S U B J E C T: Situation in BURUNDI

An inter-ministerial meeting was held this morning at the Quai d’Orsay. It is concluded that:

1) Situation.

President N’DADAYE’s execution by rebels, while very probable, has still not been confirmed.

Statements taken in RWANDA are already reporting massacres between the two ethnic groups, HUTU and TUTSI, in the interior of the country.

Tens of thousands of people have sought refuge in RWANDA.

The political situation remains confused. The National Committee of Public Safety does not seem to be in control of events.

A government-in-exile has been established in KIGALI by the Minister of Health. The Prime Minister, for his part, is in BUJUMBURA; he has made contact with western embassies. He is, in the absence of the President and of the President of the Assembly, constitutionally the country’s lawful custodian.

2) French Position.

A new communiqué from the Quai d’Orsay (attached), announcing the suspension of our cooperation, demanding a return to law, and presenting our actions to isolate the de facto authorities internationally, will be published this afternoon.
Lastly, military means have been put on alert in BANGUI to safeguard the eventual evacuation of our nationals (900 people).

Dominique PIN

Rear Admiral de LUSSY