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ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00
	EB-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10	SCT-03	SNP-00
	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	RPE-01	PMB-00	/055W				

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6325

INFO AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

JCS WASHDC//J4//J5//IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC//OASD/ISP//IMMEDIATE

USEUCOM VAHINGEN GE//J3/J4/BATTLE STAFF//IMMEDIATE

CINTRANS SCOTT AFB IL//J3/J4//IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GE//CC/DC/IN// IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC//IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 03919

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PHUM, PREF, KDEM, RW, BY, BE

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SUBJECT: BELGIAN MFA ON SITUATION IN RWANDA

REF: A) BRUSSELS 3880; B) FENDRICK-JOHNSON TELCON OF 4/7

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. BELGIAN MFA CONFIRMED DEATHS OF RWANDESE MINISTERS OF PUBLIC WORKS AND INFORMATION, SAID THEIR MISSION IN RWANDA REPORTED THAT THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND AGRICULTURE HAD DISAPPEARED, AND THAT 5 BELGIAN UNAMIR SOLDIERS PROTECTING THE PRIME MINISTER HAD BEEN TAKEN BY

THE RWANDESE MILITARY. THE BELGIANS ONLY KNEW THE PRIME MINISTER HAD FLED. POLCOUNS PASSED TO THEM OUR INFORMATION THAT SHE HAD BEEN KILLED. THE BELGIAN MFA HAD SENT MESSAGES THROUGH THEIR MISSIONS TO THE UN AND TO WASHINGTON TO ASK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF MODIFYING UN MANDATE TO PROTECT OR EVACUATE EXPATRIATES. BELGIAN MILITARY CONTINGENCY PLANNERS TELL US THE RWANDAN MILITARY CONTROLS THE AIRPORT BUT THE BELGIANS CONTROL A PART OF THE AIRPORT AROUND THEIR C-130. CONTINGENCY PLANNERS ARE LOOKING INTO USING ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO STABILIZE THE SITUATION LOCALLY OR USING SUCH TROOPS IN ORDER TO ASSIST IN A COMPLETE EVACUATION OF ALL UNAMIR FORCES AND OF ALL FOREIGN CIVILIANS WHO WISH TO LEAVE. THEY ARE CONSIDERING THREE APPROACHES: A) USE OF UNAMIR; B) SENDING IN A REINFORCED BATTALION OF 800 BELGIANS DIRECTLY TO RWANDA OR C) STAGING THE BATTALION IN BURUNDI TO BE AVAILABLE FOR USE IN RWANDA IF REQUIRED. NO DECISIONS HAVE AS YET BEEN TAKEN, BUT IF THE BELGIANS DECIDE IT IS NECESSARY TO SEND IN A REINFORCED BATTALION, THEY WILL LIKELY COME TO US FOR AIRLIFT. END SUMMARY.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM REF B, POLCOUNS SPOKE TO WIL JAENEN, DIRECTOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS AT BELGIAN MFA. JAENEN SAID SITUATION WAS VERY SERIOUS IN RWANDA, WITH MILITARY KILLING MINISTERS AND OTHER TUTSI POLITICIANS. THE BELGIAN MISSION COULD CONFIRM THAT THE MINISTERS OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC WORKS HAD BEEN KILLED. THE LATTER WAS TALKING TO UNAMIR WHEN HE WAS KILLED. THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE AND AGRICULTURE HAVE DISAPPEARED. FIVE BELGIAN MEMBERS OF THE UNAMIR MISSION PROTECTING THE PRIME MINISTER AT HER RESIDENCE HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE RWANDAN MILITARY. THEIR FATE WAS UNKNOWN. THE BELGIANS UNDERSTOOD THE PRIME MINISTER HAD FLED. POLCOUNS TOLD JAENEN THAT OUR INFORMATION WAS THAT UNDP EXPATRIATES HAD WITNESSED THE KILLING OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

3. JAENEN SAID THAT THE BELGIAN MILITARY HAD BEEN ASKED TO DO CONTINGENCY/CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR AN EVACUATION OF EXPATRIATES BUT NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN MADE. HE SAID THE BELGIAN MFA HAD SENT MESSAGES TO THEIR MISSIONS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON ASKING IF WE SHOULD NOT CONSIDER CONVERTING THE UNAMIR MANDATE TO ALLOW UNAMIR TO PROTECT/EVACUATE EXPATRIATES AS NEEDED.

4. JAENEN SAID THE BELGIANS IN UNAMIR DID NOT/NOT CONTROL THE AIRPORT BUT DID CONTROL A PORTION OF IT AROUND A C-130 THEY HAD ON THE GROUND.

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5. SEPARATELY, A JOINT STAFF OPERATIONS OFFICER AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TOLD EMBASSY DAO THAT THE MILITARY WAS DEVELOPING CONTINGENCY PLANS. HE CONFIRMED THAT 5
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BELGIANS WITH UNAMIR HAD DISAPPEARED. HE ALSO SAID 5
PLATOONS WERE CUT OFF AT THE AIRPORT BETWEEN THE ARMY AND
THE GENDARMERIE. THEY WERE NOT IN IMMEDIATE DANGER.

6. AMONG THE OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE MILITARY ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS ARE THE USE OF UNAMIR TROOPS TO EVACUATE CIVILIANS IN RWANDA OR TO SEND UP TO A REINFORCED BATTALION (EITHER DIRECTLY TO RWANDA OR TO BURUNDI TO BE ON STAND-BY IF NEEDED) TO SUPPORT TROOPS ALREADY IN PLACE

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SUBJECT: BELGIAN MFA ON SITUATION IN RWANDA

IN RWANDA. THE MISSION WOULD BE EITHER TO RESTORE ORDER
OR TO FACILITATE A COMPLETE EVACUATION OF UNAMIR MILITARY
AND EXPATRIATE CIVILIANS WHO WISH TO LEAVE. IF THE OPTION
TO SEND A BATTALION IS CHOSEN, THE BELGIANS WOULD LIKELY
COME TO US FOR AIRLIFT SUPPORT.

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