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Foreign Minister Interviewed on French, Other Ties

US Embassy Rwanda

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AFRICAN AFFAIRS

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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WARNING: ATTN CIRM

SERIAL: LD0802165595

COUNTRY: RWANDA

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON FRENCH, OTHER TIES

SOURCE: PARIS RADIO FRANCE INTERNATIONAL IN FRENCH 1230 GMT
8 FEB 95

TEXT:

((FBIS TRANSLATED TEXT)) NOW WE HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH ANATASE GASANA, RWANDAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HIS VISIT TO PARIS SIGNIFIES A REAL RECONCILIATION BETWEEN KIGALI AND PARIS, AS HE EXPLAINED TO DOMINIQUE DE COURCELLES:

((BEGIN RECORDING)) ((GASANA)) THERE HAS BEEN A NORMALIZATION, A NEW BOOST TO COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN RWANDA AND FRANCE. MY MEETING WITH MINISTER ALAIN JUPPE WENT VERY WELL. FRANCE (?SET) A FEW CONDITIONS, WHICH YOU ARE ACQUAINTED WITH: THE REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES, A HEALTHY JUSTICE SYSTEM. AS FAR AS THE RETURN OF REFUGEES IS CONCERNED, FRANCE APPRECIATES THE EFFORTS THAT RWANDA IS MAKING IN THIS AREA. AS FAR AS A HEALTHY JUSTICE SYSTEM IS CONCERNED, RWANDA HAS ASKED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL. RWANDA IS READY TO COOPERATE WITH THIS INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL, SO HERE WE HAVE SIMILAR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT OF ERADICATING IMPUNITY.

THERE ARE NO MORE CLOUDS AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL, SO COOPERATION SHOULD START AGAIN IN ALL SECTORS WITHOUT HINDRANCE.

((DE COURCELLES)) THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT HAS JUST ACCUSED THE

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF A DEGREE OF COMPLICITY WITH THOSE WHO COMMITTED THE GENOCIDE, AND IS ASKING MR. BUTRUS BUTRUS-GHALI TO PROPOSE A SUITABLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE REFUGEES IN THE CAMPS. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY A SUITABLE SOLUTION?

((GASANA)) YES, WE KNOW THAT OUR RWANDAN COMPATRIOTS ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE NOW BY FORMER TROOPS, MEMBERS OF THE MILITIA, FORMER POLITICIANS, WHO ARE USING THEM AS A KIND OF POLITICAL SHIELD, BEHIND WHICH THEY DIG IN, IN ORDER TO HIDE FROM THE WORLD THE CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY THEY COMMITTED WHEN THEY WERE IN POWER IN RWANDA. WE WANT THESE RWANDAN REFUGEES WHO HAVE SINCE BECOME HOSTAGES TO BE RELEASED. THIS IS WHY WE ARE ASKING FOR THE HELP OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, SO THAT THE REPATRIATION OPERATION FOR OUR COMPATRIOTS CAN BE CARRIED OUT IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY.

((DE COURCELLES)) HOW, SPECIFICALLY?

((GASANA)) SPECIFICALLY, AS THE NAIROBI COMMUNIQUE SAYS QUITE CLEARLY, AS A FIRST STAGE, THE MEMBERS OF THE MILITIAS, THE FORMER TROOPS AND FORMER POLITICIANS, HAVE TO BE SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE PEOPLE. WE REALIZE THAT SOME OF OUR PEOPLE CROSSED THE BORDER BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID OF THE SHOOTING THAT THEY HEARD, OR BECAUSE THEY WERE FORCED BY THE FORMER POLITICIANS, THE FORMER TROOPS, AND MEMBERS OF THE MILITIAS TO CROSS THE BORDER, AND THUS BECAME THE HOSTAGES OF THESE PEOPLE. SO FIRST OF ALL THEY HAVE TO BE SEPARATED IN ORDER TO AVOID THE CASES OF INTIMIDATION AND MURDER THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN THE CAMPS, SO THAT LATER AT A SECOND STAGE, OUR REFUGEES CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE RWANDAN BORDER, TO A SECURITY CORRIDOR, SO THAT THE FORMER TROOPS AND MEMBERS OF THE MILITIA DO NOT SET AN AMBUSH AND SO THAT THEY CAN BE RECEIVED AT THE BORDER BY TROOPS FROM THE RWANDAN ARMY AND FROM UNAMIR ((UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION TO RWANDA)), WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, IS 5,600 MEN STRONG IN RWANDA.

((DE COURCELLES)) AND UNTIL THAT HAS BEEN DONE, YOU THINK THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ACTING IN COMPLICITY WITH THOSE WHO

CARRIED OUT THE GENOCIDE, AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS JUST SAID?

((GASANA)) WELL, I THINK THAT WHEN YOU SEE WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS DONE SINCE THE GENOCIDE STARTED IN RWANDA -- WELL, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS MADE UP OF MANY DIFFERENT PARTS: THERE ARE THE NONGOVERNMENTAL AID ORGANIZATIONS, WHO HAVE DONE A GREAT DEAL OF WORK, SO WE CANNOT TALK ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A GLOBAL ENTITY -- BUT WE ARE EXPECTING MUCH MORE IMPORTANT GESTURES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, IN THE SENSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SO THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN HELP US COME TO THE AID OF THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE, SO THAT THEY CAN RETURN HOME. ((END RECORDING))

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<NEWS TICKER>

Analyst: Date: 04/14/95 Time: 17:45:04

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FBIS 118APR14

UNCLAS 8A

RWANDA: Thousands Protest French, Belgian Roles in 'Genocide'

EA1404195095 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English 1915 GMT 13 Apr 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] As the week of national mourning entered its seventh day, Rwandese nationals today participated in a peaceful march to demonstrate against the role of France, Belgium, and Radio RTLM [Radio-Television des Mille Collines] in last year's genocide that claimed more than 1 million lives. The demonstration was headed by a human rights association. It began at 1430 at the French Cultural Center and proceeded to the French Embassy. The march proceeded to the former building that housed Radio RTLM and went on to the Belgian Embassy and ended at Hotel Diplome.

France supplied arms and training personnel to the [word indistinct] Interahamwe [pro-Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development militia] that carried out last year's massacres on Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Radio RTLM played an important role inflaming ethnic hatred and called upon the Hutu population to massacre Tutsis and any Hutu that did not comply with the government policy of extermination. Belgians, who were at one time colonial masters, have also been blamed in preparing the ground for genocide by widening the gap between Hutus and Tutsis.

Some placards read: "Justice delayed is justice denied," "We demand immediate arrest and trial of RTLM proprietors and journalists wherever they are," "Mitterrand the murderer."

During the march, the demonstrators stopped at the French ambassador's residence where the demonstrators read a message denouncing the support by the French Government toward Habyarimana's regime in planning and implementing the genocide. It said that France should express an official apology to the Rwandese people. As the demonstrators arrived at the former Radio RTLM station, they stopped to reflect on the role that the radio played in the preparation of the genocide by [word indistinct] ethnic hatred among Rwandese.

The minister of information, Jean-Baptiste Nkuliyingoma, used the opportunity to condemn the destructive role of Radio RTLM and cautioned the press against any information aimed at dividing the Rwandese people. The demonstrators concluded their march at Hotel Diplome which the self-proclaimed government of Mr. Jean Kambanda had used as a headquarters. [passage omitted]

[Kigali Radio Rwanda in French at 1800 GMT on 13 April in a similar report adds: "About 15,000 people took part in the march.

The week of national mourning to commemorate genocide victims will end on Saturday, 14 April."]

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AMEMBASSY PARIS//ATTN BROWN//
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COUNTRY FRANCE

SUBJ: PARIS TO RESUME AID TO RWANDA

SOURCE: PARIS LIBERATION IN FRENCH 20 JAN 95 P 11
TEXT:

// ((REPORT BY PIERRE HAZAN: "MASS INTERNATIONAL AID FOR RWANDA"))

((FBIS TRANSLATED EXCERPT)) WESTERN DONORS HAVE PROMISED HUNDREDS OF BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TO REBUILD THE COUNTRY, AND HELP THE 150,000 ORPHANS AND 2 MILLION REFUGEES. ((PASSAGE OMITTED))

FRANCE, WHICH HAD BEEN THE MAJOR SUPPORTER OF THE FORMER HABYARIMANA REGIME, DID NOT PLEDGE ANY FIXED AMOUNT BUT "PROMISED AID." MICHEL DE BONNECORSE, FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO RWANDA, SAID THAT "PARIS WILL SOON RESUME COOPERATION WITH KIGALI, WHILE MONITORING THE REFUGEES RETURN, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A RULE-OF-LAW STATE, AND THE RESUMPTION OF POLITICAL DIALOGUE." THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TERMED THE RWANDAN PRIME MINISTER'S PERFORMANCE "REASSURING." IN FACT PARIS EXPECTS TO FULLY ASSESS KIGALI'S INTENTIONS ON THE OCCASION OF THE RWANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT IN FEBRUARY. ((PASSAGE OMITTED))

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