

**BURUNDI, RWANDA, TANZANIA,
UGANDA & ZAIRE: RWANDAN AND
BURUNDIAN REFUGEES**

31 October 1996

*emergency appeal no. 01.02/96
situation report no. 10
period covered: 30-31 October 1996*

EMERGENCY REPORT - KIVU CRISIS

Corrigendum

Due to a regrettable mistake, yesterday's Situation Report was printed on Emergency Appeal letterhead. We do apologise with our readers.

Latest events

Goma •

Dramatic events have erupted in Goma today. Exchange of gunfire, artillery and rocket propelled grenades was reported since early morning continuing well into the afternoon. Since dawn, pushed by heavy fighting around the camps, the population of both Kahindo and Katala was set in motion presumably heading towards Goma through Virunga National Park. In the turn of few hours the camps were emptied and over 300,000 refugees are believed to be scattered tonight on the surrounding mountains. The security in town quickly deteriorated as looting became widespread and the vast majority of aid agencies' vehicles were stolen.

Due to the tense situation, the eleven Federation delegates, as well as the Zaire Red Cross volunteers and the seven ICRC delegates, could not leave their residences and the two Hercules flights planned for today were cancelled. Limited activities could be maintained in Mugunga 2 camp thanks to the efforts of the Rwandese Red Cross volunteers.

In the impossibility of rendering the much needed assistance to the refugee population and of the tense and unpredictable security prevailing in Goma, a full evacuation of the expatriate delegates is being seriously considered.

Piero Calvi Parisetti
Senior Officer
Great Lakes Desk

Bekele Geleta
Director
Africa Department