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SECDEF WASHDC
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UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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DEPT FOR IO/UNP, IO/PHO, AF/C AND L/AF;
WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR JENNIFER WARD;
JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3;
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISA

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MOPS, PREL, MARR, PGOV, KDEM, RW, UNSC
SUBJECT: UN CONCERN OVER RWANDA

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ACTION REQUEST: PARA. 8
3. SUMMARY: AT THE REQUEST OF UNDPKO'S HEDI ANNABI, USUN POLOFFS MET TO DISCUSS THE DETERIORATING SITUATION IN RWANDA. ANNABI IS CONCERNED THAT THE COMBINATION OF INCREASING COVERT ACTIVITIES AND A STALEMATED POLITICAL PROCESS COULD PRODUCE A POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERE. HE HAS ALREADY COMMUNICATED THESE FEARS TO BOTH FRANCE AND BELGIUM, HAS SOLICITED THEIR PARTICIPATION IN DEFUSING THE EMERGING CRISIS, AND IS NOW MAKING A SIMILAR REQUEST OF THE US.

A BREWING CRISIS IN RWANDA?


5. ANNABI COMMENTED THAT THE MILITARIZATION AND POLITICAL STALEMATE MUST BE READ AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF A DETERIORATING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION: THERE ARE NO SALARIES FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES, THE MILITARY, AND OTHER PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, WHICH ONLY ADDS TO AN INCREASING FLAMMABLE ENVIRONMENT (AND ALREADY HAS LED TO DEMONSTRATIONS AND RIOTS).

UN RESPONDS

6. IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA'S MILITIAS WERE RECEIVING ARMS, GENERAL DALLAIRE PLANNED A VERY AGGRESSIVE DEMARCHE TO THE PRESIDENT; UN OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, CONVINCED DALLAIRE THAT A MORE SUBTLE APPROACH MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE AT THIS TIME. ACCORDINGLY, A FEW WEEKS AGO DALLAIRE SIMPLY DISCUSSED HIS CONCERNS WITH THE PRESIDENT. ALTHOUGH THE PRESIDENT DENIED INVOLVEMENT IN SUCH EVENTS, APPARENTLY HE NOTED AND WAS IMPRESSED BY THE GENERAL'S CONCERN.

7. THE UN HAS ALSO ASKED THE "FRIENDS OF RWANDA" -
FRANCE, BELGIUM, AND THE US - TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE

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IN BROKERING THE CURRENT POLITICAL STALEMATE: BELGIUM
HAS AGREED TO APPROACH THE RPF; FRANCE HAS AGREED TO
APPROACH THE GOVERNMENT; AND THE UN IS NOW ASKING THE US
TO APPROACH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE RPF. THE UN
HOPES THAT IT CAN DEFUSE THE CRISIS AT THE "FRIENDS"
LEVEL, AND THEREBY AVOID HAVING TO BRING IT TO THE
SECURITY COUNCIL.

8. ACTION REQUEST: UN ASKS THE US TO APPROACH THE
GOVERNMENT, THE RPF, AND OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES IN AN
ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE CURRENT POLITICAL STALEMATE.

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