organisations participant au rapatriement des réfugiés au Rwanda et à aider le Rwanda dans ses efforts de réhabilitation et d'intégration des rapatriés,
21. Lance un appel à la communauté internationale pour fournir les ressources nécessaires au fonctionnement du Tribunal International pour le Rwanda et coopérer avec lui dans la poursuite des auteurs présumés du génocide,
22. Exhorte la communauté internationale à localiser rapidement les stations de radio de la "Haine" et à prendre les mesures nécessaires afin de les rendre inopérantes,
23. Exhorte la communauté internationale à participer activement et à soutenir les pays concernés dans leurs efforts pour neutraliser les intimidateurs et mettre fin aux structures politiques dans les camps dont le but est de décourager le rapatriement.
24. Soutient la coordination des différentes initiatives politiques visant à trouver une solution à la situation prévalant au Burundi,
25. Prend note des initiatives en cours visant à trouver une solution globale à la crise dans la région et donne son appui à la convocation, le plus tôt possible, d'une conférence internationale sur la paix, la sécurité et le développement sous les auspices des Nations Unies et de l'OUA. 1/
26. Soutient toute initiative visant le retour à la confiance au Burundi notamment par la réhabilitation du système judiciaire, l'éducation et le retour des personnes déplacées et exhorte la communauté internationale à approuver le plan global d'insertion adopté par le gouvernement du Burundi,

1/ NB: La délégation du Rwanda a émis des réserves quant à la tenue d'une conférence internationale à laquelle elle ne voudrait pas être associée.

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27. Apporte son soutien aux initiatives des pays donateurs visant à assister les pays d'asile, sur une base bilatérale, à faire face aux incidences négatives de la présence des réfugiés sur l'environnement, l'infrastructure et les communautés locales et les exhorte à poursuivre le financement de telles activités.
28. Ayant examiné le rapport d'évaluation sur l'initiative du PNUD/HCR dans la région des Grands Lacs, approuve la stratégie à court terme sur l'assistance aux pays d'asile et exhorte la communauté internationale à honorer le plus tôt possible ses engagements; il appuie, par ailleurs, la mise en place, par le PNUD, en liaison étroite avec les pays hôtes, d'un mécanisme de coordination et d'information pour sa mise en oeuvre, et réitère le besoin de convoquer une Table Ronde sur l'assistance aux pays d'asile,
29. Demande que l'assistance bilatérale et multilatérale aux zones d'accueil des réfugiés fasse l'objet d'une ample publicité afin d'informer et de sensibiliser l'opinion publique sur la solidarité internationale, le partage du fardeau avec le pays hôte et le mécanisme de coordination,

D. MECANISME DE SUIVI

30. Ayant examiné le présent Mécanisme de Suivi du Plan d'Action de la Conférence de Bujumbura, recommande:
 1. La mise en place d'un comité permanent, composé de dix membres du Comité de Suivi (avec parité entre les pays affectés et les pays donateurs, nomément le Burundi, le Rwanda, la Tanzanie et le Zaïre, le Représentant de l'Union Européenne, le Représentant du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies au Rwanda, le Représentant du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies au Burundi, l'OUA et le HCR. La compétence de ce Comité permanent sera de suivre et d'évaluer régulièrement la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action de Bujumbura et de faire rapport au Comité de Suivi,
 2. Ce Comité sera présidé alternativement par le Secrétaire Général de l'OUA et le Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les Réfugiés et se réunira tous les trois mois,
 3. La constitution de sous comités du Comité Permanent au niveau de chaque pays de la région pour faciliter le suivi de la mise en oeuvre du Plan d'Action,
 4. Le renforcement du Secrétariat OUA/HCR en désignant des points focaux à Addis-Abeba et à Genève afin d'assurer une étroite interaction et une meilleure communication entre les deux institutions.

UNITED NATIONS
ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA



NATIONS UNIES
MISSION POUR L'ASSISTANCE AU RWANDA

UNAMIR - MINUAR

FROM : MA / ACTING FC *P.S. [signature]*

TO : SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO SRSG

DATE : 26 FEB 96

SUBJECT : CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND
DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION

1. Reference your memorandum on the subject dated 23 Feb 96.
2. Brief on activities of UNAMIR related to the implementation of the Bujumbura Plan of Action is placed below.
3. Best regards.

Office Copy

7/26/02

UN RESTRICTED

FROM : COS

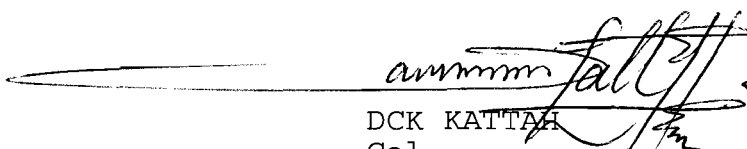
TO : A/FC

DATE : 26 Feb 96

SUBJECT: BRIEF ON ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES IN THE GREAT LAKES
REGION WITH EMPHASIS ON UNAMIR'S OPERATIONS IN RWANDA

1. The brief covers the period Jan 95 to Feb 24, 96.
2. For the period, a total of 279,779 refugees were received into Rwanda from the neighbouring countries. The statistic format is attached as Annex A.
3. During the reception of these refugees a substantial assistance was given by UNAMIR either in isolation or in conjunction with the UNHCR and other UN agencies.
4. The assistance ranged from supporting the UNHCR with fleet of vehicles to move refugees from the border points to transit camps, to the provision of medical, engineering in the form of construction of transit camps, upgrading tracks and roads to prisons, raising security walls/fences and construction of security observation posts, lights and fences.
5. UNAMIR also repaired/constructed water services, bridges, schools, electrical lines and orphanages. UNAMIR also assisted in transportation or distribution of food, text books, Government and Commune officials, Construction material, seeds and critically ill/injured people.
6. Various UNAMIR contingents also donated, seeds, blankets, shoes, mattresses and beds, food and stationery to orphanages and some Communes in Rwanda.
7. The statistics are as shown in Annex B.

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DCK KATTAR
Col
Chief of Staff

Find copy of this to SPA to SRSG giving ref of their letter asking reports for 'Bujumbura Cong'.

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P/C
26 Feb

TOTAL OF RETURNEES FOR THE PERIOD JAN 95-24 FEB 96

ZAIRE	100853
BURINDI	60288
TANZANIA	16092
UGANDA	100593
OTHERS	1953
TOTAL	279779

1. Since the Current Mandate UNAMIR has under taken many Humanitarian tasks to help the Rwandese people through the following activities:

a. **Medical**

- Immunized thousands of Rwandan against diseases;
- Medically treated thousands of Rwandan;
- Distributed life-saving medicines to local dispensaries;
- and,
- Assisted in the training of hospital medical staff.

b. **Mine Safety**

- Safely cleared and defused several thousand land mines and explosives; and
- Conducted mine awareness training programmes in communes.

c. **Transportation Assistance**

- Assisted in the transportation and safe return of refugees back to their home communes;
- Provided vehicle for and escorted hundreds of humanitarian relief convoys; and,
- assisted in the transport of schoolchildren, food, textbooks, **RPA** soldiers, government and commune officials, construction material, seeds and critically injured people.

d. **Engineering**

- Construction/Repair of Bridges
 - Constructed following four major bridges:
 - 220 feet long Bailey Bridge at Busoro on river Akyanaru.
 - 60 feet long steel girder bridge at Nyamata.
 - Wooden bridge at Masango.
 - 80 feet long Bailey Bridge at Gashora.
 - Repaired eight other bridges in the country.
- EODTasks--carried out demining/disposal of 303 Nos of bombs/rockets and destroyed 117230 Nos of small arms ammunition.
- Construction/Repair of Roads
 - improved road to the commune work being promoted by Mrs Kagame.
 - improved/constructed 80 Kms of roads.
- Constructed 100 toilets in Rehabilitation School in Butare. Revived the whole water supply system and electricity in the school.
- Construction/dozer efforts
 - dozer work at Presidential Hanger, NGO organisation at Ndera Camp and in an orphanage in Kigali (Sisters of Charity).
 - dozer work for Reburial Ceremony in Kigali, which was attended by dignitaries from Rwanda and Neighbouring countries.
 - dozer work in Nsinda Prison and for Centre De Jeune at Gisungu (Kigali).
 - dozer work for refugees camps at Butare, Kibungo, Cyangugu, Gisenyi and Kigali.
 - improvement of sanitary facilities for prisons at Kigali, Kibungo and Butare.

e. **Communications**

- Provided tpt and manpower to RwandaTel for moving of underground cable drum.
- 300 pairs of UG cable for RwandaTel has been laid from Chez Lando to Remera.

UN RESTRICTED

-Reactivated Rwanda Tel line communication.

f. **Orphanages**

-Provided electrical and plumbing repairs as well as medical and humanitarian assistance to orphanages throughout the country.

g. **Firefighting**

-Assisted in firefighting operations in Kigali.

h. **Donations**

-Donated seeds, blankets, shoes, mattresses, food and stationary to orphanages and communes throughout Rwanda

B-3

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ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA



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MISSION POUR L'ASSISTANCE AU RWANDA

UNAMIR - MINUAR

UNAMIR

JAN 25 P 7 59

CRN 027

P1/4

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TO: KITTANI/GOULDING, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

INFO: GHAREKHAN, UNATIONS, NEW YORK

FROM: For KHAN, UNAMIR, KIGALI

DATE: 25 JANUARY 1996

NO.: MIR 2/3

NO. OF PAGES: 4

SUBJECT: Press Conference of Mr. Patrick Mazimpaka, Minister for Rehabilitation and Social Integration

1. On Wednesday 24 January 1996, Mr. Patrick Mazimpaka, Minister for Rehabilitation and Social Integration gave a Press Conference on the question of Rwandan Refugees. Please find attached the main points of his statement as broadcast by Radio Rwanda and transcribed by Radio UNAMIR Unit.

2. I should like to draw your attention to the last two paragraphs in which the Minister made comments on a statement he attributed to the Secretary-General.

3. Best regards.

A
27/01

UNAMIR
1996 JAN 25 P 8 05

CRN 027
P2/4

TO : W. DE SOUZA Executive Director	From : Zouaoui Benamadi Chief RADIO UNAMIR

MAZIMPAKA'S PRESS CONFERENCE

Tuesday 25 January 1996 : The Minister for Rehabilitation and Social Integration Mr. Patrick MAZIMPAKA yesterday Wednesday 24th 1996, held a press conference at 5p.m in Hotel des Diplomates in Kigali. Here are the main points of his speech :

"Thank you very much for coming to this press conference that I hope will be a brief press conference, and we apologize for the short notice that we gave you. There reasons are we have been having a situation that was not understood concerning some of our refugees in Burundi and you have brought us the news and the media not ourselves about their plight and their attempt to cross into Tanzania. I will make a brief statement and I welcome any questions to clarify the situation.

You know that following the genocide that occurred in Rwanda in 1994, over 200.000 Rwandese people fled to exile in Burundi and most of them went into the province of Ngozi in Northern Burundi. During the last one and half years, there has been continuous refugee movements in that particular region. These movements are involved refugees moving from camp to camp, and also from country to country. With refugees in Burundi there has been movements from Eastern region of Burundi as the area of MUYINGA into Tanzania, and this has caused the number of refugees in Tanzania to swell to close to half a million.

You have heard that during last week over 10.000 first refugees moved from MUGANO camp in Muyinga province into Tanzania. On Monday this week very early in the morning, Rwandese refugees numbering close to 15.000 to 16.000 in Ntamba camp in Muyinga province attempted to cross into Tanzania. We have learned that for clearly understood reasons the Government of Tanzania could not take in any more of our refugees from Burundi. We have also reliably learned that there was no apparent threat or any violent action to have caused the mass exodus. As you know there have been any hardly any casualties that were reported.

Its probable that the anxiety on the part of the refugees may have contributed to the decision to move. We however learned later

Reçu le 25 JAN. 1996

on that some political organisations like RDR and other individuals have been trying to use the refugees as a bargaining chip for political games. This statement you have heard made from Brussels and from Geneva from those individuals.

We deeply regret all these happenings and wish to reiterate our position and firm commitment that all refugees are welcome home unconditionally. At this juncture we would like to plead with the refugees to heed our call and come home. We have received since mid 1994, 130.000 refugees from Burundi. We continue to receive refugees from Burundi. As an example, the month of December and half of January we received over 10.000 refugees from Burundi. There is no reason why therefore our brothers in Burundi should not head home whenever they feel in trouble and wherever they are and even before they get into trouble. This is a result of concrete efforts by our Government and UNHCR that helps us to repatriate refugees from the countries around us.

We have made extraordinary steps in the direction of making the refugees in Burundi in particular understand that they are safe in this country and they are free to come. And that's why we have had a highest rate of repatriation of any country in the region. The Government has put in place the necessary reception mechanisms and over the week-end the threats of those refugees coming home massively became clear, we activated the mechanisms and our personnel and UNHCR personnel were ready with necessary logistics to move refugees comfortably to their home communes.

We were therefore ready to take in all the refugees immediately after the closure of Ntamba camp in fair and secure conditions. Furthermore the Government is dispatching a high ranking delegation to Bujumbura on the 28th this month to hold discussions with the Burundian Government and UNHCR on ways of enhancing a quick return of all the refugees now still in Burundi. The Government is appealing to all agencies, organisations and Governments that can exercise reasonable influence to render all possible assistance to make possible the return of the Rwandese refugees now in exile in neighbouring countries.

The Government regrets the continued political activities and manipulations now are being conducted in refugee camps. Those responsible should refrain from holding genuine refugees as hostages and thus furthering their guilt in the genocide of the year before last year but they should come and exercise their political rights in this country.

Dr. BOUTROS GHALI says on Rwanda that there are signs that the Government is not pursuing a policy of reconciliation anymore; frictions between the more modest members of the Government and hardliners are deep; the fact that the Rwandan Government insisted on the termination of UNAMIR Mission and expelled a number of NGOs demonstrated the hardliners have the upper hand.

Would you expect refugees to return to this country after such a statement from the Secretary General of the UN ? Certainly it's

not only the RDR and the other people responsible for genocide who are creating an atmosphere that does not conduce to the return of refugees, but you can clearly see that a statement like that in our situation is highly irresponsible. I don't believe that those living in this country, can sense this abandoned by this Government of reconciliation. We have been working very hard with UN Aid agencies present here, UNHCR knows we had tried to repatriate refugees, and we consider this statement by the Secretary General unwanted in the situation".

cc :FC
ED
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Spokesman
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Force PM
CO UNAMIR MP Coy
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