

## Byumba [RPF accusations that French troops participated in the fighting]

AFP, February 11, 1993

But Mugambajye renewed the RPF's accusations that French troops had taken part in the fighting.

"We are against any interference by foreign troops," he said. "Our fighters have reported that French troops have helped government soldiers to dig trenches and man artillery guns," he said.

He said the rebels had doubled the territory they controlled and cut supply routes to Kigali.

He ruled out a withdrawal and said government forces were surrounded in the town of Ruhengeri, 64 kilometres (40 miles) north-west of Kigali.

Churchmen said last week that 315 Tutsis in Ruhengeri and Byumba had been murdered in tribal fighting.

The New York-based human

rights group Africa Watch quoted local rights groups as saying at least 106 Tutsis were killed by Hutus in January.

At least 350,000 people have been displaced by fighting since the RPF invaded Rwanda from Uganda in October 1990.

Africa Watch estimates that 1,000 Tutsi civilians have been massacred.

Several trucks of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) were seen near the Ugandan town of Gatuna carrying food towards the Rwandan border.

Mugambajye said the rebels were allowing food convoys to pass.

dc/msa/jbm

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