

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a

UNCLASSIFIED

PTQ7828

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03049 01 OF 02 181529Z RELEASED IN FULL
ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	EB-01	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-10
	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SR-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	PMB-00
	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/034W			

-----BCB0A7 181529Z /38

O 181528Z APR 95
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4145
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 YAOUNDE 003049

PARIS FOR MORAN

GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12356: DECL: 01/31/95
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, CM
SUBJECT: WAR CRIMES - DEMARCHE APRIL 17 ON
-- RWANDA FOUR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 03049 01 OF 02 181529Z

REF: (A) STATE 090123; (B) YAOUNDE 2827
-- (C) YAOUNDE 2979; (D) YAOUNDE 3034

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE
DATE/CASE ID: 01 DEC 2003 200302426

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2. THE AMBASSADOR MET WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS FRANCIS NKWAIN APRIL 17 TO PRESS THE CAMEROONIAN GOVERNMENT TO DETAIN THE FOUR HIGH-PROFILE RWANDANS TO WHOM IT HAS DENIED ASYLUM. MINISTER NKWAIN DID NOT KNOW IF THE FOUR ARE STILL IN CAMEROON, BUT SAID HE WOULD RELAY THE URGENCY OF THE U.S. REQUEST FOR THEIR DETENTION TO MINISTER OYONO WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM NEW YORK. NKWAIN WAS AS NON-COMMITTAL AS TWO OTHER MINISTRY OFFICIALS WE HAVE SPOKEN WITH OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS (REFTEL C AND D). HE REMAINED VAGUE ABOUT THE TERMS UNDER WHICH WAR CRIMES SUSPECTS MIGHT BE DETAINED UNDER CAMEROONIAN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW. NKWAIN DISCUSSED BRIEFLY THE TEN CAMEROONIAN PEACE KEEPERS WHO AWAIT UNHCR APPROVAL TO TRAVEL TO RWANDA.

END SUMMARY

REQUEST FOR DETENTION OF RWANDAN FOUR

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 YAOUND 03049 01 OF 02 181529Z

3. AMBASSADOR ISOM NOTED TO DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS FRANCIS NKWAIN, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S PLEASURE WITH THE GRC'S DECISION TO DENY ASYLUM TO FOUR RWANDAN EXILES WHO ARE SUSPECTED OF HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPATION IN THE GENOCIDE IN RWANDA. THEY ARE JOSEPH NZIRORERA, JUSTIN MUGENZI, FERDINAND NAHIMANA AND PASTEUR MUSABE.

4. THE AMBASSADOR DELIVERED THE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REFTEL A. SHE TOLD MINISTER NKWAIN THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT REQUESTS THE GRC TAKE INTO ACCOUNT U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 978 AND ARREST THE FOUR RWANDANS AGAINST WHOM THERE IS CREDIBLE EVIDENCE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA. THE US. ALSO WISHED TO KNOW WHAT THE INFORMATION IS THAT THE GRC USED TO DENY ASYLUM TO THE RWANDANS. IT IS INCUMBENT ON THE GRC, THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT, TO PASS ON WHATEVER EVIDENCE IT HAS AGAINST THESE FOUR AS WELL AS ANY OTHER RWANDANS WHO MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN WAR CRIMES, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND GENOCIDE COMMITTED INSIDE RWANDA OR BY RWANDAN CITIZENS IN THE

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TERRITORY OF NEIGHBORING STATES.

5. MINISTER NKWAIN COULD NOT SAY WHETHER THE FOUR RWANDANS IN QUESTION WERE STILL IN CAMEROON, BUT SAID HE WOULD GIVE THE AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY IN HIS BRIEFINGS LATER THAT MORNING WITH THE JUST RETURNED EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER,
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 YAOUND 03049 01 OF 02 181529Z
FERDINAND OYONO. THE AMBASSADOR SAID SHE WISHED TO FOLLOW UP PERSONALLY WITH OYONO AND WOULD REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

AFRICANS ON AFRICA

6. THE DEPUTY EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT IN HIS VIEW THERE ARE VERY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAVE CAUSED SO MUCH MISERY IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI. WITHOUT CONDONING THE PERPETRATORS, HE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT TO RECALL THAT THOSE BEING ACCUSED OF WAR CRIMES AND GENOCIDE HAD ACTED IN THE BELIEF THAT THEIR CAUSE WAS "NOBLE." NOBLE, HE SAID, IN THE SENSE OF PATRIOTIC, EXTREME GRANTED, BUT THE CONSEQUENCE OF DEEPLY HELD BELIEFS HAVING THEIR ORIGIN IN THE HISTORY OF THE REGION. NKWAIN SAID AFRICANS COULD MORE READILY UNDERSTAND THE ATTITUDES AND BELIEFS THAT LED TO THE RECENT HORRORS IN RWANDA.

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03049 02 OF 02 181529Z
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PAGE 02 YAOUND 03049 02 OF 02 181529Z

7. THE AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT THE EXTREME NATURE OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY CERTAIN RAWANDANS WHO NOW SEEK ASYLUM MAKES THE CASE AGAINST THEM QUITE CLEAR IN OUR VIEW. UNSC RESOLUTION 978 MUST BE ENFORCED AND THE MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST BE UNEQUIVOCAL, GENOCIDE AND WAR CRIMES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE WILL BE PROSECUTED. CAMEROON'S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER THE RESOLUTION IS TO ARREST THE FOUR RAWANDANS DENIED ASYLUM AND TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT RWANDAN REFUGEES SO THAT THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL MAY BEGIN ISSUING INDICTMENTS BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

8. MINISTER NKWAIN SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE NATURE AND THE URGENCY OF THE U.S. DEMARCHE AND WOULD PERSONALLY RELAY IT TO THE EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER ALONG WITH A COPY OF THE EMBASSY'S NON-PAPER. THE GRC WOULD INVESTIGATE THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE FOUR RAWANDANS AND WOULD ADVISE THE EMBASSY OF THE RESULTS.

PEACE-KEEPING FORCES FOR BURUNDI

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9. AMBASSADOR ISOM NOTED THAT VERY RECENTLY THE GRC SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNHCR TO PROVIDE PEACE KEEPERS FOR BURUNDI. THE AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER THEY WOULD BE DRAWN FROM THE MILITARY. NKWAIN DID NOT ANSWER DIRECTLY, BUT SAID THE
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PAGE 03 YAOUND 03049 02 OF 02 181529Z
AGREEMENT CALLED FOR A TOTAL OF TEN "PROFESSIONALS" TO TRAIN LOCAL FORCES IN BURUNDI IN "THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER." THE NAMES OF THE VOLUNTEERS HAD ALREADY GONE TO THE UNHCR AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WOULD COORDINATE THEIR TRAVEL AS SOON AS THE UNHCR APPROVED THE LIST.

10. THE AMBASSADOR INQUIRED WHETHER NKWAIN KNEW OF ANY OTHER CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES THAT MIGHT BE PREPARED TO SEND PEACE KEEPING VOLUNTEERS TO BURUNDI. HE SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY.

11. IN A REFLECTIVE TONE, THE MINISTER ADDED HIS HOPE THAT THIS TIME THERE WOULD BE NATIONAL CONSENSUS ABOUT SENDING PEACE KEEPERS ABROAD. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN MUCH CRITICISM WITHIN CAMEROON OVER THE DECISION TO SEND MILITARY VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT PEACE KEEPING IN CAMBODIA.
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