

Pseudonym:

KABUFEL-04

Witness Code: KABUFEL

ICTR-98-41-T
Exh. P. 45 (b)
Tendered on 18-09-2002
KAB

Kabuga Félicien

Message Adresse au Gouvernement, Decision to establish the FDN. Written by Felicien Kabuga as President of the Comite Provisoire of FDN.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION	
Doc Type:	Letter
Doc Sources:	DesForges
Doc Location:	ICTR
Doc Original No:	
Doc Date:	25-Apr-94
Format:	Typewritten
Original language:	French
Translation:	English
ERN Translation:	K023-5629-K023-5631
For Witness Statement:	
Signature Date:	
Interviewer 1:	
Interviewer 2:	
DOCUMENT CODING:	
Document code:	KABUFEL-04
ICTR Number:	
ERN Number:	K003-9346-K003-9347
Disclosure Code:	KABUFEL-04
Disclosable:	Yes
Past Disclosure-----Past Disclosure-----Past Disclosure-----Past Disclosure	

MESSAGE TO THE GOVERNMENT

The inhabitants of Gisenyi, supporting the Rwandan Armed Forces and persons displaced by war living in this town, met on 24 and 25 April 1994 to discuss ways and means of assisting the Rwandan Army and the youths fighting alongside the Army against the RPF-*Inkotanyi*, which has launched this war against us.

They first expressed their sadness over the untimely death of the Head of State, His Excellency Major General Juvénal Habyarimana and the death of his Burundian counterpart, His Excellency Cyprien Ntaryamira, and their entourage, and also conveyed their condolences to the bereaved families.

They further observed that the new Head of State, His Excellency Théodore Sindikubwabo, and the government led by Jean Kambanda, enjoy the support of all patriotic Rwandans.

They therefore decided to convey the following message to the Rwandan Government:

1. Since the RPF has been using every means to tarnish the image of the government in the eyes of the population and foreign governments, participants at the meeting urge the government to refute forthwith the lies that the RPF has been transmitting through the newspapers and the radio stations which have become the enemies' tools. Government spokespersons and our embassies abroad should be instructed to carry out this assignment.
2. Participants at the meeting were shocked by Ambassador JMV Ndagijimana's statement on RFI (*Radio France Internationale*) on 23 April 1994 that the current Rwandan Government was unconstitutional. The meeting asked that urgent measures be taken against him and all our ambassadors abroad who have not amply demonstrated that they have the interest of our country at heart. They also asked that the intelligence service be reformed immediately and that a manager be appointed for ORINFOR; the manager will promptly set up a unit that

will refute all the allegations of the enemy and those who intend to tarnish the image of our country.

Participants at the meeting urged the government to look into the possibility of setting up a military committee to identify particularly strategic spots in the country and keep them under close watch.

3. Participants reiterated their gratitude to the armed forces for their courage and sacrifice in the fight against the enemy and his accomplices.
4. In order to continue the fight and win the war that the enemy has launched against us, it is necessary to draw up real battle plans to enable us conquer the enemy once and for all. In this connection, participants at the meeting deemed it indispensable that all Rwandan youths, wherever they may be, should undergo a military training in order to defend the integrity of the country and ensure the safety of the Rwandan citizens. Considering that these youths are so numerous and that there are not enough modern weapons and equipment for all of them, it will be necessary to promptly consider how traditional weapons like bows and arrows, spears, swords, etc., can be made available in large quantities and used in guerilla warfare.
5. With regard to the coordination of the combined forces of the population, the army and the youths, participants at the meeting decided to set up a national defence fund. Consequently, all the participants at the meeting, each according to his means, decided to make a contribution to launch the fund. They urged the government to see how to disseminate this good idea among the population, and open a permanent account.
6. Since it is clear that the war against us is fully supported by the Belgian and Ugandan governments, participants at the meeting urged the Rwandan government to officially accuse both governments, and seek the support of friendly countries to condemn the unacceptable attitude of these two countries.

The Rwandan government should not agree that the two countries take part in its negotiations with the RPF-*Inkotanyi*.

7. Considering the food shortage in Kigali whereas there is enough food in the other parts of the country, participants at the meeting deemed it indispensable that the civilian authorities of needy regions should call upon the army to help the traders supply food to those areas.

8. Participants at the meeting urged the government to do all in its power to ensure the safety of lives and property as soon as possible. Finally, they asked the authorities to cooperate with the armed forces and the youths so that Kigali, the nerve center of the country, becomes accessible again and its services resume normal running.

Gisenyi, 25 April 1994

Provisional Committee:

Chairman: Félicien Kabuga
Vice-Chairman: Abijah Kwilingira
Secretary: Stanislas Harelimana