

DNZ 020

CASE NO. ICTR-98-44-7
EXHIBIT NO. DNZ 20 B
DATE ADMITTED. 18/10/2005
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NAME OF WITNESS G(PW2)
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TITLE:

Broadcast RR - Message de Sindikukwabo a Butare

TAB NO.: 173

COMPLETE ERN: K016-4473-4490 (K)

ERN ADMITTED: K016-4484-4487 (K)

DATE ADMITTED: 18 OCTOBER 2005

WITNESS: 006

ERNS FOR ADMISSION: K027-3546-3550 (F)

**K027-5075-5078 (E) I have a record
of the complete ERNs of
Translations.**

(Musical interlude)

Speaker: Cyprien Musabirema, ORINFOR Butare

..... Message of peace addressed to the area affected by clashes.

..... Leaders, at various levels, would need to organize a lot of meetings on the issue of peace; let those who have abandoned the clashes result of these disturbances return to them where possible.

That was the message delivered by the President of the Republic, His Excellency Dr. Théodore Sindikubwabo, this Monday at Gikongoro and at the Maraba and Nyakizu communes of Butare prefecture.

At Gikongoro, the Head of State met with the members of the prefectural security council led by *Préfet* Laurent Bucyibaruta. At Maraba, he met with the *bourgmestres* before addressing members of the population who were present at the venue. He also conveyed the same message of the population at Nyakizu so that they would carry it on to the others on turn.

When the President of the Republic asked why members of the population were not involved maintaining security whereas he had urged them to do so on several occasions through broadcasts over the radio, the *préfet* of Gikongoro explained that there were three reasons for this state of affairs:

- Some people were still in a state of anger following the assassination of *Président* Habyarimana;
- The resumption of hostilities by RPF since of the population was saying that if RPF were to get to their area, it would not spare them;
- Finally, greed or famine which had prompted some people to take advantage of the clashes.

The President of the Republic stated that no one had the right to attack other innocent citizens because of anger created by people against whom one could do nothing. On the contrary, each person had to ensure the security of his neighbour. Let us now listen to the President:

Speaker: The President of the Republic, Théodore Sindikubwabo

We have asked that, from cell level to prefectural level, all leaders assume their responsibilities. You say: "if possible, some *gendarmes* could be sent to us". I understand your request but I do not agree with the way it is formulated. I might express myself

better in French: "I do not agree with *le contenu de votre demande*" [the content of your request].

I agree with the principle but not with its application because it is precisely contrary to my message to you yesterday. In my message yesterday, I said that every member of the population should be responsible for the safety of his neighbour. He should not do onto his neighbour what he would not wish to be done to himself. Everyone should be the guardian of his neighbour. Do not do as Cain did in the Bible. You will remember that in the Old Testament when God asked him: "Where is your brother Abel?" He answered: "I am not his keeper". You know what happened thereafter. This time around, we should be our neighbours' keepers.

The *gendarmes* constitutes of force established by this government to intervene when necessary, when the population is not able to face up to a given situation. The military also constitute a force established by the government to protect the national economy, and to intervene in a situation which the population cannot face up to. But in these difficult times, we hope that all of us, members of the population, can give a helping hand to those forces.

We are all concerned. We must identify whom so ever believes that he is not concerned and ask him why, contrary to the others, he does not feel concerned.

In clearer terms, I should like to say that security is not only the gendarme's business. Security concerns, primarily, all the members of the population. The gendarme would only intervene in cases that are beyond us. Mr. *préfet* and your colleagues, I should like that to be well understood.

We must identify those who are indifferent. Those people who claim to know everything so that they can explain to the authorities and the institutions of the administration and those in charge of punishing offenders why they say that they are not concerned. That is a question, a proposition, but I don't want it to be discussed now. We do not have enough time since I must visit other regions. My proposal is in relation to the suggestion I have just made to you. While awaiting that the government has enough numbers of gendarmes to assist you, what is your plan so that each one of you guards his neighbour's safety? I invite you to closely consider this problem and effectively find an appropriate solution.

The enemy that attacked Rwanda attacked all Rwandans. Those who have been able to follow the events since the outset of hostilities in October [19]'90 know that many of those events have been written about. One of the enemy's weapons, which is more fearsome than bullets, even if some people do not realize that, consists in sowing discord between Rwandans. For example, he can say: "Sindikubwabo [inaudible] beware of Sigisi because he hates you and he is looking for you". We can then lose time asking

why we are hated, in consulting seers and the enemy will take advantage of that to fulfill his plans without even firing a single bullet.

That has been sufficiently explained. Certain people have understood but we are appealing to those who have not yet understood, to understand because it is high time [for them to do so].

[Comments by Cyprien Musabirema]

Regarding the refugees, I think that we do not fully agree on that term. Indeed, we do not want to hear talk of refugees. I am not speaking of the camps providing shelter, set up in the parishes, in the schools or elsewhere. We would like the refugee camps to be closed so that people go home if they agree that everyone must guard the safety of his neighbour. If they accept that principle, the camps will be dismantled.

[Coughs] That is difficult. You reproached me for saying impossible things but what I say is possible. I acknowledge that it is difficult but possible. If we only do that which is easy while avoiding that which is difficult, we would be in paradise.

We must therefore begin with the difficult tasks and with those that are easy. We must bring the population to understand the principle according to which everyone must ensure his neighbour's safety, everyone must master his anger and forgive, favoring the country's general interest. Indeed, the situation is not good for the country; people are dying, property is destroyed, people are destroying other people's houses. We are being attacked and we are attacking ourselves. With the help of administrative institutions and [inaudible] institutions, everyone should accept to control himself, to control bad feelings of anger and vengeance.

In my opinion, that is how we should behave. You know the situation we are in. there are people whose houses have been completely destroyed and whose property has been looted. We should identify those who can recover their property and those who cannot. We must consider the problem, and as you have undertaken to do so, report to us as soon as possible so that we can submit it to the government. The minister concerned is currently collecting aid from everywhere.

Speaker: Cyprien Musabirema

The President of the Republic also addressed a message of peace to the population of Nyakizu. Members of the population whom he met at the communal office reported on their concerns caused by the presence of refugees at the Cyahinda parish. Some of these refugees possessed firearms and grenades. Last Thursday, they killed two gendarmes and wounded the *bourgmestre* of the commune. The population also reported that four communal employees had disappeared and were believed to have been killed. The President of the Republic urged the population to avoid engaging in acts of violence and

aggression against innocent people. Night patrols as well as road blocks not officially recognized had to be removed. He concluded his speech with a request to the audience to convey the same message to other members of the population so that they in turn could become messengers of peace.

Cyprien Musabirema,
ORINFOR Butare

Unidentified speaker:

Dr. Théodore Sindikubwabo, on Monday, traveled through Gikongoro and Butare prefectures bearing a message of peace for the administrative authorities and, through them, the entire population urging an end to the clashes of an ethnic nature that have affected some of the communes of those two prefectures in recent times.

At Gikongoro, the President met with members of the prefectural security council led by Préfet Laurent Bucyibaruta.

At the Maraba commune, he spoke to the *bourgmestre* of the commune and a group of peasants who were close by the communal office.

At the Nyakizu commune, the President met with the peasants who had rushed in to welcome him. The message was the same every where: peace. Making peace with one's neighbour, ensuring one's own security and that of his or her neighbour and being one's own gendarme.

The President inquired as to why various messages broadcast over the radio urging members of the population to remain calm were yet to be followed by action.

At Gikongoro, Préfet Laurent Bucyibaruta gave three reasons: the first was that there were people still angry following the assassination of President Habyarimana. The second was that, with the resumption of hostilities by the RPF, members of the population were afraid of being massacred by the RPF if they managed somehow to take over power and the third reason was that there were people fishing in troubled waters everywhere who would like to take advantage of the disorder to loot the properties of their neighbours.

The President reiterated his desire to ensure that peace is reestablished in those communes where clashes had occurred. He appealed to those who had fled their houses to return to them where possible. This would bring to an end the tension now existing between those areas that had sheltered refugees and the neighbouring population; each camp being afraid of being attacked by the other. That was the case of the Nyakizu commune where displaced persons at the Cyahinda parish had killed two gendarmes and