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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D C 20301-2000

POLICY

28 July 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THROUGH: ACTING UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

FROM: DIRECTOR RWANDA TASK FORCE *zlk*  
Prepared by: LTC Johnson and MAJ Bittrick. x79753

SUBJECT: Recognition of the New Government of Rwanda (U)  
ACTION MEMORANDUM

(U)

Summary: (C) Next under is an NSC memo soliciting your views on recognizing the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) government. DoD's only equity is to ensure the best possible legal protection for any forces deployed to Rwanda. A drawback of non-recognition is inability to conclude an agreement regarding the status of our forces. Although we may be able to obtain a UN determination to consider our forces "experts on mission" -- and thus adequately protected under international law -- this is less desirable than a direct agreement.

(U)

(C) Beyond the status of forces issue, our interest is in prosecuting the humanitarian mission efficiently, which can occur with or without recognition. Our inclination is to recognize, on the grounds the RPF is certainly preferable to the defeated interim Hutu government and dealing with a sitting government may have bureaucratic pluses.

(U)

Recommendation: (C) Support recognition of the RPF government, including seating its representative at the UN.

OGC ① \_\_\_\_\_

SECDEF Decision:

Concur \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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