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PAGE 01 STATE 120121 060801Z  
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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 120121 060801Z  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 120121

DAR PLEASE PASS TO A/S SHATTUCK AND AMB. RAWSON YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12355: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: MARR, PINS, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, PGOV, RW, UNSC  
SUBJECT: RWANDA: REQUESTS FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

REF: USUN 1898

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. USUN SHOULD ADVISE THE UN SECRETARIAT THAT WASHINGTON IS CONTINUING TO ANALYZE THE ISSUES RAISED IN REFTTEL, BUT THESE ARE OUR PRELIMINARY VIEWS. SHOULD WE DECIDE TO SUPPORT ANY NEW OPERATION, WE CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT A MORE LIMITED MISSION FOR A HUMANITARIAN OPERATION, WHETHER UN OR OAU OR A COMBINATION OF THE TWO, MAKES MORE SENSE THAN THE ONE THE UN APPEARS TO HAVE IN MIND. THE UN SEEMS TO ENVISION A KIGALI-BASED OPERATION, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE CONTROL OF KIGALI, CONTROL OF COMMUNICATION LINKS OUT OF KIGALI, AND MOVEMENTS ACROSS BATTLE LINES. IT APPEARS TO US THAT SUCH AN EXTENSIVE OPERATION IS BEYOND THE LIKELY CAPABILITY OF SUCH A FORCE TO HANDLE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE UN PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO ASSESS MORE FULLY ITS VIABILITY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 120121 060801Z

3. IN OUR VIEW, A UN AND/OR AN OAU OPERATION OUT OF

NEIGHBORING AFRICAN COUNTRIES INTO BORDER AREAS TO PROVIDE FOR THE SECURITY OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS WOULD BE MORE FEASIBLE. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS SHOULD BE DONE WITH THE ACQUIESCENCE OF BOTH FORCES.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF U.S. ASSISTANCE, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RESPOND IN DETAIL UNTIL A CLEARER CONCEPT OF OPERATION IS DEVELOPED. WE ARE PREPARED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO JOIN OTHERS IN SUPPORTING A HUMANITARIAN OPERATION IN RWANDA. IF IT IS AN ASSESSED UN OPERATION, THE PROCESS OF REQUESTING U.S. ASSISTANCE IS STRAIGHT FORWARD: THE UN WOULD REQUEST SERVICES FROM US FOR WHICH WE WOULD BE REIMBURSED AND WE WOULD PAY OUR SHARE OF ASSESSED COSTS. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROVIDING AIRLIFT AND SOME EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING APC'S. IF THE MISSION WERE TO BE ORGANIZED BY THE OAU OR OTHERWISE DEPENDENT UPON VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS, THE NEED FOR A CLEAR AND AGREED CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS WOULD BE EVEN MORE ESSENTIAL.

CHRISTOPHER

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