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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 113774 VICE MRN 113773)

FOLLOWING PARIS 11799 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BRUSSELS DAR ES SALAAM BUJUMBURA KAMPALA PRETORIA
KINSHASA NAIROBI USUN NEW YORK USIA WASHDC APR 29
BEING RPTD FOR UR INFO:
QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 11799

PRETORIA FOR A/S MOOSE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, MOPS, RW, CG, US, FR
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH THE RWANDA INTERIM GOVERNMENT
FOREIGN MINISTER IN PARIS, APRIL 29
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REF: A) PARIS 11541 B) PARIS 11412 C) STATE 112320

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE DCM MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE
INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA JEROME BICAMUMPAKA AND
FOREIGN MINISTRY POLITICAL DIRECTOR, JEAN BOSCO
BARAYAGWIZA, ON APRIL 29

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B3

[REDACTED] SHE URGED IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THAT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BRING TO A HALT THE MASS KILLINGS IN RWANDA (REF C). BICAMUMPAKA ARGUED THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MASSACRES LIES WITH THE RPF AND THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA FOR PROVIDING DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE REBELS. HE CLAIMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT REMAINS COMMITTED TO AN IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARUSHA ACCORDS. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, WE ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE TO 40 NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED IN REF (C). END SUMMARY.

B3

[REDACTED] RESPONSIBILITY OF GOVERNMENT

B3

3. ON APRIL 29 THE DCM MET WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF RWANDA'S INTERIM GOVERNMENT, JEROME BICAMUMPAKA AND FOREIGN MINISTRY POLITICAL DIRECTOR JEAN BOSCO BARAYAGWIZA [REDACTED]

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4. THE DCM MADE THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REF (C) AND REITERATED THEM SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE MJ 03/.445.3,5'S DEPUTY SPOKESPERSON, WE CONFIRMED THAT THE USG IS EXAMINING EVENTS IN RWANDA TO SEE IF THEY CAN BE CLASSIFIED AS GENOCIDE IN THE PRECISE LEGAL MEANING OF THE TERM.

TELLING THE GOVERNMENT'S SIDE OF THE STORY

5. IN RESPONSE TO THE DCM'S PRESENTATION BICAMUMPAKA RESPONDED THAT HE HOPED TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ON EVENTS IN RWANDA [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IN A LATER EXCHANGE, HE ADDED THAT INTERIM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT USG AUTHORITIES ARE RECEIVING "UNBALANCED" INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS IN RWANDA AND URGED THAT HE OR ANOTHER AUTHORITATIVE SPOKESMAN BE ALLOWED TO PRESENT THE VIEWS DIRECTLY.

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6. BICAMUMPAKA STRESSED THAT THE TWO KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT ARE TO STOP THE ETHNIC MASSACRES AND TO CARRY OUT THE ARUSHA ACCORDS. HE MADE A NUMBER OF FAMILIAR POINTS IN SUPPORT OF THIS STATEMENT:

-- THE RPF OFFENSIVE, WHICH BEGAN SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE DOWNING OF THE PRESIDENT'S PLANE, IS THE ROOT CAUSE
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OF THE MASSACRES. THE OFFENSIVE WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS THE RPF BELIEVES IT CAN PROFIT MILITARILY FROM THE SITUATION.

-- RWANDA'S ARMED FORCES AND GOVERNMENT ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT AN IN-PLACE CEASE FIRE AND HAVE SAID SO PUBLICLY, ONLY TO BE REJECTED BY THE RPF.

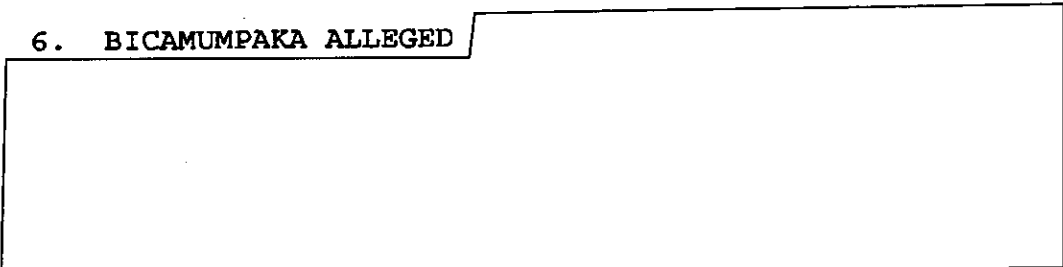
-- THE RWANDAN INTERIM GOVERNMENT HAS MADE UNCEASING EFFORTS SINCE ASSUMING POWER TO PROTECT CIVILIAN POPULATION AND HAS ISSUED REPEATED CALLS FOR A HALT TO ETHNIC STRIFE.

-- DUE TO THE THREAT OF THE RPF OFFENSIVE, THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT MILITARY MANPOWER TO ASSURE SECURITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. THE GENDARMERIE HAS BEEN DEPLOYED WITH SOME SUCCESS.

-- THE GOVERNMENT HAS NEVER ABANDONED ITS ADHERENCE TO THE ARUSHA ACCORDS, DESPITE THEIR MASSIVE VIOLATION BY THE RPF. THE GOVERNMENT HAS SENT A LARGE DELEGATION TO DAR ES SALAAM TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT MWINYI AND THE DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO STAY THERE AS LONG AS MWINYI BELIEVES THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING TALKS.

THE ROLE OF UGANDA

6. BICAMUMPAKA ALLEGED



HE CONTINUED THAT THERE ARE CREDIBLE

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REPORTS OF DIRECT INVOLVEMENT BY NRA TROOPS, UGANDAN HELICOPTERS BEING USED TO TRANSPORT RPF TROOPS, AND UGANDAN SPOTTER PLANES FLYING MISSIONS IN COMBAT SITUATIONS. HE ASKED THAT THE USG AND THE OTHER WESTERN OBSERVERS TO THE ARUSHA TALKS BRING PRESSURE ON MUSEVENI TO END HIS SUPPORT FOR THE RPF.

B1

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

7. WE BRIEFED THE QUAI AND THE ELYSEE ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE THE RWANDANS AND PREPARED A PRESS RELEASE BASED ON THE POINTS IN REF (C) AND TRANSMITTED IT TO 40 NEWSPAPERS AND SPECIALIZED PUBLICATIONS IN PARIS ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 29. THE TEXT HAS BEEN SENT TO AF/C AND EMBASSY BRUSSELS VIA E-MAIL.

HARRIMAN
UNQUOTE TALBOTT

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