

K0342522

CASE NO. ICIR-98-41-C
EXHIBIT NO. AB 237 B
DATE ADMITTED 1-11-2005
TENDERED BY DEFENCE
NAME OF WITNESS BAGOSOLA

Arusha, 1 June 1993

Mr. Minister of Foreign
Affairs and Cooperation
Head of the Rwandan
Government Delegation

Subject: Negotiation Strategy

Mr. Minister,

We, members of the "Strategy Committee" set up by you at the beginning of the latest round of negotiations, whose points of view thus far have been taken into account so as to ensure a smoother running of the negotiations, would like to send you this letter to explain our point of view on the issue of proportions within the National Army. This follows your statements during the plenary session chaired by the Representative of the Negotiations Facilitator on Monday afternoon, 31 May 1993.

Considering that, once made, your statements during the negotiations are final, and that they engage the responsibility of the entire nation, we had already asked you, during a meeting of the Strategy Committee on 18 May 1993, for which you had an express invitation, to consult the delegation you lead, and above all the "Strategy Group", before making any concessions on pre-agreed positions. That was in reaction to your unnecessary offer of 1,200 posts for the RPF in the *gendarmerie* at a time when the discussions were at the stage of dealing with the principles and modalities of the RPF joining that corps.

Again yesterday, you cannot imagine how astonished we were to hear you express satisfaction with the Facilitator's proposed proportions for the army, namely a range of 35-40/60-65%, to the Representative of the Facilitator and in front of the Observers and especially the RPF delegation. That comes at a time when the RPF staunchly defends its position of 50 %.

It is in that context of harmonizing the points of view of the entire Government delegation that we asked you to shed light on three essential points for us:

1. Which authorities or body decided to change the Government's position, which had been a maximum of 33 % / 67 % with regard to the proportions?
2. Which negotiation strategy should be used now that you have expressed satisfaction with the proposed range, which seemingly no longer offers the delegation the possibility to propose 35 % as the maximum percentage to concede to the RPF? Indeed, the maximum percentage continues to be within the range of more than 40 % in statements made within the same session.

3. Which information should be broadcast at a later stage on Radio Rwanda, given the scope of the disparity between the maximum agreed to by the Government (33 %) and the minimum that you have accepted (35 %)?

When you stated that Government officials had agreed on the proposed range, we understood that our Select Cabinet first needed to give approval before you could proceed with negotiations on that point.

According to information which Colonel Bagosora and Prof. Runyinya were entitled to receive, which was requested through the proper channels, it has now become obvious that such is not the case, and that your conviction regarding the proportions does not come from the Government, nor the Select Cabinet which represents it for the purposes of these negotiations.

Given the above, and taking into account standard negotiation procedures, especially when such an important issue is under consideration, we ask you, with utmost urgency, to request authorization from the Select Cabinet to negotiate the range of proportions you determined at 35-40/60-65 %, which attributes to the Rwandan Armed Forces a smaller quota than originally agreed within the Government. In so doing, you will normalize the procedures decided upon for these negotiations.

We will agree to proceed with you in these negotiations only when we become informed of the Government's position on that point as it conforms to your statements.

Otherwise, from the point you no longer seem to take into account the opinions and considerations of the delegation members, including those of us members of the Strategy and Negotiation Group, we will leave you to assume those responsibilities alone.

Sincerely,

For the members of the Strategy Committee,

Colonel Théoneste Bagosora

[Signed]

cc: - His Excellency the President of the Republic of Rwanda, Kigali
- The President of the National Assembly [CND], Kigali
- His Excellency the Prime Minister, Kigali
