

4.A.3. TD Kigali, October 15, 1990, Analysis of the situation by
the Tutsi population

Declassified

SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION BY THE TUTSI POPULATION. —

THE RWANDAN TUTSI POPULATION THINKS THAT THE SURPRISE MILITARY ATTACK FAILED IN ITS PSYCHOLOGICAL EXTENSION BECAUSE IT DID NOT OBTAIN RESULTS QUICKLY ENOUGH TO PREVENT HUTU MOBILIZATION AGAINST THE RETURN OF THE FORMER MONARCHY.

THE POPULATION IS STILL COUNTING ON A MILITARY VICTORY, THANKS TO SUPPORT, IN MEN AND RESOURCES, FROM THE DIASPORA. A MILITARY VICTORY, EVEN A PARTIAL ONE, WOULD ALLOW THEM TO ESCAPE GENOCIDE. GENERAL RWIGYEMA, HOLDING THE EASTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, WOULD CONSTITUTE ENOUGH OF A THREAT TO FORCE PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA TO NEGOTIATE.

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 PAGE TWO

THE TUTSIS ARE CONVINCED THAT IF THE CURRENT POWERS ARE COMPLETELY VICTORIOUS, THE DEPARTURE OF FRENCH AND BELGIAN TROOPS WOULD COMPOUND THE REPRESSION AND PERSECUTION AND WOULD LEAD TO TOTAL ELIMINATION OF THE TUTSIS. IF GENERAL RWIGYEMA FAILS, THE TUTSIS, NOT BELIEVING IN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA'S PROMISES OF OPENNESS AND DIALOGUE, WOULD LOOK FAVORABLY ON A COUP D'ETAT WITHIN THE HUTU CLAN BRINGING A MORE MODERATE MAN TO POWER. BUT SOME POINT OUT THAT PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA HIMSELF TOOK POWER IN 1973 IN SIMILAR CONDITIONS, AND HE WAS, AT THAT TIME, COMPLETELY UNKNOWN.

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MARTRES