Rwanda accuses international community of backing genocide leaders

AFP, February 7, 1995

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 6 (AFP) - Rwanda accused the international community Monday of aiding those responsible for last year's genocide and failing to ensure the safety of refugees still in camps in Zaire.

Rwanda's UN Ambassador Manzi Bakuramutsa told reporters that members of the militia of the former Hutu government had taken over the camps and were terrorizing the refugees – mostly Tutsis – and grabbing up all the supplies.

He charged that the violence in the camps was the result not only of "incapacity but also some complicity," noting that UN officials allowed armed soldiers in as refugees contrary to the usual practice.

Some 1.4 million refugees continue to be holed up in the camps across the border in Zaire where they fled the three months of ethnic bloodshed which began in April and claimed the lives of between 500,000

and one million unarmed civilians.

Bakuramutsa said Kigali had asked Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to review his last report and recommend a way to ensure the safety of some 1.4 million refugees.

Last month, Boutros-Ghali scrapped his plan to send between 3,000 and 5,000 peacekeepers as security for Rwandan refugees after practically no donors came forward with the troops.

The UN chief then put the task into the hands of the Zairean government in conjunction with the UN High Commission for Refugees.

Bakuramutsa noted that the United Nations and the international community "have not been able to avoid the genocide." "They are still incapable of arresting the killers," he said.

A Security Council mission is to travel to Burundi and Rwanda within the next few days, according to diplomats.

 $\rm ltl/gc/dkb$ AFP AFP