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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00	CIAE-00
	CTME-00	C-01	OASY-00	DODE-00	DS-00	EB-01	EUR-01
	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16
	L-03	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OIC-02
	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-03
	SIL-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-16	TRSE-00
	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	RPE-01	CORE-00	/076W	
				-----070796 191408Z /38			

P 191406Z NOV 93
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5070
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 04114

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PINS, PINR, RW
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON HUMAN RIGHTS LEADER

REF: KIGALI 4082

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1. (U) HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST ALPHONSE NKUBITO, WHO WAS THE VICTIM OF AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT 11/14, REMAINS HOSPITALIZED. ALTHOUGH HE IS OUT OF DANGER HE REMAINS UNDER OBSERVATION: THE SHRAPNEL LODGED IN HIS THIGH, BUTTOCKS AND BACK HAVE NOT BEEN REMOVED (AND MAY NOT BE).

2. (LOU) MORE IMPORTANTLY, HE AND HIS HUMAN RIGHT COLLEAGUES ARE RELUCTANT FOR HIM TO RETURN TO HIS HOME UNLESS SOME FORM OF PROTECTION CAN BE ARRANGED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E LANDEFAIR
DATE/CASE ID: 18 JAN 2005 200401096

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FOR HIM. THEY ARE CONCERNED THAT HIS ATTACKERS ARE STILL AT LARGE AND COULD STRIKE AGAIN. HIS HOUSE IS IN A REMOTE PART OF TOWN WHICH IS POPULATED PRIMARILY BY PERSONS AFFILIATED WITH THE HUTU EXTREMIST CDR PARTY. THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE RESERVED FOR THE OCCUPANT OF HIS POSITION IS NOT AVAILABLE TO HIM BECAUSE HIS PREDECESSOR REFUSED TO MOVE AFTER BEING REASSIGNED TO RUHENGERI. THE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS ARE WORKING ON EITHER FINDING HIM A SECURE GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OBTAINING SECURITY FOR HIM AT HIS HOUSE, OR FINDING HIM A TEMPORARY SAFEHAVEN.

3. (C) THE EMBASSY HAS MADE THE POINT WITH SEVERAL INTERLOCUTORS THAT POLITICAL ASSASSINATION IS UNACCEPTABLE AND THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS SHOULD NOT BE THREATENED. THE AMBASSADOR RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON NKUBITO 11/15 WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUR DE CASSATION (THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE HIGHEST COURT IN RWANDA), THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE, AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S

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CABINET. THE DCM, WHO HAD BEEN INFORMED OF THE ATTACK SHORTLY AFTER IT TOOK PLACE, ALERTED HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WHO VISITED NKUBITO IN HOSPITAL EARLY 11/15. DCM ALSO SPOKE TO THE CHIEF PROSECUTOR OF KIGALI MORNING OF 11/15. HE CONFIRMED THAT A JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION WAS UNDERWAY AND THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE HEAD OF THE GBNDARMERIE INVESTIGATION UNIT ABOUT THE MATTER. NEITHER INVESTIGATION HAS YET YIELDED ANY LEADS.

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