

Press Release

Department of Public Information • News Coverage Service • New York

SG/SM/5260 8 April 1994

SECRETARY-GENERAL COMDEMNS VIOLENT 'DESPICABLE' ATTACKS IN RWANDA, RESULTING IN DEATHS OF PRIME MINISTER, 10 BELGIAN PEACE-KEEPERS

The following statement was issued today in Geneva by the spokeperson in Europe for Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali:

The Secretary-General has learned with extreme indignation of the latest incidents in Rwanda, particularly the tragic deaths of Agathe Uwilingiyimana, Prime Minister of Rwanda, and 10 soldiers attached to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) who died courageously in the line of duty. This morning the Secretary-General expressed his sincerest condolences to the families of the Belgian peace-keepers and to the Government and people of Belgium through the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Willy Claes.

The Secretary-General condemns those acts of violence and the despicable attacks on the members of UNAMIR in the strongest terms.

The Secretary-General has been in contact with all the parties concerned and with his Special Representative in Kigali, whom he has asked to take forthwith all possible steps to ensure security throughout the country and especially in Kigali.

The Secretary-General is preparing an urgent report to the Security Council on measures to be taken to protect United Nations personnel.

* *** *