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FOLLOWING BRUSSELS 07949 DATED 07/18/94 SENT ACTION  
SECSTATE INFO DAR ES SALAAM NAIROBI KAMPALA KINSHASA  
ADDIS ABABA LAGOS BUJUMBURA USUN NEW YORK REPEATED  
FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 07949  
DEPARTMENT FOR AF/C

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PREL, PHUM, MARR, RW, UN, BE

SUBJECT: HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN GOMA: JULY 17

CONVERSATIONS WITH RPF REPRESENTATIVE RUEGO IN BRUSSELS  
AND BELGIAN MFA CHEF DE CABINET WILLEMS

REF: A) FENDRICK-JOHNSON TELCONS OF 17/7/94;  
B) JOHNSON-MCCULLEY TELCON OF 17/7/94  
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SUMMARY  
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1. AS INSTRUCTED REF A, POLCOUNS PASSED THROUGH RPF  
REPRESENTATIVE RUEGO IN BRUSSELS MESSAGE THAT USG URGED  
RPF TO DECLARE IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND TAKE OTHER MEASURES  
TO CALM FEARS AND STAUNCH OVERWHELMING REFUGEE FLOW INTO  
GOMA. RUEGO PROMISED TO CONVEY MESSAGE TO KIGALI EVENING

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6/17. RUEGO THOUGHT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKELY ANNOUNCE A CEASEFIRE 6/18. (POLCOUNS URGED THAT THE RPF DO THIS 6/17.) RUEGO BLAMED HUTU ARMY AND MILITIAS AND THEIR RADIO FOR SPREADING FEAR AND DRIVING PEASANTS BEFORE THEM INTO ZAIRE. HE SAID RPF RADIO WAS ALREADY BROADCASTING MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION. BELGIAN MFA CHEF DE CABINET WILLEMS ALSO VOLUNTEERED TO CALL RPF TO URGE CEASEFIRE AND MEASURES TO CALM SITUATION. WILLEMS LATER PHONED TO REPORT HE HAD DONE SO. RUEGO HAD MENTIONED TO WILLEMS THAT RPF HAD LIST OF 500 PEOPLE IT CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE FOR ATROCITIES IN RWANDA. END SUMMARY.

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CONVERSATION WITH BRUSSELS RPF REPRESENTATIVE JAMES RUEGO  
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2. AS REQUESTED IN REFCON A, POLCOUNS REACHED BRUSSELS RPF REPRESENTATIVE JAMES RUEGO LATE AFTERNOON JULY 17 TO EMPHASIZE HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPE DEVELOPING IN GOMA AND TO REQUEST THAT RPF ANNOUNCE AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND PUT OUT A MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION TO CALM FEARS AND TRY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO STEM MASSIVE FLIGHT INTO GOMA. ALSO AS INSTRUCTED REF A, POLCOUNS NOTED THAT FAILURE TO ACT NOW ON A CEASEFIRE AND MEASURES TO CALM THE SITUATION WOULD AFFECT HOW USG VIEWED NEW STRUCTURES BEING FORMED IN KIGALI.

3. RUEGO, WHO IS LOCAL RPF REPRESENTATIVE, CONFIRMED THAT BIHOZAGARA AND PASTOR BIZIMUNGU WERE IN KIGALI. RUEGO SAID HE EXPECTED TO BE PHONED FROM KIGALI SUNDAY EVENING AND PROMISED TO CONVEY USG MESSAGE. HE WOULD NOT/NOT GIVE POLCOUNS NUMBER OF SATELLITE PHONE CONTACT WITH KIGALI, BUT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD WASHINGTON HAD A NUMBER FOR KAGAME AND HAD USED IT.

4. RUEGO SAID THAT RPF RADIO WAS ALREADY BROADCASTING A MESSAGE OF RECONCILIATION. HE SAID PEASANTS WHO WERE FLEEING HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM RPF. RUEGO BLAMED FLIGHT ON HUTU ARMED FORCES AND MILITIAS, WHO WERE DRIVING ORDINARY RWANDANS BEFORE THEM USING THREATS AND GUNFIRE. THEY WANTED THIS EXODUS TO PROVIDE COVER FOR THEMSELVES IN ZAIRE. RUEGO ALSO SAID THAT RADIO MILLE COLLINES HAD CONTINUED TO BROADCAST, EITHER FROM GISENYI OR GOMA.

5. IN RESPONSE TO POLCOUNS' QUESTIONS, RUEGO ACKNOWLEDGED

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THAT THE RPF HAD NOT/NOT YET ANNOUNCED A CEASEFIRE. HE BELIEVED THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN KIGALI WOULD DO SO JULY 18. RUEGO ALSO HELD THAT A CEASEFIRE WAS BECOMING ACADEMIC AS, WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE FAR FORCES INTO ZAIRE, THERE WERE NO LONGER TWO FIGHTING FORCES IN RWANDA. POLCOUNS SAID THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CEASEFIRE WOULD NOT BE ACADEMIC, COULD HELP TO CALM FEARS, AND AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE SHOULD BE EASIER IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES

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RUEGO DESCRIBED.

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WILLEMS ALSO CONVEYS MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF GOB  
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6. WHILE SEARCHING FOR NUMBERS FOR RUEGO, POLCOUNS HAD SPOKEN AFTERNOON 6/17 TO BELGIAN MFA CHEF DE CABINET LODE WILLEMS. IN ADDITION TO HELPING WITH NUMBER, WILLEMS OFFERED TO MAKE SAME POINTS WITH RPF ON BEHALF OF GOB. HE CALLED BACK EVENING 6/17 TO SAY HE HAD TALKED TO RUEGO AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND MEASURES TO STAUNCH THE FLOW OF REFUGEES INTO ZAIRE. WILLEMS TOLD RUEGO EU FOREIGN MINISTERS, MEETING IN BRUSSELS 6/18, WOULD HAVE SEEN THE PICTURES FROM GOMA AND WOULD HOLD THE RPF ACCOUNTABLE FOR DOING EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO REASSURE THE POPULATION AND REVERSE THE FLOW OF REFUGEES OVERWHELMING GOMA. WILLEMS SAID RUEGO ALSO PROMISED TO CONVEY HIS MESSAGE TO KIGALI. RUEGO ALSO TOLD WILLEMS THAT THE PEASANTS WHO WERE FLEEING HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM THE RPF. RUEGO ADDED THAT THE RPF HAD A LIST OF 500 NAMES OF PEOPLE IT CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATROCITIES IN RWANDA. WILLEMS RESPONDED THAT THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A "LIST" WAS NOT/NOT LIKELY TO CALM FEARS.

7. SUBSTANCE OF THE ABOVE MESSAGE WAS PASSED IN TELEPHONE CALLS TO AF/C'S FENDRICK AND MCCULLEY EVENING 6/17. THIS MESSAGE IS BEING SUBMITTED, AS FENDRICK REQUESTED, FOR THE RECORD. SCHERMERHORN UNQUOTE TALBOTT

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