

Pseudonym:

UNAMIRZ-11

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Code Cable from Dallaire to Annan

Re: Massacres by ruthless and well-organized gangs

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1. IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION RAISED REGARDING THE RUTHLESS AND WELL ORGANIZED GANGS, WE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

2. THE FIRST MASSACRE OCCURRED ON THE NIGHT OF 17\18 NOV 93, IN THE DMZ, IN 5 DIFFERENT LOCALITIES BETWEEN 2300 AND 0200 HRS. DURING THAT NIGHT 37 MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT FAMILIES, INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WERE KILLED. THE FATHERS\HUSBANDS OF THOSE FAMILIES BELONGED TO THE SAME PARTY, AND HAD BEEN ELECTED FOR THE FUTURE ADMINISTRATION OF THE VILLAGES AND COMMUNES.

3. THE SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION CONCLUDED THAT THESE KILLINGS HAPPENED AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME TIME, IN 5 DIFFERENT LOCALITIES OVER A DISTANCE OF MORE THAN 50 KILOMETERS, WITH THE SAME EFFICIENT ELIMINATION OF WITNESSES, WITH NO EVIDENCE LEFT BEHIND, WITH WELL IDENTIFIED AND PREDETERMINED TARGETS, WITH NO INTEREST IN STEALING NOR DESTROYING UNNECESSARILY THE HOUSES NOR THE FURNITURE. THE SWIFTESS, THE CALLOUS EFFICIENCY AND THE RUTHLESS NUMBER OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN MURDERED PRINCIPALLY BY MACHETES AND BAYONETS WAS OBVIOUS IN THIS WELL ORCHESTRATED OPERATION. A BOARD OF INQUIRY IS STILL ON-GOING IN ORDER TO SHED MORE LIGHT ON THIS TERRIBLE EVENT. FEW ORGANIZATIONS IN RWANDA CAN CONDUCT SUCH OPERATIONS AND THOSE THAT CAN ARE NOT ALL POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED NOR UNDER SURVEILLANCE AT THIS TIME.

4. THE SECOND MASSACRE OCCURRED IN KABATWA ON THE NIGHT OF 29\30 NOV 93, NEAR TO THE LIMITS OF THE NATIONAL PARK OF THE VOLCANOS. 18 PEOPLE WERE KILLED INDISCRIMINATELY WITH JUNGLE KNIVES AND FIREARMS. EXAMPLES OF THE ATROCITIES INCLUDE HANDS CUT OFF, EYES PULLED OUT, SKULLS CRUSHED IN, PREGNANT WOMEN CUT OPEN. DURING THE DAY PRECEDING TO THIS INCIDENT AN ADULT AND 9 CHILDREN DISAPPEARED WHILE COLLECTING WATER IN THE NATIONAL PARK. NEXT DAY A PATROL WENT UP IN THE BAMBOO FOREST AND FOUND THE MAN TIED AND KILLED, FIVE CHILDREN STRANGLED AND RAPED, ONE GIRL STILL ALIVE WITH SERIOUS HEAD WOUNDS AND RAPED. SHE SUBSEQUENTLY DIED OF HER INJURIES.

5. THE INVESTIGATION AND SEARCH PATROLS SENT INTO THE FOREST BY UNAMIR FOUND TRACES OF A BIVOUCAC USED BY APPROXIMATELY 20-30

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PERSONNEL. NO SUBSTANTIVE PROOF WAS FOUND THAT COULD FIRMLY IDENTIFY THE ORIGINS OF THE ASSASSINS. DURING ONE OF THESE PATROLS AN ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE WAS STEPPED ON BY A CIVILIAN FAMILY MEMBER OF THE VICTIMS. THIS ROUTE HAD BEEN USED TWICE PREVIOUSLY BY OUR PATROLS AND ALL EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT THE MINE WAS DELIBERATELY PLACED TO DISSUADE MORE UN PATROLS. ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE MATERIAL FOUND IN THE BIVOUAC AREA ARE SIMILAR TO WHAT IS USED BY THE RPF, THE MINE WAS IDENTIFIED AS ONE CURRENTLY OF THE TYPE IN USE BY THE RGF. THERE ARE CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION OF VARIOUS TYPES DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THIS COUNTRY WHICH MAKE IT RELATIVELY EASY TO ARM ANY GROUP OF POLITICALLY OR ETHNICALLY MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS WHO MIGHT BE READY TO PERPETRATE SUCH EVIL DEEDS.

6. THE TERMS INDISCRIMINATE AND RUTHLESS ARE CERTAINLY NOT EXAGGERATED AS IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE MANNER IN WHICH THE KILLINGS WERE CONDUCTED AND THE VICTIMS CHOSEN SUCH AS CHILDREN, MOTHERS, AND POLITICAL PERSONALITIES ARE EVIDENCE ENOUGH. WE HAVE AS YET NO DEFINITIVE PROOF ON WHO DID THESE ACTS BUT THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY WERE CONDUCTED IN THEIR EXECUTION, IN THEIR COORDINATION, IN THEIR COVER-UP, AND IN THEIR POLITICAL MOTIVES LEAD US TO FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE PERPETRATORS OF THESE EVIL DEEDS WERE WELL ORGANIZED, WELL INFORMED, WELL MOTIVATED AND PREPARED TO CONDUCT PRE-MEDITATED MURDER. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH OCCURRENCES COULD NOT AND WILL NOT BE REPEATED AGAIN IN ANY PART OF THIS COUNTRY WHERE ARMS ARE PROLIFIC AND POLITICAL AND ETHNIC TENSIONS ARE PREVALENT.