

CONFIDENTIAL

115/23/37

Your file: 115/23/37

Our file: 3/88/1

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FROM:	NEW YORK	C04730/NYK	11-Jul-1994
TO:	WELLINGTON	WGTM UNSC	Priority
CC:	BEIJING	BONN	Routine
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Subject

SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA

Our C04726.

2 French Prime Minister, Balladur, with Foreign Minister, Juppe, in attendance, addressed the Security Council this morning. Also present was Argentine Foreign Minister, Di Tella. Balladur and Di Tella were the only speakers in what turned out to be a PR exercise only, with no substantive content.

2 The text of Balladur's address is contained in our accompanying fax (Wellington and Paris only). There were two interesting aspects to the address. First, it emphasises at length France's traditional support for international order through the League of Nations and the United Nations. Secondly, on Rwanda there is nothing new in terms of what France sees as the way ahead. The essential message on the latter score is that France wants to get out of Rwanda by the end of July and therefore wants the expanded UN force deployed as quickly as possible so it can take over.

3 It seems very clear that the trip was designed as a PR exercise, made in response to the widespread skepticism, including in last week's informal consultations, about France's intentions in Rwanda following the establishment of the "humanitarian zone" in the south-west of the country.

4 The Argentine address was, in the circumstances, a

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predictable statement of Argentine position on Rwanda, couched in a reaffirmation of the essential elements of neutrality and impartiality set out in Res 929.

5 The United States was also originally inscribed on the speakers' list, but later withdrew. We have been given two different explanations for Mrs Albright's decision to scratch herself from the list. One was that she was unhappy that the meeting was suspended after the Argentine address to enable Balladur to give a press conference and head for the airport, so she would not have been speaking to him. The second was that Rwanda had inscribed to speak and she did not want to be followed by Bizimana. In any event, neither she nor Bizimana took the floor.

End Message