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| INFO | LOG-00  | ACDA-17 | AMAD-01 | CIAE-00 | CPR-02  | C-01    | OASY-00 |
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|      | L-03    | ADS-00  | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OMB-01  | PA-01   | PM-02   |
|      | PRS-01  | P-01    | SDEL-00 | SNP-00  | SP-00   | SR-00   | SS-00   |
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TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY  
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AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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LILONGWE AND YAOUNDE FOR DATT  
E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: MOPS MCAP PREL RW  
SUBJECT: ARUSHA PEACE TALKS: FORCE PROPORTION DISCUSSIONS RESUME

JOYCE LEADER PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING REPORT FROM ARUSHA.

BEGIN TEXT:

1. SUMMARY: THE FACILITATOR'S REPRESENTATIVE LAID BEFORE

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THE TWO PARTIES 5/31 A FORCE PROPORTION PROPOSAL THAT WOULD HAVE LOW-END PARTICIPATION IN THE 35 - 40 PERCENT RANGE. HE DID NOT INDICATE WHICH FORCE WOULD FALL IN THIS RANGE. CONSULTATIONS ARE TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY ON THIS ISSUE EVEN THOUGH SOME MILITARY ISSUES ARE STILL PENDING AND REFUGEE TALKS ARE TO OPEN JUNE 2. EARLY ASSUMPTIONS AND MISCONCEPTIONS OF THE PROPOSAL MAY TAKE SOME TIME TO BE CLARIFIED. AS INTENDED, HOWEVER, THE PROPOSAL MEANS THE RPF WILL HAVE NO LESS THAN 35 PCT. AND NO MORE THEN 40 PERCENT, FORCING BOTH SIDES TO REDUCE THEIR OWN EXPECTATIONS AND MODIFY THEIR POSITIONS.  
END SUMMARY.

2. THE FACILITATOR'S REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR AMI MPUNGWE, TOLD THE TWO PARTIES IN A PLENARY SESSION 5/31, THAT HIS CONSULTATIONS ON FORCE PROPORTIONS WOULD BE BASED ON A RANGE OF 35 - 65 PERCENT TO 40 - 60 PERCENT. HE SAID PRESIDENT MWINYI HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO PRESENT THIS PROPOSAL AS "THE MOST REALISTIC" RANGE BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH HIGH LEVEL AUTHORITIES OF BOTH SIDES.  
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MPUNGWE CAREFULLY AVOIDED INDICATING WHICH FORCE WOULD FALL AT WHICH END OF THE SPECTRUM. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT PROPORTIONS MIGHT VARY FOR VARIOUS LEVELS OF THE MILITARY SERVICE. CONSIDERATIONS WILL BEGIN ON THIS ISSUE 6/1.

3. GOR FOREIGN MINISTER NGULINZIRA TOLD THE PLENARY THERE WAS "WISDOM" IN THE PROPOSAL AND HE HOPED IT WOULD PROMPT RAPID AGREEMENT ON THE ISSUE. RADIO RWANDA SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED THAT THE PROPOSAL OF THE FACILITATOR ACCORDED BETWEEN 35 AND 40 PCT OF THE ARMY TO THE RPF, AN ASSUMPTION THAT HAS YET TO BE PINNED DOWN.

4. RPF DELEGATION HEAD BIZIMUNGU TOLD THE PLENARY THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS ADDRESSED IN OTHER PROTOCOLS SHOULD NOT BE LINKED TO INTEGRATION OF THE TWO ARMIES, A REFERENCE TO EARLIER GOR JUSTIFICATIONS FOR ATTRIBUTING LOW PERCENTAGES TO THE RPF. ANOTHER RPF LEADER TOLD THE U.S. OBSERVER THAT THE FIVE PERCENT RANGE OF 35 - 40 PERCENT IS TOO NARROW AND THAT EVEN A 40 - 60 PERCENT MIX MAKES THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN THE FORCES OF THE TWO SIDES (ABOUT FIVE BATTALIONS) TOO GREAT. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE RPF WOULD NOT AUTOMATICALLY ASSUME ITS FORCES WOULD FALL AT THE LOW END.

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5. SOME RPF MEMBERS AND AT LEAST ONE OBSERVER ARGUE FOR A TOTALLY DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION OF THE FACILITATOR'S PROPOSAL. THEY WOULD HAVE THE RANGE FOR NEGOTIATION DEFINED AS ANYTHING BETWEEN 35 AND 65 PERCENT OR BETWEEN 40 AND 60 PERCENT, WITH 50-50 STILL A POSSIBILITY. A MEMBER OF THE TANZANIAN DELEGATION ASSURED THE U.S. MEMBER OF THE TANZANIAN DELEGATION ASSURED THE U.S.

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OBSERVER THAT THIS WAS NOT THE FACILITATOR'S INTENTION. INDEED, THE TANZANIAN SAID THAT INSTRUCTIONS ARE THAT THE RPF SHOULD NOT HAVE MORE THAN 40 PERCENT. SOME DAYS MAY BE NEEDED TO CLARIFY THIS CONFUSION.

6. COMMENT: THE FACILITATOR'S PROPOSAL, ASSUMING THE RPF CAN BE CONVINCED TO ACCEPT SOMETHING IN THE 35 - 40 PERCENT RANGE, PUSHES BOTH SIDES TO MODIFY PREVIOUS POSITIONS AND ACCEPT A LOWER OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF THE ARMED FORCES THAN ANTICIPATED. THE CONSULTATIONS ARE UNLIKELY TO BE EASY. END COMMENT.

CHRISTOPHER

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