

115/23/37

Your file: 115/23/37

Our file: 3/88/1

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FROM: NEW YORK	C04726/NYK	08-Jul-1994
TO: WELLINGTON	WGTN UNSC	Immediate
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Subject

SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA

Summary

- Balladur, with Juppe in attendance, is to address a formal meeting of the Council on Monday, 11 July
- RPF are consulting other Rwandan parties and Tanzanian facilitator of the Arusha process on establishment of broad-based government
- RPF may announce a unilateral ceasefire; negotiations for agreed ceasefire continue

Action

Information

ReportBalladur Visit

At this morning's informal consultations, the President announced that French Prime Minister, Balladur, is coming to New York next Monday and will address a formal meeting of the Council commencing at 10.30am. Foreign Minister Juppe will be coming too. Marker also advised that the Argentine Foreign Minister (in New York to address the C24 session on the Falklands) may also attend the Council.

2 Merimee explained that Balladur and Juppe will truly be making a flying visit: arriving by the morning Concorde and departing on the early afternoon flight. They will see the SecGen and senior DPKO officials as well as attend the Council.

3 Merimee said the reason for the visit was that Rwanda had been a difficult issue which had given rise to a certain amount of disagreement. They would be emphasising that France wanted its mission in Rwanda to be successful and to end quickly. Balladur was not a man to do things for self promotion. He wanted to emphasise the humanitarian nature of the French actions and to reinforce the need for UNAMIR to be redeployed asap so that France could leave by the end of this month as Balladur wished.

4 The timing of the visit will be so tight that, with the possible exception of the Argentine Foreign Minister, there would be no opportunity for other Council members to speak - unless they wish to do so after Balladur and Juppe have left. We doubt that others will speak.

Secretariat Briefing

5 Gharekhan advised that Kigali Airport had opened yesterday and that 206 Ghanian soldiers had flown in. Special Rep Khan and Force Commander Dallaire had had further meetings with the RPF and government representatives. The RPF had advised that they would operate within the framework of the Arusha Agreement and were consulting other political factions and the Tanzanian facilitator before forming a broad based government of national unity. They had confirmed, however, persons implicated in active genocide would be excluded from participation.

6 The RPF had also indicated they might declare a unilateral ceasefire. (The RPF Rep Dusaide told us that the intention for such a move was to encourage defections from the moderates in the government forces so as to further isolate the ringleaders and to broaden the pool of persons who might be incorporated in the broad based government.) Meanwhile, the negotiations for an agreed ceasefire would continue.

7 The RPF had asked for assistance in reestablishing basic services in Kigali such as electricity and water. At the moment the RPF were engaged in strengthening the defences along the perimeter of their territory in preparation for the declaration of the unilateral ceasefire.

8 Gharekhan also gave a brief rundown on yesterday's troop contributors meeting (see our separate fax). The US noted that while the information provided was reasonably encouraging we had to remember that the deployment of the Ghanians only brought UNAMIR up to phase one of the expansion authorised in Resolution 918. Much more had still to be

done. Gharekhan endorsed these remarks and noted that the Secretariat was far from satisfied at the pace of deployment of the expanded force.

Comment

9 Whether there is more to the Balladur/Juppe visit than explained by Merimee will probably only be revealed on Monday. The one slightly worrying feature of Merimee's remarks today was his stress on Balladur's wish to have a French force withdrawn by the end of July. As you know, Res 929 authorised the force to stay until the end of August. Although the French had made noises about pulling out at the end of this month, their remarks at yesterday's troop contributors meeting suggested that they were again working to the 31 August deadline. Merimee's remarks today suggest they may be returning to the earlier exit date.

10 While it is the universal wish for UNAMIR to take over from the French forces asap, the pace of deployment of the expanded UN force suggests that UNAMIR may not be in a position to take over by the end of this month and could well be overwhelmed by the scale of the humanitarian situation that seems to be developing in the south west of Rwanda. It is not inconceivable (indeed Merimee made some hints, albeit jocular, in this direction the other day) that the French may setting up a situation in which the Council will have to ask the French to stay on after the end of this month in order to avert a major vacuum in the security situation. That would certainly be one way of turning this week's widespread hesitations about the establishment of the French zone back on the other Council members.

End Message