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ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CA-02	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EUR-01	HA-09	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	OIC-02	PM-00	P-01	SSO-00	VO-06	SNIS-00
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DRAFTED BY: AF/C: MEGRANDFIELD

APPROVED BY: AF/C: RJFENDRICK

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P 301840Z APR 94  
 FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
 TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA  
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL PGOV MOPS CVIS PHUM RW UN

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 SUBJECT: RWANDAN AMBASSADOR ASKS FOR VISAS, DENIES GOR  
 RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MASSACRES  
 REF: (A) 94 PARIS 11799, (B) 94 STATE 11320

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. RWANDAN AMBASSADOR UWIMANA MET WITH AF/C  
 DEPUTY DIRECTOR APRIL 29 TO URGE ISSUANCE OF U.S. VISAS  
 FOR INTERIM GOVERNMENT FOREIGN MINISTER AND FOREIGN  
 MINISTRY POLITICAL DIRECTOR. UWIMANA CLAIMED THAT NO  
 MORE MASSACRES WERE OCCURING IN GOR-CONTROLLED AREAS OF

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RWANDA, PLACED THE BLAME FOR MASSACRES SQUARELY ON THE RPF, AND DEPLORED A PERCEIVED INTERNATIONAL BIAS IN FAVOR OF THE RPF.

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END SUMMARY.

3. AT HIS REQUEST, RWANDAN AMBASSADOR ALOYS UWIMANA, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY COUNSELOR BONIFACE KARANI, MET WITH AF/C DEPUTY DIRECTOR REED FENDRICK AFTERNOON OF APRIL 29. UWIMANA BEGAN THE MEETING BY ASKING

5. TURNING TO THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN RWANDA, AMB. UWIMANA SAID THAT HE WANTED DEPARTMENT TO KNOW THAT

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THAT MASSACRES HAVE STOPPED IN THE AREAS OF RWANDA CONTROLLED BY GOR FORCES. HE SAID THAT MASSACRES CONTINUE IN THE ZONES OCCUPIED BY THE RPF, SUCH AS RUHENGERI, BYUMBA, AND KIBUNGO. UWIMANA ALSO SAID THAT THE GOR IS READY TO SIGN AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE, PROVIDED THAT CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET, NAMELY: THAT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS TAKE PLACE BETWEEN GOR AND RPF; THAT

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THE RPF FORCES RETURN TO THE POSITIONS THEY OCCUPIED ON APRIL 6, 1994; THAT LAND AND PROPERTY TAKEN FROM THE DISPLACED ARE RETURNED TO THEM; THAT AN IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE PLANE CRASH TAKES PLACE; AND THAT UNAMIR IS REINFORCED. UWIMANA ALSO ASKED THAT HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS INCREASE THEIR ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA. THE TEXT OF UWIMANA'S DEMARCHE WAS ISSUED BY RWANDAN EMBASSY AS A PRESS STATEMENT; TEXT OF STATEMENT WAS FAXED TO EMBASSY PARIS.

6. FENDRICK TOLD AMB. UWIMANA THAT IT APPEARED THAT SOME OF THE GOR'S CONDITIONS, SUCH AS A RETURN TO APRIL 6 POSITIONS, WERE NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED BY THE RPF, AND THAT THE GOR SHOULD INSTITUTE AN IMMEDIATE UNCONDITIONAL CEASEFIRE. THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY IS TO END THE KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS. FENDRICK ADDED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FOR HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE RED CROSS AND MSF TO CARRY OUT THEIR MISSION IN RWANDA WHEN WOUNDED PEOPLE ARE PULLED OUT OF AMBULANCES AND KILLED ON THE SPOT. UWIMANA AND KARANI, WHO HAD NOT SPOKEN UNTIL THIS POINT, BECAME VERY DEFENSIVE AND INSISTED THAT THE MASSACRES WERE THE FAULT OF THE RPF, BECAUSE AS LONG AS THE RPF CONTINUED THE WAR, THE PEOPLE WOULD CONTINUE KILLING TO DEFEND THEMSELVES. MOREOVER, WHILE THE RPF OFFENSIVE WAS CONTINUING THE RWANDAN ARMY COULD NOT SPARE TROOPS TO PREVENT CIVILIAN-LED MASSACRES. UWIMANA AND KARANI BOTH COMPLAINED BITTERLY THAT THE USG AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ARE PREDJUDICED IN FAVOR OF THE RPF, AND DO NOT PAY ATTENTION WHEN THE RPF KILLS INNOCENT CIVILIANS.

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7. FENDRICK REPEATEDLY TOLD UWIMANA AND KARANI THAT THE US CALLED UPON BOTH SIDES TO INSTITUTE AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE AND TO STOP THE KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, WHILE WE REALIZE THAT PEOPLE OF BOTH ETHNIC GROUPS ARE BEING MURDERED, THERE ARE MANY, MANY CREDIBLE EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF CIVILIAN MASSACRES BEING CARRIED OUT BY HUTU GANGS AND MILITIAS. HE ADDED THAT IT IS CLEAR FROM THE REPORTS OF THOSE WHO ESCAPED FROM RWANDA THAT FAR MORE ATROCITIES AGAINST CIVILIANS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT BY GOR TROOPS AND MILITIAS, AND EMPHASIZED THAT OFFICIALS OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO END THESE KILLINGS. UWIMANA AND KARANI INSISTED UNWAVERINGLY THAT THE MASSACRES WERE THE FAULT OF THE RPF. NOTHING FENDRICK SAID COULD SHAKE THEM IN THEIR BELIEF THAT THE RPF WAS THE CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM, AND THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS UNFAIRLY PREDJUDICED AGAINST THE GOR AND IN FAVOR OF THE RPF.

8. COMMENT. WHAT WE HEARD FROM UWIMANA WAS NOTHING NEW, BUT HIS VEHEMENCE, AS WELL AS THAT OF KARANI, WHO SAID THAT HIS UNCLE AND FAMILY HAD JUST BEEN KILLED BY THE RPF IN RUHENGARI, DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR AN EARLY RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS. LISTENING TO AMB. UWIMANA DISAVOW ALL GOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ON-GOING MASSACRES MAKES US AWARE OF THE LONG ROAD AHEAD TO CONVINCING THE PROTAGONISTS TO RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS AND TO COMMENCE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. END COMMENT.

9. BUJUMBURA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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