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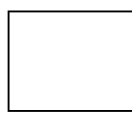


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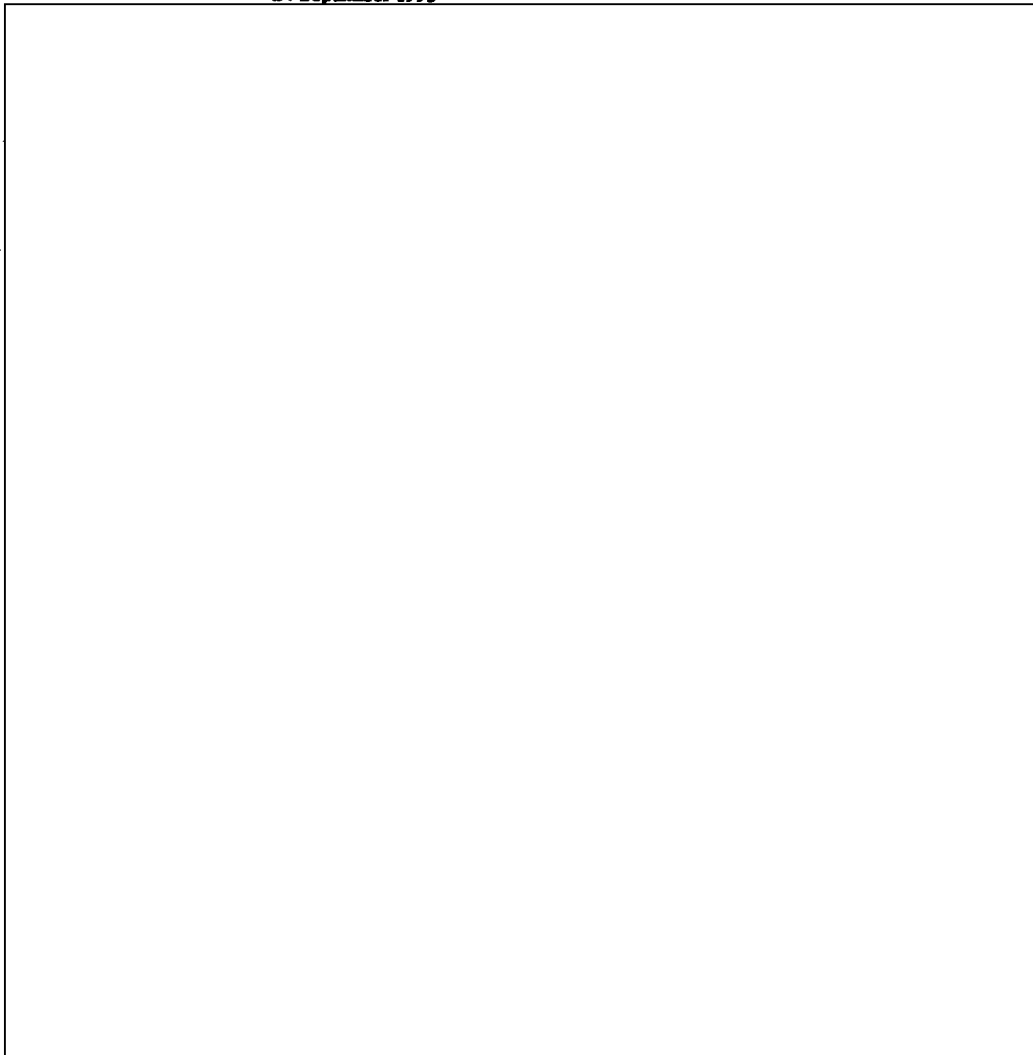
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Rwanda: Waiting for Peacekeepers [Redacted]

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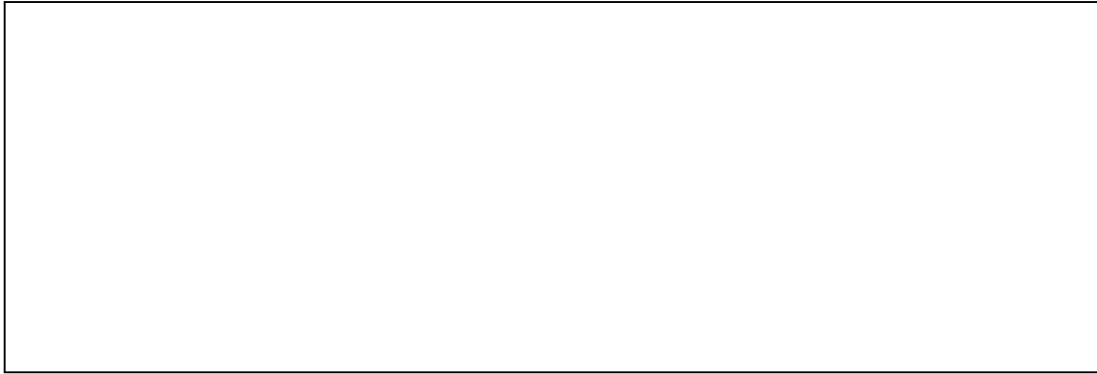
The government and the ethnic Tutsi rebels continue to adhere to the peace accord signed last month despite UN delays in deploying a Neutral International Force that risk undermining the tenuous peace process. [Redacted]

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Rwanda: Waiting for Peacekeepers []

The Rwandan Government and ethnic Tutsi rebels continue to adhere to the 4 August peace accord and a cease-fire despite UN delays in deploying a Neutral International Force (NIF) that risk undermining the tenuous peace process.¹ Although the peace accord called for a broad-based transitional government to be in place by 10 September, both Kigali and the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) agreed to hold off until international forces arrive on the scene. In our judgment, the presence of international forces will be crucial to holding the peace accord together and permitting a successful political transition. []

President Habyarimana and rebel leader Kanyarengwe met in September for the first time in 13 years and reaffirmed their commitment to peace. They released a statement to the press calling for a quick deployment of UN forces and agreed to study ways to return displaced persons, solve internal security problems, and utilize the OAU military observer forces already deployed in Rwanda. Tens of thousands of Rwandans greeted the two leaders and demonstrated support for the peace process, according to press reports. []

The RPF says it will not send its officials to Kigali to participate in the transition until their security can be guaranteed. They and the government are urging that between 500 and 1,000 NIF troops be sent as soon as possible to Kigali so that transitional institutions can be formed and the nearly 1 million persons displaced by the war can begin returning home. The two sides have met with the UN Secretary General, who indicated that a 600-man battalion may be sent in the next few weeks, with more troops arriving in coming months, according to press statements. The UN has made no firm commitments on total NIF troop numbers, but the Canadians and the Egyptians have expressed an interest in sending troops. []

¹For a detailed discussion of the peace accords, see "Rwanda Peace Process Inches Forward," (CNP), *Africa Review*, ALA AR 93-019, 13 August 1993. (CNP)

Forces Already in Place

Troops from France and the OAU already on the ground provided security throughout the peace talks. UN troop deployments are intended to oversee the demobilization of government and RPF forces. Paris, [] views its role as protecting the expatriate community in Kigali, has approximately 300 troops in the capital. [] reporting, the French will not leave Rwanda until a NIF force of at least 500 is deployed in Kigali. []

The OAU's Neutral Military Observer Group (NMOG), which has been given the task of monitoring the cease-fire, has nearly 125 personnel in country. [] NMOG may agree to serve as a monitoring force until the NIF arrives. Several African countries have troops in the OAU cease-fire monitoring group, including 60 Tunisians, 25 Congolese, and 60 Senegalese. Egypt has promised to contribute 120 troops, but none have been sent yet. []

Other UN Deployments

In addition to the NIF, [] the UN Security Council has authorized a 81-man force—the UN Observer Mission for the Rwandan-Ugandan border (UNOMUR)—to ensure that no military support reaches the rebels from sympathizers in Uganda. According to [] press reports, Paris and Kigali have long accused Kampala of supplying the rebels with military support and safehaven. Kampala almost certainly will give the UN permission to station monitors in southern Uganda, but UN deployments have yet to begin. UNOMUR, to be led by a Canadian general, will cost as much as \$6-8 million for a six-month deployment. []

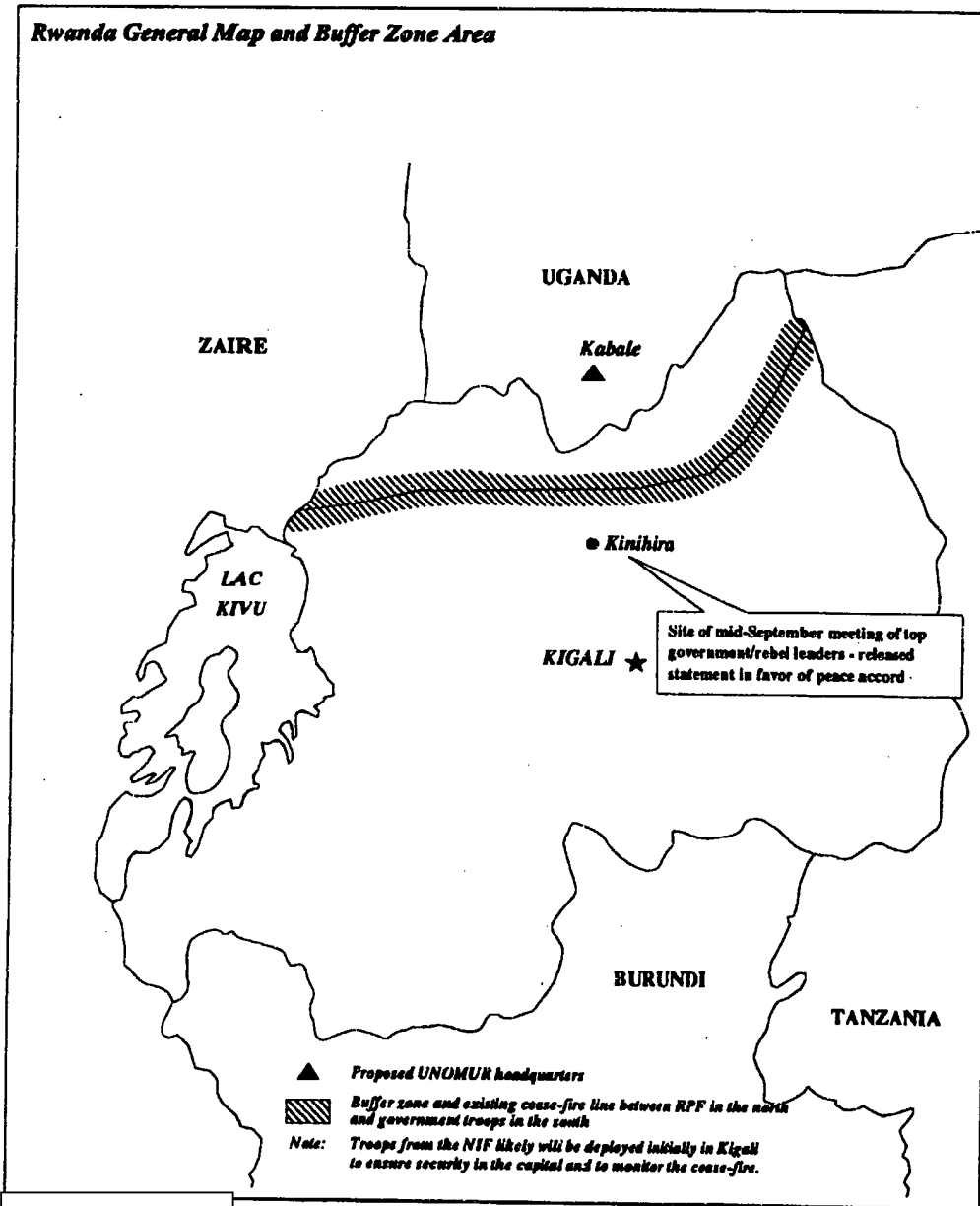
Outlook

In our judgment, the next few months will be critical as the government and the RPF adopt a "wait-and-see" attitude toward the peace accord while biding time for peacekeeping forces to arrive. The recent meeting between the two leaders and their joint statement

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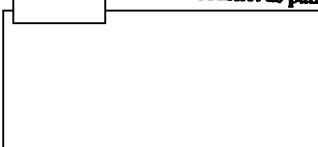
Rwanda General Map and Buffer Zone Area



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indicate a commitment to peace, at least for now. The statement calling for the utilization of OAU forces is a step forward because the government has previously been ambiguous about the OAU's role. Nevertheless, mutual distrust, compounded by continued delays in dispatching UN forces, could see the process unravel and lead to renewed conflict as patience wears thin.



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