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PAGES MISSING

PAGE 01 STATE 234108 022351Z

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INFO LOG-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 EUR-01 HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-19 L-03 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-02 PRS-01 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 CORE-00 SNIS-00 NISC-02 /047R

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TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 234108

NAIROBI PASS TO AMBASSADOR HOUDEK; PARIS FOR PERLOW

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

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PAGE 02 STATE 234108 022351Z

TAGS: PREL MOPS RW FR

SUBJECT: TALKING POINTS/REMARKS ON RWANDA

REF: STATE 00232374

- 1. (U) THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. NAIROBI SEE PARA 5. PARIS SEE PARA 6.
- 2. (U) FOLLOWING ARE POINTS AMBASSADOR HOUDEK MAY WISH TO MAKE AT THE RWANDA PEACE ACCORD SIGNING CEREMONY IN ARUSHA, IF THE OCCASION PRESENTS ITSELF:

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- -- THE U.S. WELCOMES THE SIGNING OF A PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA AND THE RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT.
- -- IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS AGREEMENT WILL PUT AN END TO ONE OF AFRICA'S MOST DANGEROUS AND PERSISTENT CONFLICTS.
- -- THE ACCORD WILL ALLOW THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS DISPLACED BY THE WAR TO RETURN HOME AND WILL PERMIT THE VOLUNTARY RETURN OF REFUGEES WHOSE PLIGHT HELPED FUEL THE CONFLICT.
- -- TODAY'S SIGNING IS AN HISTORIC STEP IN THE PROCESS OF ETHNIC AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION IN RWANDA. THESE ACCORDS SHOULD GREATLY ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR BOTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE NURTURING OF A STABLE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT IN RWANDA.
- -- ON BEHALF OF THE USG, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE CONFIDENTIAL

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- PAGE 03 STATE 234108 022351Z

 PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AND THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND ITS

 NEGOTIATORS, AND COL. KANYARENGWE AND THE RPF NEGOTIATORS

 FOR NEGOTIATING IN GOOD FAITH TO REACH AGREEMENT ON VERY

 DIFFICULT ISSUES.
- -- I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT MWINYI FOR MEDIATING THE OFTEN DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS. SPECIAL RECOGNITION SHOULD GO TO FOREIGN MINISTER RWEGASIRA FOR BRINGING THE PARTIES TOGETHER TO BRIDGE THE FINAL GAP.
- -- THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND RWANDA'S OTHER NEIGHBORS IN THE REGION ALSO PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE PEACE PROCESS, BOTH AS OBSERVERS TO THE TALKS AND AS CONTRIBUTORS TO THE NMOG.
- -- THE U.S. BELIEVES IT IS IMPORTANT FOR AFRICAN PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED FIRST AND FOREMOST BY AFRICANS, AND THE RWANDAN PEACE ACCORDS ARE AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THAT. THE U.S., OF COURSE, STANDS BY TO ASSIST WHENEVER IT CAN.
- -- THE U.S. WAS HONORED TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO
 PARTICIPATE AS AN OBSERVER TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, ALONG WITH
 RWANDA'S OTHER FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS IN THE WEST. WE

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HOPE THAT OUR ADVICE AND COUNSEL HELPED CLARIFY THE ISSUES AND BRING THE PARTIES CLOSER TOGETHER.

-- OF COURSE, THIS IS NOT THE END OF THE PROCESS. IN SOME SENSE, IT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING. THE BROAD-BASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT MUST NOW BE FORMED, AND THE TWO SIDES MUST LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS, INTEGRATE THEIR FORCES, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 STATE 234108 022351Z AND REDUCE THEIR COMBINED FORCE LEVELS.

- -- WE CALL ON ALL PARTIES TO COMPLETE THIS HISTORIC TASK, IN THE SAME PRAGMATIC AND BENEVOLENT SPIRIT WHICH GUIDED THEM TOWARD THE ACCORD THAT WAS JUST SIGNED. THE U.S. WILL DO WHAT IT CAN TO ASSIST IN THIS DIFFICULT SECOND STAGE, AND WE ARE SURE THAT RWANDA'S OTHER FRIENDS WILL JOIN US, JUST AS THEY CONTRIBUTED TOWARD TODAY'S NOBLE ACHIEVEMENT.
- 3. (C) THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND AND POINTS ARE FOR USE IN AMBASSADOR HOUDEK'S MEETINGS ON RWANDA WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS DURING HIS RETURN STOP IN PARIS, SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 9:

BACKGROUND

- A. (C) THERE ARE THREE MULTINATIONAL FORCES INVOLVED IN OR PLANNED FOR RWANDA:
- THE OAU'S 50-MAN NEUTRAL MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP (NMOG), WHICH INCLUDES TROOPS FROM NIGERIA, MALI, SENEGAL, AND ZIMBABWE, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RPF AND GOR. ITS MANDATE HAS BEEN TO OBSERVE THE CEASEFIRE BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. THE OAU HAS PLANNED FOR SOME TIME TO EXPAND THE FORCE TO 240, BUT RESOURCES ARE LIMITED.
- THE UN BORDER MONITORING FORCE (UNOMUR), APPROVED BY JUNE 22 UNSC RESOLUTION 846, WHICH IS TO VERIFY THAT NO MILITARY ASSISTANCE REACHES RWANDA FROM ACROSS THE UGANDA CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 234108 022351Z

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BORDER. SO FAR, THE PLANNED 81 UN BORDER MONITORS HAVE NOT YET BEEN DEPLOYED BECAUSE UGANDA HAS NOT CONCLUDED THE REQUIRED STATUS OF MISSION (SOMA) AGREEMENT WITH THE UN. (AS YOU KNOW, FRANCE HAS BEEN THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND UNOMUR).

- THE NEUTRAL INTERNATIONAL FORCE (NIF), WHICH DOES NOT EXIST YET BUT WHICH, UNDER THE PEACE ACCORDS, IS EXPECTED TO HELP ASSURE SECURITY DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD AND OVERSEE FORCE DISENGAGEMENT, DISARMAMENT, FORCE INTEGRATION, AND DEMOBILIZATION.
- B. (C) THE PEACE ACCORDS PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF A BROAD-BASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH RPF REPRESENTATION. THE BROAD-BASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IS SUPPOSED TO BE FORMED WITHIN 37 DAYS OF THE AUGUST 4 SIGNING OF THE PEACE ACCORDS, WHICH WOULD BE SEPTEMBER 10. AT PRESENT, THE NIF WOULD HAVE TO BE D