

Revised

RWANDA:

Tutsi Military Poised To Attack

The Rwandan military and Tutsi forces from the Rwandan Patriotic Front apparently are adhering to a cease-fire as the evacuation of foreign nationals proceeds, but at least 4,000 heavily armed RPF rebels continue to advance on the capital. Leaders of the RPF say they will let French and Belgian forces assist in removing their nationals but have threatened to attack the French forces if they intervene for the government's side. Rebel leaders also rejected talks with the new Hutu interim government, which they accuse of killing Tutsis and undermining ethnic reconciliation.

— *The RPF almost certainly intends to seize Kigali but is holding back until most expatriates are evacuated. It would be hard pressed to control the city, however, because armed militias and Hutu hardliners there vehemently oppose any sharing of power with Tutsis. (C-NF)*

The Hutu-dominated security forces are divided regionally between southerners and northerners, and clashes have been reported between Army and Gendarmerie forces, according to a foreign government service. Armed Hutu militias continue to rampage throughout the city and to threaten Belgian and French citizens. *Neither Paris nor Brussels wants to be drawn into Rwanda's civil war, and they probably will withdraw their troops as soon as the evacuation is complete.*

— A senior UN official privately has told Belgian, French, and US officials that the Secretary General believes the lightly armed UN force of 2,500, which already has suffered 16 killed, must be evacuated unless there is an effective cease-fire. *It probably will continue to be attacked if it remains in Kigali after the evacuation. (S-NF)*

A revived civil war in Rwanda could intensify the volatility of Burundi, where up to 150,000 people reportedly were killed after the Hutu president was assassinated last fall. In a move to support Tutsis in Rwanda, the Tutsi military could try to take over the Hutu-dominated government. (C-NF) -CIA E.O. 13526, 1.4(d)

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