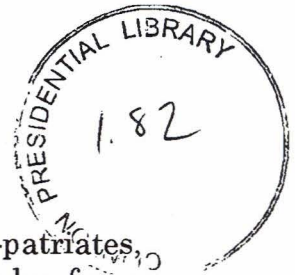


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## Recent Developments/Potential Scenarios

As of Friday, there were more than 100 international aid workers and ex-patriates, including seven Americans, trapped in Goma awaiting evacuation. Rwandan forces (RPF) took control of the main UNHCR headquarters, according to some sources "in the nick of time" as ex-FAR and interhamwe were approaching. All ex-pats were reported safe, and the RPF reportedly plans to escort them safely to Rwanda. (S)

Attacks by Banyamulenge and other forces threatened with expulsion or genocide in eastern Zaire have resulted in relatively few casualties but displaced more than 500,000 refugees and Zairois. Resistance from Zairian government forces and armed elements of the former Rwandan government has been minimal as the rebel troops, supported directly and indirectly by Rwanda and possibly by Uganda and Burundi, have captured Uvira, Bukavu and most areas north of Goma. Refugees are fleeing mainly West and South into surrounding areas where there is no international assistance or infrastructure to support them as well as to already crowded refugee camps. (S)

As many as 700,000 refugees may soon converge at Mugunga refugee camp west of Goma. Mugunga previously held only 200,000 and cannot possibly accommodate the more than 500,000 already there. Sanitation is a major problem. Lack of water is another potential problem that could result in cholera. Relief workers in the Goma area are hoping to be evacuated as soon as possible. Humanitarian re-supply efforts have been halted due to fighting around key airports and closure of remaining roads. As a result, food supplies will run out in the Goma area late next week due, although sufficient food stocks are available in the region. (S)

The whereabouts of several hundred thousand refugees that fled camps in South Kivu (Uvira and Bukavu) are unknown. Many of these refugees (Burundi outnumber Rwandans 2:1) have fled into the bush or are believed to be moving south towards Fizi, Zaire, an inaccessible town 75 miles south of Bujumbura. (S)

Refugee agencies agree conditions in Rwanda are suitable for repatriation. However, only approximately 700 Rwandan refugees have recently crossed into Rwanda along with 3,000-4,000 new Zairian refugees; several thousand Burundian Hutus have returned to Burundi. The movement westward of Rwandan refugees will result not only in a certain humanitarian crisis, since aid agencies will be unable to support them, but also risks further destabilizing Eastern Zaire where the local populations have previously attacked persons of Rwandan origin. (S)

There is also a significant risk that the demonstration effect of turmoil in Eastern Zaire, the ineffectual response of Zairian forces (FAZ) and Mobutu's incapacitation will encourage separatist and violent elements in other unstable parts of Zaire, including potentially Kasai, Katanga and even Kinshasa. The fragmentation of



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Zaire, which borders nine other countries, would be catastrophic and destabilize much of the rest of Africa, including Angola and southern Africa. (S)

Graver still is the possibility that the current instability will lead to a wider regional war. Several NGOs reported to U.S. officials yesterday that Zairian authorities have drawn up mass lists of Tutsis resident in Zaire. This action was a precursor to the genocide in Rwanda. On October 31, the Zairian Transitional Parliament voted overwhelmingly to recommend that Zaire sever diplomatic relations with Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda and that Zairian Tutsis be removed from all government and quasi-government positions. On November 1, the Rwandan ambassador in Kinshasa was reportedly abducted. The act or even the threat of genocide against Tutsis in Zaire could spark a war pitting Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda against Zaire (supported by arms supplied by France and Libya). Sudan, already effectively at war with Uganda and funneling arms to Zaire, is likely to work in concert with Zaire. In this case, Ethiopia and Eritrea (already sympathetic to Rwanda and Burundi and allied with Uganda) may join the war against Sudan. Other regional actors hostile to the Tutsi governments in Rwanda and Burundi, such as Tanzania and Kenya, might also take sides by imposing an economic blockade against Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi or even by taking military action. (S)

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