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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087101

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL MOPS OAU RW FR
SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL FORCES FOR RWANDA
REF: (A) FLATEN-FULLER TELCON, 3/23/93,
(B) MARLEY-FULLER TELCON, 3/23/93, (C) 93 KIGALI 1243

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. OAU: ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE, THE FRENCH
HAVE DEMARCHED BOTH THE OAU AND SENEGAL TO URGE RAPID

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DEPLOYMENT OF AN ENLARGED NMOG. IN RESPONSE, THE OAU PROVIDED A LIST OF WHAT IT WILL NEED TO DEPLOY SUCH A FORCE, AND INDICATED THAT 500 TROOPS WILL BE NECESSARY TO MONITOR THE ENLARGED CEASEFIRE BUFFER ZONE. (COMMENT. THIS FIGURE CORRESPONDS TO OUR OWN ESTIMATE. LTC MARLEY EXPECTS TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE OAU LIST MARCH 24 IN ARUSHA. END COMMENT.) SALIM REPORTEDLY PROPOSED ASKING NIGERIA, TUNISIA, AND SENEGAL TO SEND EXTRA TROOPS, AND THE SENEGALESE FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD THE FRENCH THAT DIOUF AGREED. THE FRENCH EMBASSY IS NOT SURE WHETHER THE OAU HAS YET CONTACTED NIGERIA AND TUNISIA, BUT THE FRENCH HAVE ALREADY APPROACHED SENEGAL AND MALI. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED "IN PRINCIPLE" TO SEND EXTRA TROOPS, BUT MALI'S AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS SUCH AS PROVISION OF TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER UNSPECIFIED PAYMENTS.

3. OAU/UN INVOLVEMENT: ACCORDING TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY, THE OAU STILL HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT UN INTERVENTION IN THE RWANDAN CONFLICT. SALIM STILL SEEMS TO WANT TO LIMIT UN INVOLVEMENT TO FINANCING. WE RELATED AMBASSADOR

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FLATEN'S CONVERSATION WITH THE RWANDAN PRIME MINISTER (REF A) ABOUT THE LATTER'S SUDDEN DECISION TO VISIT THE UN MARCH 29 AND WASHINGTON ON MARCH 30-31 TO SEEK A COMBINED UN/OAU INTERVENTION FORCE IN THE BUFFER ZONE. THE DECISION WAS APPARENTLY MADE BY PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AND THE PRIME MINISTER EARLY MARCH 23 FOLLOWING "CONSULTATIONS WITH THE RPF IN ARUSHA." WE ALSO RELATED LTC MARLEY'S CONVERSATION WITH RWANDAN FOREIGN MINISTER NGULINZIRA WHO STATED THERE IS NO AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE RPF AND THE GOR TO ASK FOR SUCH A FORCE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER IS IN FACT WELL AWARE THAT THE RPF STILL OBJECTS TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF UN TROOPS IN THE BUFFER ZONE, ALTHOUGH THEY DON'T OBJECT TO UN FINANCING. THE FRENCH EMBASSY WAS NOT AWARE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S NEWLY SCHEDULED VISIT TO THE UN AND WASHINGTON AND EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT THE RPF WOULD ACCEPT A COMBINED UN/OAU INTERVENTION FORCE. WE AGREED AND EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT A VISIT BY THE RWANDAN PM FOR THIS PURPOSE MIGHT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE PEACE PROCESS IN ARUSHA WHICH IS CURRENTLY PROGRESSING RAPIDLY.

4. DE LA SABLIERE VISIT TO UN: AFRICA DIRECTOR DE LA SABLIERE WILL LEAD A HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION INCLUDING SEVERAL MILITARY OFFICERS TO THE UN LATER THIS WEEK AND THEN TO WASHINGTON FOR A MEETING WITH A/S COHEN MARCH 26.

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THE PURPOSE OF THE MISSION TO THE UN IS TO EXPLAIN FRENCH VIEWS ON HOW THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON RWANDA SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED. THE FRENCH WILL BE SEEKING A) REENFORCEMENT OF THE NMOG IN THE BUFFER ZONE BY ADDING MORE TROOPS, AND B) UN OBSERVERS FOR THE RWANDA/UGANDA BORDER. THE EMBASSY WAS UNAWARE OF ANY INTENTION BY THE FRENCH TO SEEK A SEPRATE FORCE OF UN TROOPS FOR THE BUFFER

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ZONE.

5. COMMENT: WE ASSUME THAT REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE PRIME MINISTER ASKS FOR, THE UN WILL HAVE THE GOOD SENSE NOT TO APPROVE ANY ARRANGEMENT THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE APPROVAL OF ALL PARTIES, INCLUDING THE OAU AND THE RPF. END COMMENT.
CHRISTOPHER

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