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" Securite de la famille de l'Adj Pr MUNYEMANA et d'autres familles" Authored by Col. Deogratias Nsabimana

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Republic of Rwanda

Kigali, 9 December 1992
N° 1935/G2.1.3

Ministry of National Defence
Rwandan Army
Staff Headquarters
G2

- Reference: 1. N° 687/02.3.4 of 4 November
1992 of the Prime Minister
2. ML N° 1696/G2.1.3.1 of 30
October 1992
3. Report of the Staff HQ of
the Gendarmerie Nationale

The Minister of National Defence
Kigali

Sir,

Subject: Safety of the families of Adj. Pr. Munyemana and the others

In his letter, reference item 1 above, the Prime Minister stressed certain points that caught my attention, to wit:

- Certain FAR soldiers were operating within the MRND Interahamwe group
- Firearms, grenades and cords were allegedly supplied to the Interahamwe by the said FAR soldiers

In his letter, the Prime Minister recommended a detailed investigation, particularly into the events of 29 September 1992; the same investigations must shed light on the supply of grenades, firearms and cords as well as concerning soldiers who allegedly operated within the MRND Interahamwe group.

Mr. Minister, these considerations compel me to make the following observations:

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- Confrontations among the youth wings of political parties that occurred in Remera, including those of 29 September 1992, have been investigated by the competent services, that is, the Office of the Public Prosecutor. The Gendarmerie Nationale which went to the site has also made its report. I therefore feel that the Office of the Prime Minister should call for a judicial inquiry and let justice take its course, instead of involving MINADEP, which IS NOT directly concerned.

- Concerning the case of the family of Adj. Pr. Munyemana, ML, reference item 2 above, and the report of the Gendarmerie Nationale, reached the same findings, whereas the two departments conducted separate investigations.

In fact, it emerges that Adj. Pr. Munyemana is, usually, a good sub-officer, who was not directly involved in confrontations among the parties. On the other hand, his wife Mbonimpaye Goretti, was totally involved in those partisan quarrels. An analysis of her letter of 30 September 1992 amply demonstrates it. This woman should rather not involve herself in political conflicts so as to let Adj. Pr. Munyemana's family live in peace.

- Investigations conducted by services of the Rwandan Army Staff Headquarters established that the Interahamwe bought ropes from hardware shops and that they themselves made the cords that they carried. Therefore, this equipment DID NOT come from the FAR stock.

The Interahamwe themselves made mosquito nets that were totally different from those that can be found with the Rwandan Army.

- Concerning firearms and the grenades mentioned in the letter, reference item 1, I feel the problem should be approached in a comprehensive manner in order to detect those supplying bandits and other UNauthorized persons with arms, grenades and other weapons. If soldiers were caught in the act of stealing arms, grenades and other weapons, NOTHING indicates that this war gear was destined for the MRND Interahamwe. Therefore, it would be necessary to avoid, as much as possible, certain gratuitous and a bit tendentious assertions.

- As for the soldiers who operated within the MRND Interahamwe group, investigations conducted so far, provide NO clues in this regard. Furthermore, ML N° 1637/G2.1.3 of 25 October 1992, was explicit on that subject. The Staff Headquarters of the Gendarmerie Nationale had almost the same considerations. Here, the Office of the Prime Minister is expected to be more specific if these ARE NOT simple assertions made WITHOUT tangible proof.

- Regarding the safety of the families of Adj. Pr. Munyemana and the other soldiers living outside or whose family heads are at the front, I feel that this should be treated in the general context of ensuring the safety of all Rwandan citizens. Otherwise, it is difficult to envisage protective measures for the family of each soldier, given that soldiers are scattered in the Kigali town, indeed, in the whole

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country since every soldier is at liberty to settle his family wherever he wishes on the territory of the Republic.

As concerns the specific case of Adj. Pr. Munyemana, I said earlier that his wife should not involve herself in partisan conflicts so as to have peace in her home.

Mr. Minister, before concluding, I would like to emphasize that certain problems, akin to the one before us now, which result from the current political situation, should be treated in a comprehensive manner in order to provide comprehensive solutions, instead of treating the cases in isolation, often on the basis of untenable arguments. In all this, the Court must do its work and justice should take its course, and the FAR should NOT be unfairly involved in matters that DO NOT directly concern them.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

Nsabimana Déogratias
Colonel BEM
Rwandan Army Chief of Staff

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