CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 KIGALI 04247 01 OF 02 011439Z

ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 EUR-01 OIGO-01 HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-02 PRS-01 P-01 RP-10 SNP-00 SP-00 SR-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 FMP-00 /051W

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P 011438Z DEC 93

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5155

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 04247

YAOUNDE FOR DATT GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PREF, PREL, PINS, MARR, RW, BY SUBJECT: POTENTIAL REGIONAL TENSIONS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KIGALI 04247 01 OF 02 011439Z

REF: A) BUJUMBURA 4918 B) KIGALI 4097
- C) KIGALI 4089 D) KIGALI 4084

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY: THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO DISCOURAGE PALIPEHUTU ACTIVITY IN REFUGEE CAMPS, BUT IT IS FAR FROM CLEAR THE EXTENT TO WHICH THIS IS BEING ENFORCED. A REPORTED INCURSION BY BURUNDI SOLDIERS IS HEIGHTENING TENSION ON RWANDA'S SOUTHERN

- 3. PRIME MINISTER AGATHE UWILINGIMANA REPLIED 11/28 TO BURUNDI OPPOSITION PARTY CHARGES THAT RWANDA IS PLANNING AN ATTACK AGAINST BURUNDI JOINTLY WITH THE PALIPEHUTU. SHE TOLD BURUNDI REFUGEES DURING A VISIT TO A REFUGEE CAMP IN BUTARE PREFECTURE THAT THEY MUST SCRUPULOUSLY RESPECT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS GOVERNING REFUGEES. RWANDA, SHE SAID, WOULD NEVER ALLOW AN ARMED ATTACK TO BE LAUNCHED FROM ITS TERRITORY AGAINST NEIGHBORING BURUNDI. IN A SUBSEQUENT RADIO INTERVIEW, THE PRIME MINISTER UNDERSCORED THAT RWANDA COULD NEVER REPEAT NEVER TOLERATE AN ATTACK LAUNCHED AGAINST BURUNDI FROM RWAMDA. THE PRIME MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED THE PRESENCE OF PALIPEHUTU ELEMENTS IN RWANDA, BUT SAID ANY ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES OF A MILITARY NATURE WOULD BE EXPBLIED FROM RWANDAN TERRITORY.
- 4. UNHCR SENT A DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON NOVEMBER 18 TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KIGALI 04247 01 OF 02 011439Z
THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA EXPRESSING DEEP CONCERN
ABOUT SECURITY IN SOME OF THE REFUGEE CAMPS, CITING
CRBDIBLE REPORTS ABOUT MILITARY TRAINING IN THE
CAMPS. THE NOTE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH ACTIVITY IS
CONTRARY TO THE OAU CONVENTION ON REFUGEES AND IT
APPEALED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA TO ENSURE THAT
THE OAU CONVENTION BE RESPECTED. UNHCR
REPRESENTATIVE ADVISED CHARGE THAT THIS DIPLOMATIC
NOTB, ALTHOUGH MARKED CONFIDENTIAL, IS BEING WIDELY
DISTRIBUTED IN BURUNDI.

- 5. RPF RADIO MUHABURA QUOTED IN FULL THE UNHCR DIPLOMATIC NOTE, SUGGESTING THAT IT GAVE CREDIBILITY TO RUMORS OF PALIPEHUTU ACTIVITY IN RWANDA DESPITE THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT. RADIO MUHABURA WENT SO FAR AS TO IDENTIFY LOCATIONS OF PALIPEHUTU RECRUITMENT CENTERS IN THE REGION SOUTH OF KIGALI AND THE NAMES OF PALIPEHUTU RECRUITERS.
- 6. EMBASSY RECEIVED DISTURBING REPORT 11/30 FROM AN AMERICAN CURRENTLY WORKING WITH THE RWANDAM PROTESTANT COUNCIL OF CHURCHES WHICH IS PROVIDING

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PAGE 01 ACTION AF-01		KIGALI	04247 02	OF 02 0	11442Z		
INFO	LOG-00 OIGO-01 ADS-00 PRS-01 TRSE-00	CIAE-00 HA-09 NSAE-00 P-01 T-00	C-01 H-01 NSCE-00 RP-10 USIE-00	OASY-00 TEDE-00 OIC-02 SNP-00 FMP-00	DODE-00 INR-00 OMB-01 SP-00 /051W B 011442	DOEE-00 IO-16 PA-01 SR-00	EUR-01 L-03 PM-02 SS-00

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 04247

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CONFIDENTIAL

KIGALI 04247 02 OF 02 0114427

NON-FOOD ASSISTANCE TO A SMALL REFUGEE CAMP IN MUYIRA COMMUNE (NORTHERN BUTARE PREFECTURE) RIGHT ON THE BORDER. HE TOLD CHARGE AND VISITING AF/RA MILITARY ADVISOR THAT DURING THE 27-28 NOVEMBER WEEKEND, HE HAD SEEN A GROUP OF ABOUT 30-40 YOUNG MEN AT THE CAMP'S FEEDING CENTER DRESSED IN BRAND NEW CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORMS, PITH HELMET TYPE HATS, AMD CARRYING MILITARY EQUIPMENT. ONE, HE SAID, HAD A ROCKET LAUNCHER ON HIS SHOULDERS.

- 7. IN A POSSIBLY RELATED INCIDENT, RADIO RWANDA REPORTED 12/01 THAT A BURUNDI MILITARY PATROL HAD CROSSED INTO RWANDA (NGENDU COMMUNE) AND KILLED TWELVE CIVILIANS CLOSE TO THE FRONTIER. THE RADIO REPORT NOTED THAT THIS INCIDENT FOLLOWED ONE IN WHICH A NUMBER OF TUTSI WERE KILLED BY HUTU CIVILIANS IN THE REGION IN QUESTION. EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION OF THIS INCIDENT AT THIS TIME.
- B. COMMENT: THE PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION ON THIS ISSUE IS RIGHT ON TARGET. THE EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT OF THE AMERICAN AID WORKER IS MOST DISTURBING. EMBASSY WILL TRY TO DEVELOP FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS INCIDENT. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS PARTICULAR REFUGEE CAMP, MUTUTU, IS ONE OF THE SMALLEST HAVING ONLY 3,000 TO 4,000 PEOPLE IN IT, AND IS NOT FAR FROM ALLEGED PALIPEHUTU RECRUITMENT SITES IN BUGESERA, NOR FROM THE ALLEGED POINT OF INCURSION BY BURUNDI MILITARY ELEMENTS. END COMMENT.

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 04247 02 OF 02 011442Z

LEADER

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