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PAGE 01 STATE 216726 161905Z  
ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00
	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-19	L-03
	ADS-00	M-01	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-02	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SSO-00
	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	CORE-00	SNIS-00	NISC-02

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 AF/C: RCPORTER  
 AF/E: CWILSON  
 EUR/WE: PROE (INFO)

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P 161905Z JUL 93  
 FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
 TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY  
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
 AMEMBASSY BANGUI  
 AMEMBASSY BONN  
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
 AMEMBASSY DAKAR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 216726 161905Z  
 AMEMBASSY HARARE  
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA  
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
 AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
 SECDEF WASHDC 0000  
 AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216726

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SECDEF FOR PK/PE AND ISA/AFR; PARIS FOR PERLOW  
E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREL MOPS OAU RW FR RS UG  
SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN RWANDA

REF: A) KIGALI 02620 B) ADDIS ABABA 04498  
- C) STATE 212598

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. FRENCH EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR HERVE DE LA BATIE CALLED ON AF/C DIRECTOR ROBERT PRINGLE ON JULY 15 TO PRESENT FRENCH VIEWS ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN RWANDA. DE LA BATIE EXPRESSED THE GOF'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR A UN-LED NEUTRAL INTERNATIONAL FORCE (NIF), WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PEACE PROCESS. ON THE UN BORDER FORCE ISSUE, HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT UGANDA STILL HAD NOT SIGNED THE SOFA, BUT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 216726 161905Z  
FOUND SOME COMFORT IN THE GOU'S RECENT ASSURANCES THAT THEY SEE NO DIFFICULTY WITH THE DRAFT THAT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THEM. AS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE NMOG, DE LA BATIE REPORTED THAT, AS FAR AS HE KNOWS, THE PREVIOUS FRENCH OFFER OF TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE STILL STANDS.  
END SUMMARY.

FRENCH VIEW UN-LED NIF AS ESSENTIAL TO PEACE PROCESS  
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3. DE LA BATIE REPORTED THAT THE GOF STRONGLY FAVORS A UN-LED NIF IN RWANDA. ACCORDING TO DE LA BATIE, FRANCE VIEWS THE NIF AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THE PEACE PROCESS AND BELIEVES THAT THE FORCE MUST BE IN PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEACE ACCORDS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT FRANCE CONSIDERS THIS A UN RESPONSIBILITY. THE GOF DOES NOT THINK THAT THE OAU HAS THE NECESSARY RESOURCES OR EXPERTISE TO MOUNT AN NIF, NOR DO THEY HAVE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT. (DE LA BATIE ADDED THAT THE GOF MADE THESE POINTS TO THE RUSSIANS IN A RECENT COUNTER-DEMARCHÉ, AND THAT THE TWO SIDES, IN HIS WORDS, AGREED TO DISAGREE.)

4. ON THE ISSUE OF FINANCING, DE LA BATIE REPORTED THAT

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THE GOF PREFERS ASSESSED RATHER THAN VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS, FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL, THE GOF CONSIDERS THE PROVIDING OF A PKO TO BE A DUTY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. AS SUCH, ALL COUNTRIES SHOULD CONTRIBUTE, ACCORDING TO THE UN RULES ON ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS. SECOND, AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, INTERNAL BUDGETARY RULES MAY PREVENT THE GOF FROM MAKING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 216726 161905Z

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL PKO'S. DE LA BATIE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE NIF WOULD NOT HAVE TO STAY IN RWANDA TOO LONG AND COULD OPERATE WITH A NARROW MANDATE, THEREBY KEEPING COSTS DOWN.

5. FINALLY, DE LA BATIE SAID THAT FRENCH TROOPS WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A UN-LED NIF, GIVEN THE RPF'S STRONG OBJECTION TO FRENCH PRESENCE IN RWANDA. HE ALSO NOTED PARENTHETICALLY THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT SEE ANY REAL SAVINGS FROM A WITHDRAWAL IN RWANDA, SINCE THESE TROOPS ARE BASED IN THE CAR, WHICH IS JUST AS EXPENSIVE.

FRENCH EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT UNOMUR SOFA SIGNING

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6. DE LA BATIE EXPRESSED THE GOF'S CONCERN REGARDING THE DELAY IN SIGNING OF THE STATUS OF MISSION AGREEMENT FOR UNOMUR, THE UN BORDER MONITORING FORCE TO BE DEPLOYED IN UGANDA. HE CHARACTERIZED UNOMUR AS FRANCE'S TOP PKO PRIORITY IN RWANDA AND SAID THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO CONVINCING THE RPF THAT THE MILITARY OPTION WAS NOT VIABLE.

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7. ACCORDING TO DE LA BATIE,

1.4(B)

FRANCE NOW THINKS THAT THE UN SECRETARIAT SHOULD TRY TO WORK THROUGH THE UNDP REPRESENTATIVE IN KAMPALA TO PUSH FOR A RAPID SIGNING OF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 216726 161905Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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THE SOFA. ON THE POSITIVE SIDE, THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN HEARTENED BY RECENT STATEMENTS FROM KAMPALA THAT THE GOU SEES NO DIFFICULT WITH THE SOFA DRAFT, WHICH HAS APPARENTLY FINALLY REACHED THE RIGHT PEOPLE IN UGANDA.

FRANCE CONSIDERING OAU'S REQUEST FOR NMOG TRANSPORT  
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8. DRAWING ON THE POINTS IN REF (A), WE ASKED WHETHER THE GOF WAS WILLING TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT FOR ADDITIONAL NMOG TROOPS, AS THE OAU HAD REQUESTED (REF B). DE LA BATIE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE GOF WOULD BE WILLING TO UPHOLD THEIR PREVIOUS OFFER TO SUPPLY TRANSPORT FOR THE SENEGALESE CONTINGENT. HE ADDED THAT THE OAU'S RECENT REQUEST IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION AND THAT HE EXPECTS A REPLY SOON, WHICH HE WILL PASS TO US.

COMMENT  
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9. WE WERE ENCOURAGED BY DE LA BATIE'S STRONG LANGUAGE IN SUPPORT OF A CREDIBLE UN-LED NIF. WE WILL CERTAINLY NEED FRANCE'S SUPPORT IN THE UN TO PERSUADE RUSSIA AND ANY OTHER HOLDOUTS OF THE NECESSITY FOR A CREDIBLE NIF WITH SIGNIFICANT UN INVOLVEMENT. DE LA BATIE'S RESPONSE ON THE FINANCING ISSUE, HOWEVER, WAS LESS ENCOURAGING. WE SUSPECT THAT FRANCE'S PREFERENCE FOR ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS STEMS MORE FROM THEIR RELATIVELY SMALL UN ASSESSED PKO SHARE THAN IT DOES FROM INTERNAL BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS OR LOFTY UN PRINCIPLES OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. WE WERE NOT SURPRISED BY THE GOF'S

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 06 STATE 216726 161905Z  
RELUCTANCE TO SUPPLY TROOPS TO AN NIF, GIVEN THE RPF'S ADAMANT INSISTENCE ON FRENCH WITHDRAWAL AND FRANCE'S OWN STATED DESIRE TO PULL OUT OF RWANDA. END COMMENT.  
CHRISTOPHER

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