

Belgian Rwanda Community Crisis Committee  
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DECLARATION OF 7 APRIL 1994 RELATING TO THE ASSASSINATION OF THE  
EXCELLENCIES THE HEAD OF THE RWANDAN STATE, MAJOR-GENERAL  
JUVENAL HABYARIMANA, AND THE HEAD OF THE BURUNDI STATE, MR  
CYPRIEN NTARYAMIRA, AND THE MEMBERS OF THEIR DELEGATIONS

On 6 April 1994, their excellences, the head of the of Rwanda state, Major-General Juvenal HABYARIMANA, and the head of the Burundi state, Mr Cyprien NTARYAMIRA, as well as their respective delegations were killed in an attack carried out by Belgian soldiers forming part of the blue helmet contingent in Rwanda, against the presidential aircraft coming from Dar-Es-Salaam. According to military sources of the non-Belgian blue helmets of the MINUAR, it is confirmed that the shells that hit the presidential aircraft came from the site occupied by the Belgian soldiers of the MINUAR.

This assassination follows many others which have been latterly perpetrated against the civil population and politicians within a context of political blockage of the democratic process in Rwanda planned under the Arusha accords.

Having counted on of the strength of the alliances which prevailed at the time of the Arusha negotiations, the Rwanda Patriotic Front (FPR) has constantly blocked the fulfilment of these agreements to gain time and to create new alliances that can guarantee it the final victory after the overthrow of the deals within certain political parties which were allied with them.

This double assassination is therefore the outcome of a long process aimed at taking the FPR to power, and ripened by a power in which the Belgian soldiers of the UN blue helmets have acted .

The Belgian Rwanda community strongly denounces the disgraceful behaviour of Belgium in the Rwanda peace process, as Belgium is the former protective power of Rwanda and Burundi.

This resentment arises from several facts:

- The weapons for various crimes come from Belgium:
- The perpetrators of the last crime are Belgian soldiers from the Belgian contingent of the blue helmets elsewhere involved in attacks against the civilian population;
- The policies of the FPR (whose head office is located in Brussels at number 3, Rue de l'Observatoire) benefit from the unconditional support of much of the Belgian media and politicians.

All these facts point unequivocally to the connivance between Belgium and the FPR in these assassinations and the blockage of the democratic process in Rwanda.

The assassination of the Rwanda head of state, the main political mover for the Arusha accords, makes these peace agreements inapplicable and precipitates the country towards the restart of war.

That is why we call on international opinion to condemn the perpetrators of these disgraceful crimes and their backers and ask the General Secretary of the United Nations for the immediate withdrawal of Belgian troops from the United Nations Mission for the Assistance of Rwanda (MINUAR) and the sending of a truly neutral force for the peace mission.

In these serious circumstances, we express our unswerving support to the Rwanda army which we ask to remain firm in the face of the threat from the enemy and to show discipline and respect to the civil population.

Drafted in Brussels on 7 April 1994

For the Belgian Rwanda community crisis committee

Signature

Papias NGABOYAMAHINA

Chairman