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Bonn, 13 April 1994

Dear Mr. President,

I have the honour to inform you that H.E. Mr. Willy Claes, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, had a meeting with me in Bonn on 12 April 1994. The Minister conveyed to me his assessment of the situation in Rwanda which, according to him, has deteriorated drastically in the recent days and continues to deteriorate rapidly.

H.E. Mr. Claes informed me that the Government of Belgium has decided to withdraw its contingent serving with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR) at the earliest possible date. I conveyed to the Minister, on behalf of the United Nations, sincere condolences on the death of 10 Belgian officers serving with UNAMIR as well as deep gratitude and appreciation for Belgium's contribution to UNAMIR. The Minister assured me that his Government would like the withdrawal of its contingent to take place in a coordinated manner.

In the light of the decision of the Government of Belgium mentioned above, it is my assessment that it will be extremely difficult for UNAMIR to carry out its tasks effectively. The continued discharge by UNAMIR of its mandate will become untenable unless the Belgian contingent is replaced by another, equally well equipped contingent or unless the Government of Belgium reconsiders its decision to withdraw its contingent.

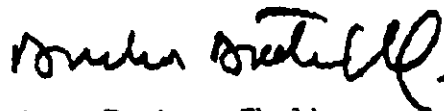
His Excellency
Mr. Colin Keating
President of the Security Council
United Nations
New York

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In these circumstances, I have asked my Special Representative and the Force Commander to prepare plans for the withdrawal of UNAMIR and send their recommendations to me in this regard. I shall keep the council informed.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Boutros Boutros-Ghali

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