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ACTION AF-00

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THAT THE RPF HAD GONE TO ARUSHA ONLY TO POSTURE, NOT TO NEGOTIATE.

ACTION OFFICE CG-01
INFO AS-01 AFRA-01 EXED-01 ZF-03 CF-01 BY-01 ET-01 UG-01
TZ-01 KE-01 AFP-01 CM-01 XW-01 /B16 A2 JT

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 EUR-00
HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 LAB-01 L-00
ADS-00 M-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-00 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00
T-00 USIE-00 RPE-01 PMB-00 /038W
-----418A37 291558Z /38

3. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WERE INTRODUCED AS JUSTICE MINISTER AGNES NTAMABALIRO, HEALTH MINISTER CASIMIR BIZIMUNGU, AND BRIGADIER GENERAL MARCEL GATSINZI OF THE RWANDAN ARMY. THE DELEGATION BLAMED REBEL MILITARY SUCCESSES ON ACTIVE SUPPORT FROM UGANDA AND BELGIAN FORCES. THEY REITERATED CLAIMS THAT BELGIANS SOLDIERS HAD SHOT DOWN THE PRESIDENTIAL AIRPLANE.

P 291508Z APR 94
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6442
INFO AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

4. RWANDAN INTERIM FOREIGN MINISTER JEROME BICAMUPAKA, REPORTED TO BE "PASSING THROUGH" ZAIRE WITH THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA, SPOKE TO THE PRESS IN KINSHASA AND THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA FROM PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S RETREAT AT GBADOLITE OVER THE APRIL 22-24 WEEKEND. HE DISCUSSED THE ARUSHA ACCORDS AND ATTRIBUTED THE GOR'S FAILURE TO ATTEND THE LATEST ARUSHA ROUND TO LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS. A NOTABLE AND UNFORTUNATE THEME IN THESE PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS, AND IN A NEW NOTE VERBALE FROM THE RWANDAN EMBASSY HERE, IS THE ACCUSATION OF BELGIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEATHS OF THE RWANDAN AND BURUNDIAN PRESIDENTS. BILAMUPAKA ALSO SUGGESTED THAT UGANDA IS PROVIDING TANGIBLE SUPPORT TO THE RWANDA PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF.)

5. IN AN INTERVIEW IN THE APRIL 25 ISSUE OF KINSHASA THRICE-WEEKLY "LA REFERENCE PLUS," BICAMUPAKA EXPLAINED HIS

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, CG, RW, UG, TZ
SUBJECT: RWANDA INTERIM GOVERNMENT DECLARATIONS
SUGGEST MOBUTU PEACE INITIATIVE

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 7/28/98 by [Signature]

GOVERNMENT'S ABSENCE FROM ARUSHA AS FOLLOWS: "THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT SENT TO DAR ES SALAAM A DELEGATION LED BY TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ANDRE NTAGERURA. IT COMPRISED, AMONG OTHERS, THE JUSTICE MINISTER AND OTHER HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS. BUT FOLLOWING TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES THE DELEGATION ARRIVED IN DAR ES SALAAM YESTERDAY (SIC -- DATE OF INTERVIEW NOT CLEAR BUT WE THINK IT TOOK PLACE MIDDAY APRIL 24). HOWEVER TANZANIAN PRESIDENT MWINYI HAD BEEN INFORMED ABOUT A POTENTIAL DELAY. OUR GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO HOLD A DIALOGUE WITH THE RPF. BUT THE LATTER SHOULD PUBLICLY ACCEPT THE IDEA OF PEACE. THEY HAVE VIOLATED THE FEBRUARY 8, 1993 AND APRIL 6, 1994 AGREEMENTS. THIS TIME WE MUST HAVE GUARANTEES. THAT IS WHY WE ARE PUTTING OUR CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT MWINYI AND OTHER

1. SUMMARY. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA PASSED THROUGH KINSHASA OVER THE APRIL 23-24 WEEKEND. INTERIM FOREIGN MINISTER BICAMUPAKA GAVE AN INTERVIEW TO A LOCAL JOURNAL JUST BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR PARIS. A FOUR MEMBER DELEGATION HEADED BY COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ANDRE NTAGERURA CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN IN ZAIRE TO SIGN A CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT WITH THE RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF) IN GBADOLITE, MOBUTU'S RETREAT IN THE PROVINCE OF EQUATEUR. THE CEASE-FIRE PLAN FELL THROUGH WHEN THE RPF DID NOT SHOW. BOTH BICAMUPAKA AND NTAGERURA'S DELEGATION REPEATED THE CHARGE THAT BELGIAN SOLDIERS HAD SHOT DOWN THE PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT, AND THAT UGANDA AND BELGIUM WERE AIDING THE RPF. END SUMMARY.

6. ON THE ARUSHA ACCORDS THEMSELVES, BICAMUPAKA ADDED THAT "THE ASSASSINATION OF THE HEAD OF STATE AND THE RPF HOSTILITIES ARE CALLING THE ARUSHA AGREEMENTS INTO QUESTION. IF THE RPF ADMITS TO ITS VIOLATION AND GIVES ENOUGH GUARANTEES OF ITS COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND TO THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, OUR GOVERNMENT IS READY TO RESUME ADHERING TO THE ARUSHA PEACE AGREEMENT, OR TO ADJUST IT OR AMEND IT IN SOME WAYS IF NECESSARY.

2. AT AN IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE IN KINSHASA'S INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL SUNDAY APRIL 24, A FOUR MEMBER RWANDAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION HEADED BY COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ANDRE NTAGERURA SAID THAT IT HAD SIGNED A CEASE FIRE AGREEMENT IN GBADOLITE APRIL 23, BUT THAT THE RPF HAD FAILED TO SHOW UP. THE CEASEFIRE WOULD HAVE COME INTO FORCE AT NOON APRIL 24, BUT WAS NULL IN THE ABSENCE OF THE RPF'S SIGNATURE. NTAGERURA SAID THAT THE RPF HAD ASKED FOR MOBUTU'S INVOLVEMENT, AND THAT THE RPF HAD APPROVED THE DRAFT DOCUMENT ANNOUNCING THE CEASE-FIRE IN ADVANCE. HE

7. IN RESPONSE TO LA REFERENCE'S QUESTION: "PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED (AURAIT ETE ASSASSINE) BY BELGIAN FORCES. CAN YOU CONFIRM THIS?" BICAMUPAKA REPLIED, "INVESTIGATIONS ARE CONTINUING, BUT WE HAVE, NOW, INFORMATION ACCORDING TO WHICH CERTAIN BELGIAN FORCES

COULD NOT EXPLAIN THE RPF'S ABSENCE FROM GBADOLITE IN LIGHT OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. HE LEFT THE DOOR OPEN TO A FUTURE SIGNING. HE EXPLAINED HIS GOVERNMENT'S ABSENCE FROM ARUSHA AS A PROBLEM OF COMMUNICATIONS AND LOGISTICS, BUT INSISTED

(ELEMENTS) OF THE UN MISSION UNAMIR WOULD BE IMPLICATED IN THE ATTACK." BILAMUPAKA DID NOT GO SO FAR AS TO ACCUSE THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT, DRAWING INSTEAD A DISTINCTION BETWEEN BRUSSELS AND THESE "ELEMENTS." THIS LINE IS REPEATED IN A LONG AND TENDENTIOUS NOTE VERBALE FROM THE RWANDAN EMBASSY, DATED APRIL 20 BUT CIRCULATING IN KINSHASA FROM APRIL 25, IN WHICH THE PHRASE "THE PRESIDENTIAL AIRPLANE SHOT DOWN BY BELGIAN SOLDIERS" IS UNDERLINED IN THE TEXT. (A TRANSLATION OF THE NOTE FOLLOWS SEPTEL.)

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8. COMMENT: IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT TO GET A READING FROM THE ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS SINCE MOBUTU HE IS IN GBADOLITE AND WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO MEET WITH THE RWANDAN DELEGATIONS. HOWEVER, CHARGE HAS ASKED FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S SPECIAL COUNSELOR FOR SECURITY AFFAIRS TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED STATE 112362 AND WILL TRY TO DISCOVER JUST WHAT THE PRESIDENT'S UP TO VIS-A-VIS RWANDA. THERE ARE CONFLICTING STORIES ABOUT ZAIRIAN TROOPS AND ARMS MOVING ACROSS THE BORDER FROM KIVU. WE DOUBT THE FAZ HAVE MOVED AND WHILE SMALL ARMS COULD HAVE, THERE IS NO/NO DIRECT EVIDENCE TO THAT EFFECT. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH AAO'S FINDINGS IN GOMA AND BUKAVU OVER THE WEEKEND.

YATES

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