



Digital Commons @ George Fox University

David Rawson Collection on the Rwandan
Genocide

Archives and Museum

8-8-1995

Press Release August 8, 1995

US Embassy Kigali

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/rawson_rwanda

TO: D. Hefflin
 Rwanda Desk
 Fax to AF/C

Amb.
 DATT

Plad
 (2)

PRESS RELEASE
REPORTED ON RADIO RWANDA ON AUGUST 8, 1995

Government and private journalists yesterday started a country tour aimed at assessing the current situation in the country after the war and genocide last year. The journalists are expected to broadcast their reports over the radio so as to enable the innocent Rwandese refugees to get to know exactly what is taking place in the country thus return home. The journalists started their tour in Cyangugu Prefecture where they say life has returned to normalcy. Among the 515 thousands Cyangugu residents, 480 thousands have so far returned from the camps and a few more are still coming. This program was initiated by the Ministry of Information in conjunction with ORINFOR and was officially started by the Information Minister Mr. Jean Baptiste Nkuliyingoma.

President Pasteur Bizimungu in a press release yesterday said that the Government is getting increasingly concerned about the bad conditions and overcrowding in the prisons countrywide because of thousands of genocide suspects detained in a limited place. In the same communique, the President revealed that the expansion works of some prisons in the country are already in progress notably the prisons of Kibungo, Gitarama, Nyanza and Kigali. The communique added that plans are underway to build more prisons in places like Nsinda in Kibungo, Nyarama, Ntyazo, and Kibuye. The President however, noted that the building of new prisons is too expensive for the Government at the moment. This, the President added, is due to the fact that the International donors are not very keen to support these projects. Other efforts made by the Government was to appoint a Special Commission with the task of locating Government Warehouses to be used as makeshifts detention centers. The Govt. has also appointed Commissions to investigate genocide cases in detention, so that those without sound evidences against them can be released.

The Representatives of the European Union have promised Dr. Gasana Anastase, Rwandan Foreign Minister a continued assistance to the Government of Rwanda. Minister Gasana who ended his official visit to Belgium yesterday met various Belgium Government Officials including his counterpart as well as the Secretary for Overseas Cooperation and Development. While in Brussels, Dr. Gasana also managed to meet about 40 Military Officers of the former Rwandese Government who had gone there for military training before genocide broke-out here last here.

The Kigali City Prefect Major Rose Kabuye together with the Director of Foreign Exchange Department in the National Bank today met the representatives of the NGOs, Embassies, and Air Travel Companies at USIS in the Multi-Purpose hall. The meeting resolved

that any sort of foreign currency exchange should be carried out at FOREX BUREAUS. Participants also agreed that all payments should be done in Rwandan Francs as stated by the Rwandan Law. This mostly concerns Landlords, Hotels, Travel Companies, and NGOs.

A five-day seminar aimed at enlightening participants on how to handle AIDS victims officially opened yesterday at the Seminar Center of Murambi, Commune Nyamabuye, Gitarama. The Seminar is attended by Medical Personnel from five Prefectures notably, Cyangugu, Gikongoro, Kibuye, Butare, and Gitarama. According to the statistics this year, AIDS victims number between 2,220 and 3,800. It was also revealed in the seminar that the number of AIDS victims is increasing in the country. The opening ceremony was also attended by the Minister for Health Col. Dr. Joseph Karemera among others.