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ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 AID-01 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00
EB-01 EUR-01 OIGO-01 PDRE-01 HA-09 HHS-04 H-01
INM-02 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-03 ADS-00 NSAIE-00
NSCE-00 OES-09 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-02 PRS-01
P-01 RP-10 SIL-00 SNP-00 SP-00 SR-00 SS-00
STR-16 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00 RFE-01 CORE-00 /086W

P 101433Z NOV 93
FM AMEBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5015
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEBASSY NAIROBI
AMEBASSY KAMPALA
AMEBASSY PARIS
AMEBASSY ROME
AMEBASSY YAOUNDE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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STATE FOR RP, AF/C, AND AF/RA
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AID FOR AF/EA AND OPDA
GENEVA FOR RMA AND AID
ADDIS ABABA FOR OPDA/FARNSWORTH
ROMB FOR WFP
YADUNDE AND BUJUMBURA FOR DATT

R/E. 12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: PREF, PHUM, PREL, RW, BY
SUBJECT: BURUNDI REFUGEES: POPULATION STABILIZES

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

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UNCLASSIFIED
1. NUMBERS. UNHCR and government reported to donors 11/8 that the influx of refugees from Burundi appeared to have stabilized, with few if any new arrivals reported. Government figures still exceed 400,000; UNHCR continues to use planning figure of 375,000 for Rwamda. Government census underway.

2. PRIORITIES. Deteriorating health status of refugees from lack of shelter, proper sanitation and inadequate food rations is major concern. Establishing water systems, constructing latrines, and relieving camp congestion are UNHCR priorities. Urgent needs remain in all categories of relief items including blankets (70,000), cooking utensils, and gerry cans. (Chart showing indicative figures faxed 11/9 to RP). Airlifts of relief materials from UNHCR and donors continue.

3. SECTOR ASSESSMENTS. UNHCR sector assessments confidential.

4. FOOD. WFP and UNHCR are undertaking joint assessment to determine commodities and quantities needed. WFP coordinator told government at 11/8 donor meeting that it needs formal request to respond.

5. PROTECTION. The government will establish a separate camp (in Butare Prefecture) for Tutsi refugees who are at risk both from other (Hutu) refugees and the local (Hutu) population. So far about 500 persons have been identified for this camp. Radio and other reports suggest refugees returning to Burundi to collect food and belongings are encountering military harassment. Some reportedly return to Rwanda with gunshot wounds; some do not return at all and are feared dead.

6. CAMP STRUCTURE. Site selection should be nearly
COMPLETE BY END OF WEEK, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TOLD DONORS 11/8. GOVERNMENT IS ESTABLISHING A HIERARCHICAL REPORTING/MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE EXTENDING FROM PREFET TO CAMP LEVEL IN EACH OF THE FIVE AFFECTED PREFECTURES.

7. COMMENT: UNHCR IS PARTICULARLY WORRIED ABOUT THE SANITATION SITUATION WHICH IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN DECLINING HEALTH STATUS OF REFUGEES. WE SUGGEST USG CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR BE DIRECTED TOWARD (NOT CONFIDENTIAL)

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 04007 101435Z EARMARKED FOR) IMPROVING WATER/SANITATION SYSTEMS FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEES. HEALTH ITSELF, INCLUDING VACCINES AND MEDICINES, ARE BEING SATISFACTORILY COVERBD BY THE MSF ORGANIZATIONS ON THE GROUND. THEY WILL WORK IN COORDINATION WITH CARE INTERNATIONAL AND OXFAM TO LINK WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEMS. END COMMENT. FLATEN

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