

115/23/37

Your file:

Our file: 161/1/1, 42/6/1

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FROM:	WASHINGTON	C03131/WSH	07-Jul-1994
TO:	WELLINGTON	WGTV UNSC	Routine
CC:	NEW YORK	GENEVA	Routine
	OTTAWA	CANBERRA	Routine
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TO:	Defence		Routine

MFAT (MEA, UNC, LGL, ISAC, EAB, AMER, DSP3, DSP1)

P/S MFA  
 DEFENCE HQNZDF (DSIA, OPS, DDI)  
 DEFENCE MOD (GENTLES)

Subject

U04580: SECURITY COUNCIL : RWANDA AND ITS PRESIDENCY

Summary

State is inclining toward seeking Rwanda's expulsion from the Council. The US is broadly supportive of the French humanitarian zone - but they share our concerns as to its size, the importance of neutrality, non-interpositioning etc.

Action

2 For information.

Report

3 During a call on Snyder (Director, IO/P, State) on 6 July we referred to New York's reporting on possible resolutions of the Rwandan September Presidency problem. Snyder said he was having a hard time getting anything out of his New York Mission on this topic (he said they clearly wanted to be able to run things unencumbered by Head Office's views) and was accordingly grateful for the update we were able to

provide. But he signalled that State is coming to the view that it is not enough simply to solve the September visibility problem but that something "more drastic" is called for. Events on the ground are increasingly impelling the Administration to believe that Rwanda must be "got rid of" from the Council. He defended this position by noting that quite aside from the horrors of what it had recently perpetrated, there was now no real functioning government. For good measure he noted that there was also the argument that a country which is the subject of SC action should not actually be on the Council.

4 He made it clear that no decisions had yet been taken. State's lawyers are still gnawing the problem. It is probable that if the change in position is approved, the US would decide first to focus on Rwanda's GA seat (he did not know whether through a credentials challenge or GA resolution on expulsion) and then move on to the Council. He stressed that the US would be seeking a consensus on the part of African countries in support of any such action.

5 In further remarks he said the US was headed toward derecognition of the Rwanda Government - but again no decisions had quite been taken.

6 As to the French humanitarian zone, the US is broadly supportive (Snyder tried to suggest that this was the concept that the US had itself originally tried to promote) but they are intent on reminding everyone of the importance of neutrality, the fact that it must not be used to the advantage of any one group and that those inside the zone must be disarmed. They have no doubts whatsoever that the zone's creation is very clearly within the mandate given by the SC resolutions. They share our concerns regarding the proposed size of the zone and other points in your C06545 as regards interpositioning and possible complications to the handover to the expanded UNAMIR. He added that for the US the questions of

most concern are the nature and size of the zone and what the French are doing in terms of policing it.

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End Message