

Special Envoy in Charge of Mission

NOTE

to the attention of the President of the Republic

(Care of the Secretary General)

SUBJECT: Mission of Mr. Debarge to Rwanda and Uganda – Talking points.

Mr. Debarge will be going to Rwanda and Uganda on February 28 and 19, 1993.

The following talking points are proposed:

1 – IN KIGALI

- To remind of the unacceptability, for France, of a military resolution to the Rwandan crisis. Faced with the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) offensive, we have therefore increased our indirect support for the Rwandan army (equipment, munitions, advice) and reinforced the contingent charged with protecting French nationals and other expatriates (4 companies are in Kigali now – 600 men).

- To indicate once again that we wish for a cease-fire with a return of RPF troops to their former positions from the February 8 offensive (the Rwandan government has accepted the principle of creating a neutralized zone in the territory evacuated by the RPF, under the control of international observers—UN, OAU).

- To confirm that we support the Rwandan and Ugandan requests to the United Nations for the deployment of UN observers along the Rwandan-Ugandan border.

- To underline that our military aid must promote a negotiated solution, acceptable to each party. Also, a rapprochement between President Habyarimana and his Prime Minister is indispensable. They must act together so that the RPF cannot profit from discord between them and so that the transitional process leads to the holding of elections in the near future.

- To regret, on that subject, that President Habyarimana's party (MNRDD) has refused to join other political parties in the governmental coalition, which is trying to negotiate with the RPF in Bujumbura to restart the Arusha negotiations; such a resumption is indispensable.

2 – IN KAMPALA

- To reiterate to President MUSEVENI the unacceptable nature of a military resolution of the Rwandan crisis and to leave him worried about our degree of involvement.

- To ask him to use his (obvious) influence on the RPF to induce it to apply the cease-fire, which it has accepted, on the ground. We want solid proof of the RPF's will to put an end to its current offensive.

- To underline that the solution to the Rwandan problem will involve the return, as soon as possible, the civilian population that has been chased from its land because of the RPF offensive (900,000 people), and will also require the holding of elections.

- To persuade Museveni, who is concerned about his role in the region, that a return to peace in Rwanda, which depends largely on him, would promote the development of our relations when he has to deal with Islamist expansion along his northern border (Sudan).

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