

RELEASED IN FULL

SECRET

PTQ5249

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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	EUR-01	FBIE-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	PRMC-01	DRL-09
	G-00	/019W					

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P 151045Z MAR 95  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0324

S E C R E T KIGALI 000761

E.O. 12356: NA  
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PINS, MOPS, MARR, RW, FR, CG  
SUBJECT: RUMORS OF FRENCH SUPPORT FOR EX-FAR  
TAKE ON A LIFE OF THEIR OWN

1. SECRET -- ENTIRE TEXT
2. OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS RUMORS THAT THE FRENCH

GOVERNMENT IS SECRETLY SUPPLYING ARMS TO EX-FAR UNITS IN  
ZAIRE HAVE PASSED FROM SOTTO VOCE SUSPICIONS AMONG UNAMIR  
INTELLIGENCE TYPES TO COMMON CURRENCY AMONG THE UN AND  
NGO COMMUNITY. A VISITING CANADIAN DELEGATION FROM FIDA

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RAISED THE ISSUE POINT-BLANK OVER LUNCH WITH CHARGE AT THE AMERICAN CLUB MARCH 13. THE CANADIANS SAID EVERYONE THEY HAD TALKED TO HAD TALKED TO THEM ABOUT IT. THEY SAID THAT THEY BELIEVED THAT THE GOR MUST ALSO BE AWARE OF THESE RUMORS.

3. AS DATT HAS REPORTED SEPARATELY, A BRITISH JOURNALIST HAS PRODUCED WHAT HE CLAIMS IS DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF ARMS COMING INTO GOMA IN VARIOUS AIRCRAFT ON VARIOUS ROUTES. WE HAVE SEEN NO/NO DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT PROVES FRENCH INVOLVEMENT. AFTER SEVERAL REPORTED SECURITY INCIDENTS INVOLVING INTERAHAMWE INFILTRATORS ROADBLOCKS THROUGHOUT RWANDA HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY VIGILANT RECENTLY. ALL BAGGAGE IS BEING SEARCHED FOR GRENADES. GRENADES ARE ONE OF THE ITEMS SAID TO BE COMING IN ON THE FLIGHTS TO GOMA.

4. A REPORT FROM AN AMERICAN WORKING AT THE CAMPS IN GOMA THAT THE POPULATION OF MILITARY-AGE CIVILIAN MEN IN THE CAMPS HAD DIMINISHED RAPIDLY -- NEARLY DISAPPEARED -- IS ALSO WIDELY KNOWN IN KIGALI AND IS LEADING TO SPECULATION ON THEIR WHEREABOUTS AND INTENTIONS.

5. COMMENT: WE CAN NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY, PROVE NOR DISPROVE THESE RUMORS, BUT WE SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT DO THE NECESSARY TO LAY THEM TO REST. THE SUSPICION THAT A MAJOR PLAYER HAS A SECRET AGENDA -- DESTABILIZATION -- DOES NOT ENCOURAGE OTHER DONORS TO COMMIT THEIR RESOURCES; NOR DOES IT INCREASE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE GOR IN THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF WESTERN NATIONS AS A GROUP. RPF SUSPICIONS OF THE FRENCH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN

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TRANSLATED INTO PROBLEMS FOR FRENCH NGOS HERE; THOSE SAME  
SUSPICIONS COULD AFFECT THE DONOR AND NGO COMMUNITY AS A  
WHOLE. RAWSON

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