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SIDE A

Speaker: Unidentified

...the Minister of Defence hails the bravery and patriotism shown by the population and their Armed Forces to date and urges them to continue in this way and, above all, not to yield to the divisive speeches of the enemy. π Yari yariyamamaje...(signature tune for the French news).

Speaker: Rugiliza Ephrem, Radio Rwanda journalist.

...on all fronts even if the Rwandan Patriotic Front continues to enlist foreigners among its ranks and to receive material and logistic assistance from foreign countries.

In South Africa, the business sector is anxious ...(end of signature tune, resonance).

Good morning. Practically at the beginning of this week drawing to a close, the Rwandan Armed Forces controls the situation on all fronts in the North, North East and Kigali. In the capital Kigali, we could even say that ...there is much peace. That is food for thought: either the Rwandan Patriotic Front is at bay, and lacks ammunitions and men or else it is infiltrating in order to gain territory that it could not conquer through the use of arms, as it had hoped at the end of last week. Remember, the Rwandan Patriotic Front had stated that it was in a position to bring down Kigali in a few hours. The Rwandan

Armed Forces had said that the expedition of the Rwandan Patriotic Front to Kigali was not going to be a pleasure trip. The Rwandan Patriotic Front is learning the hard way.

1.5

At the briefing of this morning, the military officials concerned brought to our attention a certain number of disturbing subjects. It is increasingly turning out that foreign forces are involved in the conflict between the Rwandan Armed Forces and combatants of the Rwandan Patriotic Front. Hence, a Hercule 530 yesterday overflew the Mutara region in the North East of the country at low altitude. The plane flew round several times from the rear of the Rwanda Patriotic Front. However, the plane could not be identified with accuracy. This is compounded by repeated violations of Rwandan airspace by Puma helicopters, which have landed several times in the Byumba commune over the past days. Yesterday, as type of plane ... the same type of plane flew over the Butaro commune in the Ruhengeri Prefecture, right at the Rwandan-Ugandan border. The plane headed for Byumba and landed several times in the zone controlled by the Rwandan Patriotic Front.

2.6

We understand that its mission is to drop off equipment or troops or to evacuate ...the injured.

Another disturbing fact is that several Tutsi refugees and the Inkotanyi are reported to be present in Mabayi, in the Cibitoke Province of Burundi. If this were verified and confirmed, then that would be another subject of great concern, for it would mean that the Rwandan Patriotic Front was preparing to open one front in the South of the country.

3.1

Still concerning the situation ... in Rwanda, members of the United Nations Security Council dispersed yesterday without taking a decision regarding the future of the UN mission for Rwanda, and ... the current President, Mr. Colin Kippling, felt that the immediate priority was to establish a cease-fire between the belligerents.

At a consultative meeting, the Security Council considered several options submitted by the UN Secretariat relating to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR). But the 15 Council members had divergent views on the approach to take.

The first possibility envisaged by the Security Council would consist of maintaining on the spot UNAMIR without the Belgian contingent, that is, some 2,000 peacekeepers, provided essentially by Ghana and Bangladesh, who would be grouped at the Kigali airport. African and non-aligned countries have actively supported this option submitted, however, for the belligerents to accept a cease-fire, given the very ... means ... very small number of peacekeepers to ensure their self-defence.

4.4

The second possibility consists of confining the UN presence to a political unit, by keeping on the spot the UN special representative, Mr. Jacques Roger Booh-Booh, surrounded by support and security staff, comprising some 200 persons. According to diplomats who participated *in camera* consultations, the American delegation has indicated that at the present state of affairs, Washington was rather in favour of UNAMIR withdrawal. Great Britain supported this position. 4.9

The Security Council should continue consultations next week, depending on how the situation develops.

Speaker: Martin Mukwiye, Radio Rwanda journalist

...and Eliezer Niyitegeka.

Speaker: Jean Baptiste Bamwanga, Radio Rwanda journalist

- Greetings to all of you, friends, listening to Radio Rwanda. Courage, and remain steadfast in our struggle. We have here with us in the studio Mr. Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information, who is also the Government's spokesman. It is therefore clear that today, one week and a few days after the Head of State was assassinated by enemies, along with all those who were with him ... The ensuing unrest led to the death of prominent leaders and other innocent people, followed by ... The RPF took advantage of that situation to resume hostilities. It is therefore logical to have the

Minister of Information with us here in the studio to answer a few questions from our listeners.

- First question: Mr. Minister of Information how is the situation at the moment? How is the Government reacting to the tragic situation our country is going through?

Speaker: Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's spokesman

- Yes, as you say, the situation is tragic and the Government is doing everything in its power to redress it. The Government is holding many meetings and taking many decisions. We are doing everything to keep you informed of some of these decisions taken. For instance, the decision taken by the Government, which I have brought to the attention of Rwandans, relating to ...there were discussions initiated by the previous Government, which was replaced by ours, relating to the payment of allowances to *Cellule* members. The Cabinet decided that allowances must be granted to them.

It is not proper to call on *Cellule* workers in difficult situations and tell them once their assignment accomplished that they do not deserve a reward. Then they rose up to ensure security, sensitize the population to their self-defence, conduct patrols, block the enemy and denounce him to the authority and the army so that the latter know how to continue; we always need them.

Some members of this Government perceived this problem differently, for personal reasons. It is true that *Cellule* members were elected during the MRND one-party system. They were *ipso facto* considered as MRND members. Some of them were even in the hierarchy of that party.

But a law established multi-party politics. Many other parties were formed and, consequently, the present Government is composed of five parties. Thus, the hierarchy of *Cellules* is not made up of people belonging to the same party. Similarly, we all belonged to the MRND but now we are in other parties. Why can these *Cellule* members not become members of other political parties? Why do we continue to consider them under the banner of the MRND? It is therefore not a valid reason to say that we cannot reward them for what they are doing because they were elected during the MRND era.

Thus, this Government has decided to settle this claims issue of the *Cellule* members; it considers it a debt that must pay and requests them to continue to do all that they can in the area of security and implementation of Government decisions and to help the population resist the enemy. Whatever happens, their allowances will be paid.

Mr. Minister of Information, regarding security as you have just said, what is the situation at the front? Do you have any information dating from this morning?

K0270812

Concerning security, there has been no significant change at the front. It is just as the Minister of Defence stated yesterday. Hm ... yesterday, I also saw some officers from the Staff Headquarters who briefed me on the situation. What he told you is true ... to date, reports that we have received show that ...there are no problems.

Our soldiers are doing fine. They are holding their positions well and continue to resist the enemy even if he has just changed strategy and now seeks to assault the population, to an extent where he fires on them whereas they are innocent...they don't have weapons that can be compared to the enemy's to fight him. The enemy finds people sleeping in their houses, sprays them with petrol and burns them. But we have realized that our soldiers are fighting hand in hand with the population. Wherever the soldiers were absent, the population was present. It uses arrows, bows, spears ...I am not afraid to say it. Once the people see the enemy, they encircle him and when he starts to shoot ...in his own way, you know that they have only three, four bullets. After finishing their ammunitions, we encircle and capture him; you can guess the fate of an enemy who has just killed two or three of your friends that you see stretched out in front of you. You can guess what the population has in store for him.

In the same connection, we would want you to speak to our listeners about the wickedness of the Inkotanyi because on foreign radio stations the Inkotanyi attribute the fault to the national army, indeed, to the Government.

Of course, that is what they usually say. Eh...do they say it's the army that attacked them? Or they are the ones who came to attack? Were they not living in Kigali? In Kigali, there was only one battalion composed of 600 troops. Today, they would be about 4,000, according to their own testimony. How did the 3,000, 3,000 and 4,000 come about?

Was it the Rwandan army that attacked them in their homes? Or rather they were the ones who came? I leave the population to decide. They brag to be 4000. But where are the 4000 from whereas they ought not to be more than 600 as agreed here in Kigali?

Another thing is that the Inkotanyi continue to assert that it is the Rwandan forces which are committing crimes and killing innocent people.

I have just told you what they do in the night...they spray the people with petrol or throw grenades in their midst. It is true that they are doing it and they have done it particularly in Gikondo to such an extent that the inhabitants have begun to move their personal effects, taking their wives and children to the other side of river Nyabarongo. Later, the men return to fight ...and they have decided not to sleep any longer in their houses, which they will guard from outside. They will remain there on the watch out ... and if the Inkotanyi come in the night, they will encircle them and will act in their own way.

The soldiers told us that they were going to start teaching them the tactic of encircling the enemy...so that they are caught in a stranglehold. There are a hundred families or so that the Inkotanyi have attacked with grenades, but we believe that they are not going to do it again, all the more so because these people, these men and these young people have decided that the women and children should move and ...and they can even return to the village, so that the men and young people can return and confront the enemy.

In these rumours ...as it is said ...such a war always goes with propaganda ...particularly for someone at Radio Muhabura, it's no longer a secret. It is said that your government is in total confusion to an extent that the ministers have fled. What can you say to the population grouped in the parties, which have formed your government?

-Such statements come from the enemy. Members of political parties should understand him. Besides, not later than yesterday, the leaders of political parties informed the population thereof in a discussion that they held with you ...All Rwandans and even foreigners should know that such statements come from the enemy. Every Government has its policy. For instance, there is the policy of knowing how to cooperate with foreign countries. And it's not just a matter of exchanging correspondence; sometimes, this Government sometime sends envoys abroad. If they mistake an envoy for a refugee, then that only comes from what they say. But they will be ashamed when people to whom they make those statements will realize that the so-called refugees do return to their countries after their missions.

I was surprised to hear from Radio Bujumbura ...Radio Burundi ... that some of our ministers have fled. It appears that some have headed for Burundi and others for Zaire.

For instance, today, there are ministers that have gone to Bujumbura; as you know the late President of Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira, will be buried today. Due to the good

relations existing between Rwanda and Burundi, the Government of Rwanda has sent a delegation to represent it. This mission is a government delegation to attend the funeral of the late President of Burundi and, the unfortunate thing is that the accident in which he died occurred here in our country Rwanda. So it is understandable that we should send a delegation to represent the Government of Rwanda. If the delegation goes, it will be said that the ministers have fled, but in reality, these things have no basis. We have sent envoys to other countries. They will return to the country at the end of their missions.

Yes. Still within the context of war on the air waves, they say they are fighting against “a bloodthirsty government”, “a Presidential Guard (PG) clique”, “an Interahamwe-CDR” clique. That is why they request the population to help the RPF. I would want that, as Minister of Information, you should say something about that.

- To tell the truth ... we always talk about current events...but I think it's a Burundian musician who said: *“laissez-les dire..., ils finiront par se taire”* [let them talk..., they will eventually be quiet]. That's what the RPF likes to assert ...that it is a Government of killers, bloodthirsty people, with many other adjectives, it talks of a PG clique.

Indeed, ...any person who knows Kigali town, knows that the PG camp is not far from the building where the battalion of 600 Inkotanyi was camped. Everyone knows that it was that battalion which attacked the PG camp. But why, you may wonder? Those Inkotanyi were guarded by a UNAMIR contingent. The PG could not in any case attack

where the Inkotanyi were camped because they were under UNAMIR protection. They might have fought and perhaps a Bangladeshi soldier would have been killed since they were the ones guarding those Inkotanyi. They would not have allowed them to enter there.

But these Inkotanyi, because of their trickery, and given their inability to guard the entire enclosure, simply scaled the enclosure. The others fired from the top floors of the building they occupied and where they had their guns. It was from there that they fired on the PG. Day before yesterday, yes I think so, before yesterday, these Inkotanyi attacked and entered the PG camp eh... I think it's not a secret to say it, they entered and the PG allowed them to enter. Once the Inkotanyi entered, the PG started to fire on them! And in what manner! The dead were all over. We were able to count 68 Inkotanyi there at the PG camp. The others took to their heels. The soldier who was relating the story to me yesterday at the Staff Headquarters told me that it was the first time he saw a soldier flee while he was being shot at. He added that some soldiers began to retreat but that, in this case, it was not a retreat at all but rather a frantic flight after throwing away their small arms because they had entered believing that there were no PG any longer, that they had left or that they had fled.

This proves that our soldiers never attacked the PG (sic!). It is true that in the first days, there were soldiers from the PG that had gone to airport to welcome the President of the Republic. And suddenly, they saw the plane of the person they had come to welcome go down; they stayed there not knowing what to do. They said that they were dumbfounded: We lose the man we were asked to protect and whom we came to welcome.

As a result of their anger ...they must have committed acts. But that is limited to that very day, for the next day, there was already a crisis committee set up which had nidered them. The committee told them that their action was wrong and that anger was a feeling, which existed but which must pass, that it was not necessary to compound the misfortunes we had. And all those soldiers immediately understood, so much so that security was restored to the country ...in Kigali town ...and even until then no person can say that he was killed by the PG for this or that reason because they had acted like anybody in anger; we do not know how that happened because we ourselves could not go out. They simply fired and it is true that we heard shots.

Soon after the accident, the Inkotanyi went out, knowing that they had accomplished their mission to assassinate President Habyarimana. They told themselves that they could then take the country because the person who was an obstacle was already dead. They had the misfortune of falling on the PG returning from the airport because as I told you, they lived together. So they confronted each other.

I said it and I repeat it: it was not the PG that entered the Inkotanyi camp but rather the Inkotanyi who had gone out believing that they would encounter no problems after the death of Habyarimana, thinking that they were going to take the country and power and the people ...assisted by their usual collaborators.

It was then that they fell on the PG who had just lost the person for whom they provided protection. Of course, they confronted each other. The Inkotanyi had already planned to bring people along to form their government ...but, unfortunately, the "Inzirabwoba" were watching; the soldiers and the whole population were keeping watch over our town.

When people hear what the Inkotanyi say and when they consider the position of the government of which you are the spokesman ...according to you, why is the RPF fighting this Government?

This government was instituted without the knowledge of the RPF, and this is no longer a secret. The RPF knew that after assassinating the President of the Republic, it was going to seize power and distribute posts as it wished. But after the death of the President, the top brass met and formed what they called a "Crisis Committee". They declared that the Arusha Accords were not yet in force and that the organs provided for in the accords had never been set up.

The Parliament has never been set up; likewise ministers have not yet been appointed, ...at that moment, even the government still existed, and the Government of Rwanda and the RPF. You see that the Government of Rwanda was "decapitated" because the Prime Minister and a few other ministers had just died. This government was composed of five parties, which were in the previous government and which had accepted that another government should be composed of those parties; they called upon the CND Chairman to

replace the President of the Republic as provided for in the Constitution of 10 June 1991; that is what triggered the fury of the Inkotanyi.

They had planned to have another President but in his place was His Excellency Théodore Sindikubwabo. They had planned to have another 'Prime Minister' but in his place a minister from the MDR was proposed to replace Agathe as provided for in the Arusha Accords.

The government formed was composed of only five parties. The Inkotanyi had hoped that they would simply enter it but then they were mistaken. They were going to use trickery or force or reach an agreement with their colleagues. Certain people knew that was what they were thinking. But they were to regret it, for the Rwandan Armed Forces took that decision, which foiled their plan. They told themselves: "We have killed the President of the Republic and we are going to seize power", since that was their plan. But then their force seemed to weaken as the said new government said it was prepared to accept the Arusha Peace Accords and form, within the six weeks given by the United Nations, a government eh...eh...and even a ...Parliament as stipulated in the above-mentioned accords. Not knowing what to do, the RPF preferred to violate the accords and take up arms. It was not going to be easy for it to redress the situation ... because the Government of Rwanda was soon going to lodge a complaint with the United Nations (silence) ...Inkotanyi are fighting this government because the said government has saved (sic) their intentions.

- Eh...I would ask you this question by way of conclusion. Yesterday, we spoke of talks between the Government and the RPF Inkotanyi eh ...and according to certain sources, these talks are going to continue today here in Kigali. I would then ask you what you expect, indeed, what your government expects from the said talks?

The government wishes that the talks should lead to firm conclusions and that the RPF should understand that the problems of Rwanda would not be solved by fighting. Once these conditions are accepted, we are going to restart in the days we still have before the time-limit imposed by the United Nations expires ...I think we still have one month, that is, four weeks ...we are going to start negotiations with them on forming a broad-based transitional Government and on the taking of the oath of office by Parliamentarians, for there will be a President before whom the Parliamentarians are going to take the oath of office in accordance with the law, eh ...then the term of our Government will end and a broad-based transitional Government will be installed. In our opinion, that is what the negotiations should produce. But then we do not know if the RPF is going to accept, if not the term of our Government should not exceed six weeks.

Last question: In your opinion, of what import is the Arusha Accords, from the political and security point of view, since the RPF has resumed hostilities?

- RPF resumption of the war seems to cast doubts on the accords. But even now, and in order to facilitate things, the Government requests the RPF to lay down their weapons ... to negotiate ... to see how we can save what can still be saved.

- Yes ...thank you.

- Please, don't mention.

**Speaker: Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's
spokesman.**

...His Excellency Jean Kambanda, the agenda called for the appointment of a new Chief of Staff to replace Major General Déogratias Nsabimana who died in the plane with H.E. the President of the Republic, Major General Habyarimana.

- The Cabinet seized that opportunity to thank Major General Déogratias Nsabimana for the bravery and clear-sightedness he demonstrated during his military career. He spared no effort to defend Rwanda until his promotion to the post of Chief of Staff.

- Colonel Marcel Gatsinzi came up for special mention by the Cabinet for the work accomplished during all the days he was acting Chief of Staff. He discharged his duties so well that the Rwandan Armed Forces were able to push back the enemy.

Based on their competence, service and bravery in service and at the front, the Cabinet promoted the following officers:

- Colonel Augustin Bizimungu is promoted to the rank of Major General, and is appointed Chief of Staff of the Rwandan Armed Forces.

END OF SIDE A

SIDE B

Speaker: Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's spokesman.

...and His Excellency the President of the Republic, Major General Juvénal Habyarimana.

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Based on their competence, service and bravery in service and at the front, the Cabinet promoted the following officers:

- Colonel Augustin Bizimungu is promoted to the rank of Major General, and appointed Chief of Staff of the Rwandan Armed Forces.

- Colonel Marcel Gatsinzi is promoted to the rank of Brigadier; he maintains his function of Brigade Commander.

- Colonel Gratien Kabiligi is promoted to the rank of Brigadier and he will assume the role of Brigade Commander, which devolved upon Major General Bizimungu.

- Colonel Léonidas Rusatira is promoted to the rank of Brigadier and remains Commander of the *Ecole Supérieur Militaire* (ESM) [Military Academy].

- The Cabinet further requested the Minister of Defence to rapidly process the files of other soldiers so that, in a short time, those deserving can be promoted.

This report is signed by Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's spokesman (signature tune for the Kinyarwanda news)

Speaker: Jules Nizeyimana, Radio Rwanda journalist

The Cabinet met today under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Jean Kambanda. It appointed Major General Augustin Bizimungu, Chief of Staff of the Rwandan Armed Forces, to replace late Major General Déogratias Nsabimana who died in the plane accident along with the President of the Republic, Major General Juvénal Habyarimana.

- The Minister of Defence calls on Rwandans to seek peace and avoid all that pits them against each other. You are going to listen to the full text of his message in the course of this news.

- The country is currently plunged into a war caused by the RPF but the Rwandan Armed Forces are holding out at the front in Kigali and in the Byumba and Ruhengeri Prefectures.

- Today, Burundians held the funeral of late President Cyprien Ntaryamira. In the course of this news (brief interruption)

- The Cabinet met today under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Jean Kambanda. It appointed Major General Augustin Bizimungu Chief of Staff of the Rwandan Armed Forces, to replace late Major General Déogratias Nsabimana. Let's listen to the Minister of Information and Government's spokesman, Eliézer Niyitegeka.

Speaker: Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's spokesman

- Press release by the Government of Rwanda: Today, 16 April 1994, the Cabinet met under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, His Excellency Jean Kambanda.

The agenda called particularly for the appointment of a new Chief of Staff to replace Major General Déogratias Nsabimana who died in a plane accident along with H.E. the President of the Republic, Major General Habyarimana.

- The Cabinet seized that opportunity to thank Major General Déogratias Nsabimana for the bravery and clear-sightedness he demonstrated during his military career. He spared no effort to defend Rwanda until his promotion to the post of Chief of Staff.

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This release is signed by Eliézer Niyitegeka, Minister of Information and Government's spokesman.

Speaker: Jules Nizeyimana, Radio Rwanda journalist.

- The Minister of Defence, Augustin Bizimungu, calls on Rwandans to seek peace and avoid all that pits them against each other. Let's listen to his message to Rwandans.

Speaker: Augustin Bizimungu, Minister of Defence

6.7

- Fellow Rwandans, after the sad events that hit our country following the death of our President on 6 April 1994, certain people have attacked their neighbours, here and there, mostly out of anger. During the unrest, many innocent people have died. Fellow Rwandans, you are well aware that the enemy who attacked Rwanda has attacked all Rwandans without distinction. You are also aware that one of his weapons is to tear Rwandans asunder so as to find a breach where to pass. That is why you are requested not to heed all those who are causing division but rather to collaborate in all ways in order to be able to conquer the enemy who is intently watching our country. The grass-roots authorities are urged to do their level best to stop the disturbances all over, by holding meetings among the population and sensitizing them to live in peace and increase efforts to seek out the enemy and fight him. I am making an urgent appeal to the media: newspapers and radio stations, in particular, Radio Rwanda, Radio RTLM And Radio Muhabura to stop any incendiary broadcast designed to set Rwandans apart because too much has been spilt. This should therefore stop. The media should teach us to be tolerant; people should stop killing each other ...peace should prevail in our country
(brief silence)

8.7

Speaker: Jules Nizeyimana, Radio Rwanda journalist

You are still tuned in to Radio Rwanda...

Still under national news, since the bloodthirsty people shot down the plane transporting the Head of State, Major General Juvénal Habyarimana who was with his colleague from Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira, and other personalities, the Inkotanyi have resumed hostilities in our country and, today, is the 10th day that the Rwandan forces are battling it out with them...

At the Kigali front and further North in the Ruhengeri and Byumba Prefectures, our soldiers are holding out. In Kigali, there is relative peace as compared to the previous days. One may be tempted to say that the RPF has run out of ammunitions and that it has no more combatants, or that it is looking for ways to pass, i.e. "*infiltration*" in French, so as to be able to reach places that it could not conquer through the use of arms.

Remember that it had declared that it would take Kigali in a few hours. That was said at the end of last week. Today, we are almost at the end of another week and it has not even made one step. Today, we have again approached the military authorities for an update on the situation. The essential points of the discussion are:

- The Rwandan Armed Forces are worried by signs that certain foreign countries are involved in this war and are assisting the RPF-Inkotanyi.

- ...it has continued to overfly at low altitude and behind RPF positions. You can easily guess where it was coming from. It has not been possible to identify the plane but this will not take long, particularly, if it continues to violate the Rwandan airspace.

- We talked of a Puma helicopter these past days; it was seen yesterday flying over the Butaro Commune in the Rubengeri Prefecture. At other times, it flew over the Byumba Prefecture. This plane therefore overflew Butaro heading for Byumba but landed many times. It is thus clear that it was freighting supplies to the Inkotanyi.

- Many Tutsis and among them the Inkotanyi, are alleged heading for Mabayi in the Cibitoke province of Burundi. If this information turns out to be accurate, this would mean that the Inkotanyi are looking for a way to infiltrate into the South of the country. The authorities and members of the population should therefore be vigilant.

- Here in Kigali, it is reported that the Inkotanyi have killed some one hundred people in Gikondo, which has prompted many people to flee. Today, there was a near uneasy calm to an extent that one wonders whether there is nothing in the wind. But this evening, the rattle of weapons was heard in the Nyamirambo and Rebero zones; the Rwandan Armed Forces are in the process of mopping up pockets of the Inkotanyi that have infiltrated into the these zones. Members of the population are therefore urged to remain vigilant during rounds to ensure that no person escapes.

12.0

- Still under national news this evening, so far we do not know anything of the negotiations, which once again had to take place between the delegation of the Rwandan Armed Forces and that of the RPF. You will recall that the two parties met yesterday at the *Hôtel Méridien Umubano* in Kigali and dispersed without reaching a compromise. They had agreed to meet today. As usual, the RPF is hindering the negotiations as it has always done each time that it met a Rwandan delegation.

- According to AFP, a document published by UNAMIR states the conditions of each party. Without beating about the bush, the RPF demands denunciation of the recently formed Government supported by the majority and dissolution of the Presidential Guard, which ensured the protection of late President Juvénal Habyarimana. As for the Rwandan Armed Forces, they demand the cessation of hostilities and frequent negotiations between the two parties in order to create a climate of trust so as to stop the acts of looting. Besides these negotiations, in a bid to restore peace and security to the country, the Government, the Rwandan Armed Forces and politicians request the population to stop tearing each other apart and seek together how to ensure their security.

13.9

Radio Rwanda, it is ...In Burundi (signature tune for the French news).

Speaker: Nsengiyumva Jean François, Radio Rwanda journalist.

...Ministers. This Saturday, Colonel Bizimungu Augustin has been promoted to the rank of Major General, and appointed Chief of Staff of the Rwandan army.

- The RPF-FARE meeting is still awaited. Today, the conditions ...the preconditions of each party are known. The RPF demands, in particular, denunciation of the new President and Government of Rwanda while Rwanda demands an immediate stop to shootings and military operations.

- Finally, the President of Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira, who was killed on 6 April 1994, at the same time as his counterpart and friend, General Juvénal Habyarimana, was buried this Saturday in Bujumbura. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Jérôme Bicomumpaka, represented Rwanda at the burial (musical interlude).

In the headlines, I told you that the Cabinet met this Saturday under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Jean Kambanda. The Cabinet, in particular, promoted certain senior officers to higher ranks. Thus:

- Colonel Augustin Bizimungu, commander of the Ruhengeri sector of operations is promoted to the rank of Major General and appointed Chief of Staff of the Rwandan army.

- Colonel Marcel Gatsinzi, acting Chief of Staff of the Rwandan army, is promoted to the rank of Brigadier and maintains his post of Brigade commander.

- Colonel Léonidas Rusatira, commander of the *Ecole Supérieur Militaire* (ESM), is promoted to the rank of Brigadier and maintains his post of commander of ESM.

- Finally, Colonel Gratien Kabiligi, commander of the Byumba sector of operations, is promoted to the rank of Brigadier and transferred to the Ruhengeri sector as commander of that sector.

For two days, we have been talking about a possible meeting between the Rwandan Patriotic Front command and that of the Rwandan Armed Forces for discussions, which should lead, as soon as possible, to a cessation of hostilities, which resumed last week. This meeting began yesterday we have ...and ...said it and when the delegations of the two parties met for the first time at the *Hôtel Méridein Umubano* in Kigali, to exchange documents expected to provide a basis for the said discussions. This first contact took place in the presence of the Commander of the UN forces, Brigardier Roméo Dallaire, and the special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Dr. Jacques Roger Booh-Booh. Well, this evening we know the

main preoccupa ...the main preconditions of each party thanks to a dispatch of the *Agence France Presse*, which we have just received by fax.

- The RPF demands denunciation of the government formed following the death of President Habyarimana on 6 April 1994. It is known that his plane was shot down with a rocket as it approached the Kigali airport. 16.9

- The RPF also demands dissolution of the Presidential Guard, which it accuses of having started the hostilities. According to the RPF, men of that unit carried out terrible reprisals against the Tutsis in Kigali, following the death of President Habyarimana. They had immediately engaged into battle with the RPF battalion present in Kigali since last December, in order to ensure the security of RPF representatives whom, it was known, had to enter the broad-based transitional institutions, as provided for by the Arusha Peace Accords. For his part, the acting Chief of Staff of the Rwandan Armed Forces, Colonel Marcel Gatsinzi who has just been promoted to the rank of Brigadier, has called for an immediate stop to shootings and military operations, that is, fighting, infiltrations and sabotage of infrastructures.

7.7

In a document defining mechanisms to be established to facilitate the restoration of peace, Colonel Gatsinzi demands a cessation of RPF punitive expeditions and vengeance operations. He also demands that regular meetings should be held between officials of the Rwandan Armed Forces and the RPF in order to restore trust

and that misled soldiers who are involved in looting and various acts against the population should be sought out and neutralized.

- Finally, the Rwandan Armed Forces demand that the forces of law and order must conduct preventive patrols and hunt down recalcitrant criminals. It emphasized that the gendarmes, policemen and the prosecution could not do anything so long as the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) was firing on them.

Having said that, at the military level for practically one week... the situation is controlled by the Rwandan Armed Forces, both to the North and to the South of Kigali. In the capital, it is, we could say, ...a bit too peaceful. That's food for thought: either the RPF is at bay, and lacks ammunitions and men or else it is infiltrating in order to gain territory that it could not conquer through the use of arms, as it had hoped at the end of last week. In fact, the RPF had stated that it was in a position to bring down Kigali in a few hours but then most of the capital is still controlled by the Rwandan Armed Forces.

19.3

At the briefing of this morning, the military officials concerned brought to our attention a certain number of ...disturbing facts. In fact, it is increasingly turning out that foreign forces are involved in the conflict between the Rwandan Armed Forces and the Rwandan Patriotic Front. Hence, a Hercule 530 overflowed the Mutara region in the North East of the country at low altitude. The plane flew round several times from the rear of the RPF. However, the plane could not be identified with accuracy. This compounds repeated

violations of Rwandan airspace by Puma helicopters, which have landed several times in the Byumba commune over the past seven days. Just yesterday, this same type of plane flew over the Butaro commune in the Ruhengeri Prefecture, right at the Rwandan-Ugandan border. It headed for Byumba and landed several times in the zone controlled by the Rwandan Patriotic Front. We understand that its mission is to drop off equipment or troops or to evacuate the injured.

Another disturbing fact is that several Tutsi refugees and the Inkotanyi are reported to be present in Mabayi. Having said that, the wave of violence and the massacres which are certainly continuing...which have certainly reduced in intensity since the government has (incomprehensible)...quiet businesses, but which are continuing in places despite everything, this wave of violence is therefore not likely to encourage the Rwandan Armed Forces which need to concentrate their forces on the front. I recall the message of the government and Rwandan Armed Forces command on this subject: the population should remain vigilant for sure, but it is also necessary and, above all, that they should invest all their forces to restore security to the country.

(Interlude)

21.2

Radio Rwanda, it is 8.10 pm. "Rest in peace", may his soul rest in peace. I am talking about the late President of Burundi, Cyprien Ntaryamira, who was buried this Saturday in Bujumbura, in the former Royal Palace, renamed cemetery of the martyrs of democracy.

**Speaker: Father Ladislas Habimana, Secretary General of the Conference of
Catholic Bishops in Rwanda**

And that...signing of the Arusha Peace Accords, on 4 August 1993, there has been no real political will to bring the country out of an unprecedented tragic situation, and that after the death of the President of the Republic, the country has been plunged into a carnage unspeakable and shameful to the whole African continent. The Conference of Catholic Bishops in Rwanda appeals to the international community to do everything possible to help the people of Rwanda stop this unacceptable carnage, which is destroying lives and, particularly, defenceless innocent people. In this regard, the Conference of Catholic Bishops requests:

- The UN Secretary-General to convene the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandan Patriotic Front to sit around the same table so as to discuss a cease-fire and the rapid establishment of broad-based transitional institutions.

- The UN to use all resources available to it to save this country. In this connection, the Catholic Church pledges its collaboration towards the return of peace to Rwanda. The Catholic Bishops of Rwanda send an SOS to countries, international organizations, in particular, the Red Cross and *Caritas Internationale* [an international charitable organization] to rapidly intervene in favour of the increased number of people displaced by war and unrest. These people urgently need food, medicines, blankets and clothes.

- The Conference of Catholic Bishops in Rwanda makes an urgent appeal to the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandan Patriotic Front to show flexibility, patriotism

and real and veritable political commitment in bringing our country out of the socio-political and economic chaos into which it is plunged.

- The Catholic Bishops make an urgent appeal to leaders of the country to stop assassinations and counter criminal acts perpetrated by gangs of criminals blinded by their passion for hatred and vengeance.

- The Government of Rwanda should banish violent offences, which run counter to the status of workers of humanitarian-aid organizations operating in Rwanda.

- The Catholic Bishops make an urgent appeal to the people of Rwanda to stop acts of killings, massacres, looting and banditry, not to yield to promptings to ethnic, regional and partisan vengeance, stop acts of (incomprehensible) ...which go up to the massacre of people who have taken refuge in churches and the assassination of consecrated people.

- The Catholic Bishops remind all Rwandans, particularly the officials concerned, of their moral and humanitarian duty to bury the dead.

- They call upon all Rwandans to be aware that a lot of blood has been spilt in Rwanda. The blood (sic) has come to recognize the crime committed and mend their ways. They are committed, in an irreversible manner, to the restoration and recovery of the country.

- The Catholic Bishops exhort all believers to combine all their efforts to halt the killings and other forms of violence. Let's end our unfaithfulness to baptismal commitments and the Gospel. Let's humble ourselves before God and implore him to have mercy on our country stained by our sins. The Catholic Bishops are counting a lot on the assistance of all men of goodwill to restore peace to Rwanda. 26.3

Press statement of the Catholic Bishops read by Father Ladislas Habimana, Secretary General of the Conference of Catholic Bishops in Rwanda.

It is now obvious that the politicians have not shown strong resolve in the implementation of the Arusha Peace Accords, signed on 14 August 1993, so that the country can come out of this tragic situation.

It has also appeared that, following the death of the President of the Republic, the country has experienced unspeakable killings, which bring shame to the African continent.

The Conference of Catholic Bishops in Rwanda appeals to the international community to do everything possible to help Rwandans stop these massacres which destroying human lives, including defenceless innocent people.

That is why the Conference of Catholic Bishops requests the United Nations Secretary-General to initiate dialogue between the Government of Rwanda and the RPF in order to seek ways and means to stop this war and establish broad-based transitional institutions.

The United Nations should do everything to bring Rwanda out of this impasse. The Catholic Church undertakes to support any effort designed to restore peace to Rwanda.

The Catholic Bishops of Rwanda make an urgent appeal to foreign countries, international organizations, in particular, the Red Cross and *Caritas Internationale*, to assist Rwanda that has been ravaged by war and unrest. There is a growing urgent need for food supplies, medicines, blankets and clothes.

The Conference makes an urgent appeal to the Government of Rwanda and the RPF-Inkotanyi to agree and show flexibility, patriotism and sacrifice, without hypocrisy, so as to bring the country out of this chaos into which it is plunged.

The Catholic Bishops of Rwanda make an urgent appeal to the authorities of the country to end killings among the population and combat gangs of criminals blinded by a passion for hatred and vengeance.

They further request the Government of Rwanda to stop violent offences perpetrated against the staff of humanitarian-aid organizations operating in Rwanda.

The Catholic Bishops of Rwanda request all Rwandans to stop acts of looting and banditry, and acts of desecration, which have even led to the assassination of those who

had taken refuge in the churches and temples, and spilt the blood of the clergy. They remind all Rwandans and, in particular, the authorities, that they must ensure respect for humanitarian morals by burying in a dignified manner the bodies of those who have perished during these disturbances. Rwandans should come back to their senses and understand that too much blood has been spilt in Rwanda. Let's accept our sins and repent. Let's mobilize ourselves to redress and rebuild the country.

The Bishops exhort all Christians to combine their efforts to foil acts of killings and other forms of violence.

Let's not betray our baptismal commitment and the precepts of the Gospel.

Let's humble ourselves before God and implore him to have mercy on our country, which has been stained by our sins.

The Catholic Bishops of Rwanda hope that all men of goodwill will heed the voice that is pleading for Rwanda.