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PAGE 01 KIGALI 04811 01 OF 03 230613Z

ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 C-01 DODE-00 EUR-01 HA-09 H-01 INRE-00 INR-01 L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-02 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2304

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 04811

E. O. 12356: N/A TAGS: PREL, RW

SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF THE ARMIES AND DEMOBILIZATION

REFS: (A) KIGALI 3251, (B) STATE 372632

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: WE EXPECT THAT THE NOVEMBER 23 SESSION OF THE ARUSHA TALKS WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE INTEGRATION OF THE ARMIES RATHER THAN CONTINUATION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 04811 01 OF 03 230613Z
THE POLITICAL TALKS, BUT THIS HAS NOT YET BEEN
CONFIRMED BY THE RPF. THE RWANDANS ARE READY WITH A
FIRM PROPOSAL FOR INTEGRATION, AND HAVE DONE SOME
GOOD THINKING ON SUBSEQUENT DEMOBILIZATION. THE
TOUGH PROBLEM WILL BE SECURING AGREEMENT ON THE
PROPORTION OF RPF TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE RWANDAN
ARMY. RWANDAN OFFERS WILL RANGE FROM SEVEN TO
EIGHTEEN PERCENT, THE LATTER BEING THE OUTSIDE LIMIT,
ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, BUT SENIOR
OFFICERS MAY BE A SOMEWHAT HIGHER PROPORTION. THE
MINISTER OF DEFENSE HOPES TO COMPLETE THESE

NEGOTIATIONS LKLJHCOT YET HAVE
CONFIRMATION THAT THE TANZANIAN FACILITATORS AND THE
RPF ACCEPT THE RWANDAN CONCEPT OF REOPENING THE TALKS
IN ARUSHA ON NOVEMBER 23 WITH THE ISSUE OF
INTEGRATION OF THE ARMIES AS THE FIRST AGENDA ITEM.
NEVERTHELESS, SINCE THAT SEEMS TO BE THE DIRECTION IN
WHICH WE ARE GOING, THIS IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHERE
RWANDAN THINKING IS ON THIS S:#9/------

4. THE RWANDANS FINALLY GOT AROUND TO ASKING THE TANZANIANS FOR A CHANGE IN THE AGENDA ON NOVEMBER 19. APPARENTLY THE TANZANIANS TOLD THE GOR THAT THEY COULD CONTACT THE RPF THEMSELVES. THE TANZANIANS, ACCORDING TO AMBASSADOR MBEZI, ARE MOST UPSET WITH PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA FOR THE REMARKS HE MADE NOVEMBER 15 AT A POLITICAL RALLY. AMBASSADOR MBEZI GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY MIGHT EVEN WITHDRAW THEIR INVITATION FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE TALKS. IN ANY EVENT, THE TANZANIANS REFUSED TO FACILITATE CONTACT WITH THE RPF. IN A MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 04811 01 OF 03 230613Z MINISTER THIS MORNING, NOVEMBER 20, HE TOLD ME THAT HE HOPED TO SPEAK WITH THE RPF IN BRUSSELS DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY AND WOULD BE ABLE TO CONVEY THEIR RESPONSE TO US THIS EVENING OR TOMORROW MORNING.

NEXT STEPS

- 5. RWANDAN THINKING ON THE INTEGRATION QUESTION HAS MADE TREMENDOUS STRIDES FORWARD IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS. THE IDEA AND PRINCIPLE IS NOW ACCEPTED BY THE MILITARY AND EVEN BY THE THE RIGHT WING CDR PARTY. MINISTER OF DEFENSE GASANA TOLD ME PROUDLY THIS AFTERNOON THAT THE MILITARY IS SOLIDLY BEHIND THE CONCEPT OF INTEGRATION AS A RESULT OF A SERIES OF SEMINARS HE HAS SPONSORED.
- 6. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE HAS PROPOSED THAT INTEGRATION BEGIN BY BRINGING RPF OFFICERS INTO THE HIGH COMMAND. THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE ASSEMBLING MILITARY UNITS INTO AGREED ASSEMBLY POINTS, STARTING TWO WEEKS AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WOULD THEN PROPOSE TO

MOVE UNIT BY UNIT IN EITHER INTEGRATING INTO THE ARMY OR REJECTING INDIVIDUAL FIGHTERS FROM THE RPF. THOSE REJECTED WOULD BE GIVEN TRAINING OR OTHER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES. THE KEY PROVISION, ACCORDING TO GASANA, IS TO ASSURE THAT ALL RPT ALL RPF COMBATTANTS ARE REPATRIATED, SO NO CADRE IS LEFT BEHIND IN UGANDA TO RENEW THE WAR.

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PAGE 04

KIGALI 04811 01 OF 03 230613Z

7. BUT MINISTER OF DEFENSE GASANA IS ALSO ACUTELY AWARE OF THE DIFFICULTIES, PARTICULARLY AFTER HIS VISIT TO NICARAGUA WHERE HE SAW MANY PROBLEMS IN THE

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PAGE 01	KIGALI	04811	02 OF 03	201516Z
ACTION AF-01				

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	C-01	DODE-00	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01
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	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	RPE-00	/024W		

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 KIGALI 04811

E. O. 12356: N/A TAGS: PREL. RW

SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF THE ARMIES AND DEMOBILIZATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NICARAGUAN PROGRAM. GASANA TOLD ME TODAY HE BELIEVES IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATION IN ONE SESSION, POSSIBLY EVEN BY THE END OF THE WEEK. HE MET LAST NIGHT AND AGAIN ZNJQGVALFKL RYX

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 04811 02 OF 03 201516Z YY HALITY

- 8. AS SOON AS THEY START TALKING NUMBERS, THE TWO SIDES ARE GOING TO HAVE A PROBLEM. I WOULD SUGGEST, THEREFORE, THAT THE RWANDAN SIDE WILL TALK PRINCIPLES INITIALLY AND TRY TO AVOID THE STICKY QUESTION OF HOW MANY RPF OR WHAT PROPORTION THE RPF MIGHT HAVE IN THE ARMY.
- 9. FROM WHAT WE UNDERSTAND, THE RWANDAN MILITARY BEGAN WITH AN OFFER OF SEVEN PERCENT. THIS WAS CALCULATED ON THE ASSUMPTION OF THERE BEING 500,000 REFUGEES OUTSIDE OF THE RWANDAN BORDERS WHICH IS ABOUT ONE-FIFTEENTH OF THE RWANDAN POPULATION. GASANA TOLD ME TODAY THEY ARE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE UP TO THE PROPORTION CLAIMED BY THE RPF AS RWANDAN DIASPORA, THAT IS 1.3 MILLION COMPARED TO A POPULATION OF 7.2 MILLION, OR UP TO EIGHTEEN PERCENT. WE HAVE HEARD NO HIGHER NUMBERS CONSIDERED IN THIS GOVERNMENT YET, EXCEPT FOR HINTS THAT THE PROPORTION OF SENIOR OFFICERS INTEGRATED WOULD BE HIGHER. GASANA CONFIRMED THAT SENIOR OFFICERS COULD BE A SOMEWHAT HIGHER PROPORTION.
- 10. SO FAR IT APPEARS THAT THE RWANDANS WILL INSIST ON INTESRATINGL

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 04811 02 OF 03 201516Z
PNBFRXTY SIZE. THEY ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT CREATING
WHAT THEY WOULD CONSIDER A CRITICAL MASS OF EX RPF IN
ANY GIVEN UNIT. THEY ALSO FEAR THAT IF THEY ACCEPT
TOO HIGH A PROPORTION OF RPF IN THE ARMY, THERE WILL
BE SECURITY PROBLEMS AS A RESULT, AND THE EX-RPF WILL
BE THE MOST THREATENED.

DEMOBILIZATION

- 11. THE RWANDAN MILITARY CONTAINS APPROXIMATELY 30,000 MEN. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE RPF EFFECTIVE STRENGTH IS ABOUT 10,000. MINIMUM ESTIMATES WOULD REQUIRE REDUCING THAT COMBINED FORCE TO NO MORE THAN 10,000 TROOPS, THUS REQUIRING DEMOBILIZATION OF 30,000 MEN.
- 12. RWANDAN SOLDIERS ARE ALL GRADUATES FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL BUT, EXCEPT FOR SOME OF THE NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS, THEY HAVE NO SECONDARY EDUCATION.
- 13. THE SIMPLEST WAY OF DEMOBILIZING GOR FORCES WOULD BE TO MOVE THEM IMMEDIATELY INTO SECONDARY SCHOOLS. WE UNDERSTAND THE CURRENT ANNUAL INTAKE OF NEW SECONDARY STUDENTS IS ABOUT 10,000. ADDING 10,000 DEMOBILIZED SOLDIERS TO EACH NEW INCOMING CLASS FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS WOULD PRETTY MUCH TAKE CARE OF THE PROBLEM. IT WOULD STRAIN THE RESOURCES OF THE EXISTING SECONDARY SCHOOLS, BUT OUR EXPERIENCE WITH SELF-HELP PROJECTS IS THAT CLASSROOMS CAN BE BUILT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 04811 02 OF 03 201516Z VERY QUICKLY, IN A MATTER OF WEEKS, AND VERY CHEAPLY, FOR AROUND USD 2,500 PER CLASSROOM.

14. SPECIAL CARE WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN FOR RPF SOLDIERS. THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM WILL BE THOSE WHO ARE RWANDAN BY BIRTH AND LEFT RECENTLY TO JOIN THE

RPF. THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOME COMMUNES WITH SECURITY. BUT THEY COULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN SECONDARY BOARDING SCHOOLS ALONG WITH OTHER DEMOBILIZED SOLDIERS FROM THE GOR AND RPF. RWANDANS ARE WELL AWARE OF THE SPECIAL SENSITIVITY FOR THESE PEOPLE, AND EVEN THE MILITARY IS PREPARED TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR REINTEGRATION.

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 04811 03 OF 03 201517Z ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 C-01 DODE-00 EUR-01 HA-09 H-01 INRE-00 INR-01 L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-02 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-01 USIE-00 RPE-00 /024W -----7CF49A 201518Z /38

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 KIGALI 04811

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SUBJECT: INTEGRATION OF THE ARMIES AND DEMOBILIZATION

15. THE CONCEPT OF USING SECONDARY SCHOOL AS THE PRIMARY VEHICLE FOR DEMOBILIZATION HAS BEEN KICKED

AROUND IN CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT, THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND THE LEADERSHIP IN THE PARLIAMENT. EVERYONE RECOGNIZES THAT THERE WILL BE SOME PEOPLE WHO WILL BE UNABLE TO BENEFIT FROM A CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 KIGALI 04811 03 OF 03 201517Z SECONDARY EDUCATION AND THAT ADDITIONAL, PERHAPS VOCATIONAL, ARRANGEMENTS WILL NEED TO BE MADE FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T HANDLE ACADEMIC TRAINING. NEVERTHELESS, THE CONSENSUS IS THAT RWANDAN SOLDIERS WILL NOT BE WILLING TO RETURN TO THE HILLSIDES, SO SOME SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS MUST BE MADE FOR THEM. FURTHERMORE, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE RWANDAN ECONOMY IS NOT GOING TO CREATE MANY NEW JOBS DURING THE NEXT YEAR. BUT AFTER THE WAR ENDS AND PEOPLE BEGIN TO HAVE CONFIDENCE, NEW JOBS WILL BECOME AVAILABLE. RWANDA'S OUTPUT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADUATES IS PATHETICALLY LOW, NUMBERING JUST A FEW THOUSAND A YEAR. A DEVELOPING ECONOMY WILL BE ABLE TO ABSORB AN EXPANSION OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL POPULATION.

16. COMMENT: NEITHER WE NOR THE RWANDANS HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE THE RPF WILL DRAW ITS BOTTOM LINE ON INTEGRATION. AND WE DO NOT HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF HOW MUCH FLEXIBILITY THERE IS IN THE RWANDAN POSITION. THE STICKY PART MAY BE, AS SUGGESTED ABOVE, THE PERCENTAGE OF RPF THAT WILL BE PERMITTED IN. AND THE RPF WILL BE DEEPLY SUSPICIOUS OF THE GOR GOOD FAITH IN INTEGRATING RPF INDIVIDUALS. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE WELCOMES THE PROPOSED TRAVEL OF COLONEL MARLEY TO ARUSHA, AND HOPES HE WILL VISIT KIGALI AGAIN ON HIS WAY HOME. END COMMENT. FLATEN

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