

115/23/37

Your file: 115/23/37

Our file: 3/88/1

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FROM: NEW YORK	C04637/NYK	17-Jun-1994
TO: WELLINGTON	WGTN UNSC	Immediate
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Subject

SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA: UNOMUR

Summary

- Mandate for UNOMUR (observer mission in Uganda on border with Rwanda) expires 21 June
- Sec Gen reports force has been effective to date in verifying no military assistance reaches Rwanda from Uganda
- But recommends phase down of UNOMUR over three months given dramatically changed conditions in Rwanda and little rationale for monitoring one border and not others
- President's draft resolution circulated

Action

For instructions

Report

2 Our IFF contains Sec Gens report on UNOMUR, the mandate of which expires on 21 June. Sec Gen's report concludes that UNOMUR has been effective in pursuance of its mandate in monitoring cross border arms flows from Uganda. The Sec Gen recalls that in his last report he noted that clandestine cross-border traffic had decreased appreciably and that, at that time, movement was restricted and only along well-used

routes across the border. He also recalls his conclusion that there was no evidence of any significant traffic in armaments.

3 The report notes that despite the resumption of hostilities in Rwanda, the situation of cross-border traffic from Uganda "does not appear to have changed during the reporting period". (Under usual circumstances this would present a case for renewal of the mandate.) However, Sec Gen's report notes that the mission was intended to be a "factor of stability in the area" and to contribute to the negotiated settlement of the Rwandese conflict.

4 Report goes on to draw attention to the drastically changed situation in Rwanda and to the arms embargo established against Rwanda in res 918. Under these circumstances the report concludes, "there appears to be little rationale for monitoring one of Rwanda's borders and not the others." On the other hand, it is noted that the flow of arms is one of the major areas of concern in the cease-fire talks presently under way under UNAMIR's auspices in Rwanda.

5 The Sec Gen concludes therefore that UNOMUR should continue its monitoring activities until an effective cease-fire is established but simultaneously be phased out over a period of three months. The recommendation therefore is to renew the mandate for 3 months during which there would be a phase down leading to a complete windup at the end of the 3 month period (ie by 21 September 1994).

#### Comment

6 Despite Rwandan PR's (undiplomatic) allegations about Uganda supplying RPF with arms, and his recent calls for intensified efforts by UNOMIR, it seems the Sec Gen prefers to see UNOMUR phased out completely. This could well be the first UN operation closed down, presumably something the US would particularly welcome.

7 It seems odd to be closing down a successful arms control mechanism when one of the biggest problems in Rwanda is the flow of arms and consequent killings amongst civilians and combatants alike. There is however an element of unfairness in Uganda being monitored for assistance to the RPF and not other neighbouring states for assistance to the "government" forces. Under these conditions the only alternative would be to deploy similar missions in all neighbouring states, and in the present climate this would be unthinkable.

8 Grateful instructions on Presidential draft resolution (our IFF refers) which implements Sec Gen's recommendations. The item is scheduled for discussion at informals on Monday.

End Message