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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release
Taken Question

May 26, 1994

Q. Has the United States made a determination whether genocide has occurred in Rwanda?

A. -- AS U.S. HEAD OF DELEGATION GERALDINE FERRARO STATED WHEN SHE ADDRESSED THE MAY 24-25 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ON RWANDA, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT ACTS OF GENOCIDE MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN RWANDA.

-- THE TOP PRIORITY OF U.S. POLICY TOWARDS RWANDA IS TO PUT AN END TO THE KILLINGS. AMONG THE STEPS THAT WE HAVE TAKEN TO PROMOTE THIS GOAL ARE OUR SUPPORT FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, INCLUDING THE ARMS EMBARGO AND THE EXPANDED UNAMIR MANDATE, AND FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, AS WELL AS OUR BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS.

-- WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION NAMED A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR TO COMPILE INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACTS WHICH MAY CONSTITUTE BREACHES OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, INCLUDING ACTS OF GENOCIDE. HIS PRELIMINARY REPORT, WHICH IS DUE IN FOUR WEEKS, WILL INCLUDE HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BRINGING VIOLATIONS TO AN END AND PREVENTING FUTURE VIOLATIONS AND ABUSES.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE
DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2004 200303979

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