

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 STATE 111918 282043Z
ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01
	ADS-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	PMB-00	/037R				

DRAFTED BY: AF/EX: LLLANE
APPROVED BY: AF/C: AXRENDER
AF/C: DPRAWSON
AF/C: RAFLATEN

-----412FCB 282044Z /38

P 282042Z APR 94
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 111918

E.O. 12356: N/A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 111918 282043Z
TAGS: PINS PGOV PINR MOPS RW
SUBJECT: RGF WILLING TO NEGOTIATE
REF: (A) 94 NAIROBI 6551

1. SUMMARY. RWANDAN GOVERNMENT FORCES GENERAL RUSATIRA SAID 4/26 THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILITARY ARE READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE RPF IF A CEASEFIRE HOLDS. THE GENERAL HOPED THAT THE US WOULD DO ALL THAT IT COULD TO ASSIST IN BROKERING A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT AND REESTABLISHING A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT. FIGHTING CONTINUES IN KIGALI; THE MILITARY'S COMMAND CENTER IS

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

UNDER SIEGE. END SUMMARY.

2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER DISCOVERING THAT TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS WITH KIGALI HAD BEEN RESTORED ON 4/26, ECONOFF SPOKE FROM WASHINGTON WITH GENERAL LEONIDAS RUSATIRA, THE COMMANDANT OF THE MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL AND THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION FOR DEMOBILIZATION IN KIGALI. RUSATIRA SAID THAT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT IN GITARAMA HAD MET IN KIGALI DURING THE MORNING OF 4/26 AND AGREED THAT A CEASEFIRE HAD TO BE NEGOTIATED. THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MILITARY PROPOSED TO UN FORCE COMMANDER GENERAL DALLAIRE THAT A CEASEFIRE TAKE EFFECT THE EVENING OF 4/26. GENERAL DALLAIRE WAS SUPPOSED TO RELAY THIS MESSAGE TO THE RPF. RUSATIRA SAID THAT IF THE RPF RESPECTED THE CEASEFIRE, NEGOTIATIONS COULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY TO SET UP A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT.

3. RUSATIRA SAID HE KNEW THAT THE RPF CLAIMS THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT LACKS LEGITIMACY AND IS REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 111918 282043Z

WITH IT. HE SAID THAT THE MILITARY, HOWEVER, WAS READY TO BEGIN FACE-TO-FACE TALKS WITH "ITS BROTHERS", THE RPF, TO END "THE FRATRICIDE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY". WHEN ASKED IF THE MILITARY HAD CONTROL OVER ALL ITS UNITS INCLUDING THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD, RUSATIRA HEDGED A BIT, BUT BELIEVED THAT THE MAJORITY IN THE MILITARY WANT THE FIGHTING TO END AND THE MAJORITY WILL ENSURE THAT A NEGOTIATED CEASEFIRE IS RESPECTED.

4. RUSATIRA DESCRIBED KIGALI AS COMPLETELY PARALYZED. HE SAID THAT ONLY A HANDFUL OF CIVILIANS ARE LEFT IN THE CAPITAL. A SMALL INFORMAL MARKET WAS SET UP IN THE CENTER OF TOWN AWAY FROM AREAS OF FIGHTING. THOSE LEFT IN KIGALI ARE BUYING WHAT THEY CAN AND RETURNING QUICKLY TO THEIR HOMES.

5. THE GENERAL SAID THAT THE RPF CONTINUES TO ADVANCE ON THE GOVERNMENT FORCES' S COMMAND CENTER ON KIYOVU AND THAT SEVERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE BUILDINGS ON THAT HILL, INCLUDING THE MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL, HAVE TAKEN HITS. DURING THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, RUSTIRA STOPPED SEVERAL TIMES ASKING IF ECONOFF COULD HEAR THE SHELLING IN THE BACKGROUND. HE SAID THAT SOME GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE ENCIRCLED BY THE RPF ON KIYOVU BUT BOTH SIDES WERE HOLDING

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

THEIR GROUND.

6. RUSTIRA CLOSED THE CONVERSATION BY ASKING THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DO ALL THAT IT COULD TO HELP BROKER A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT. HE SAID THE U.S. IS PERCEIVED BY BOTH SIDES AS THE ONE NEUTRAL OBSERVER WHO CAN HELP RESTORE PEACE. THE GENERAL SAID THAT THE MILITARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 111918 282043Z
WANTS TO END THE FIGHTING AND RESTORE ORDER BUT THEY WILL NEED U.S. ASSISTANCE IN NEGOTIATING A CEASEFIRE AND REESTABLISHING A TRANSITION GOVERNMENT.

7. GENERAL RUSATIRA WAS THE FORMER SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE RWANDAN ARMY WHEN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA HELD THE DEFENSE MINISTRY PORTFOLIO, UNTIL THE COALITION GOVERNMENT IN 1992. GENERAL RUSATIRA IS A NORTHERN HUTU FROM RUHENGARI, RESPECTED BUT CONSIDERED TOO LIBERAL BY MOST OF HIS MILITARY COLLEAGUES AND DESCRIBED BY EXPATRIATES AS A VOICE OF REASON WITHIN THE RWANDAN MILITARY. RUSATIRA SUPPORTS THE PEACE PROCESS AND THE TRANSITION TO MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY. HE MAY BE IN A POSITION TO INFLUENCE GENERAL BIZIMUNGU, CURRENT RWANDAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, TO MOVE TOWARD A CEASEFIRE TO END THE CURRENT CRISIS.

TALBOTT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNNN

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED