

UNCLASSIFIED

JOINT STAFF
INFO SERVICE CENTER

D 46
P B1
155C

PRIORITY
P 131808Z MAY 94

ZYUW RUEHOTA2546 1331808

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8811
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 7524
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 0010
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0413
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0284
AMEMBASSY PARIS 7263

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0021
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0044
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0544
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 0342

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 OTTAWA 002546

NOFORN

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, MARR, UNHRC-1, RW, CA
SUBJECT: THE RWANDAN CRISIS AND CANADA

REF: A) STATE 124062 B) STATE 122881 C) STATE 119480
-- D) OTTAWA 2308 E) OTTAWA 1891 (ALL NOTAL)

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: CANADA IS STUDYING OPTIONS FOR STRENGTHENING UNAMIR IN THE EVENT THAT THE U.N. DECIDES TO REINFORCE GENERAL DALLAIRE. THE GOC HAS CALLED FOR A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION IN RWANDA, BUT CANADIAN OFFICIALS DO NOT INTEND TO MAKE A HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENT SIMILAR TO THAT MADE BY PRESIDENT CLINTON. THE RWANDAN CRISIS CONTINUES TO RECEIVE PROMINENT MEDIA ATTENTION IN CANADA, AND HAS BEEN USED BY SEPARATIST POLITICIANS TO CRITICIZE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

CANADA "STUDYING" THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSISTING UNAMIR

3. ON MAY 9, PRIME MINISTER JEAN CHRETIEN INFORMED AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT THAT CANADA WOULD BE WILLING TO COMMIT ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO RWANDA IF NECESSARY. YVON SAINT-HILAIRE, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR WEST/CENTRAL AFRICA AND THE MAGHREB AT THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), TOLD POLOFF THAT GENERAL DALLAIRE HAD ALREADY REQUESTED SUCH ASSISTANCE.

JOINT STAFF V1
ACTION

INFO SJS-N(1) CMAS(1) HIDS(1) J4(5) J7(6) J5(1)
J5:NAB-J(1) USCINCSO LO(1) J5:NUC-J(1)
J5:AFRICA-J(1) J8:PMAD-J(1)
+NACEMEAF

(U)

SECDEF V2
ACTION

INFO P3BD(1) SECDEF-N(1) SECDEF-C(1) USDAT:IP(2)
ATSD:PA(1) USDP:AP(2) USDP:DASDEUR(1) USDP:AFR(1)
USDP:DSAA(1) USDP:PK/PE(1) USDP:FMRA(1) USDP:NSS(1)
USDP:FCMA(1) USDP:CP(1) USDP:AFR POL(1)
USDP:EUR POL(1) USDP:NATOPOL(1) USDP:ISA(1)
+USDP:DTSA

(U.6)

20

DIA V3
ACTION

INFO DIA/PMRB(1)
+CSAF WASHINGTON DC
+NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//SCIR//
+CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-PDG-SB//
+USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
+COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
+HARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
+SAFE

(U.6.7)

1

CIRC/SVC CHF V5
ACTION

INFO +OCSA WASHINGTON DC
+PTC WASH DC

(U)

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4. LT. COL. BILL BENTLEY, THE HEAD OF DFA'S PEACEKEEPING SECTION, MAINTAINED THAT DALLAIRE WOULD REQUIRE A COMMUNICATIONS ELEMENT FOR A BRIGADE-SIZE UNIT IF THE UNSC AUTHORIZED AN EXPANDED UNAMIR. HE NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WAS STUDYING SCENARIOS FOR ASSISTING UNAMIR, AND ADDED THAT IT WOULD "MAKE SENSE" FOR A CANADIAN GENERAL TO HAVE A CANADIAN COMMUNICATIONS UNIT TO ASSIST HIM. BENTLEY BELIEVED THAT THE GOC COMMITMENT WOULD NOT EXCEED 200 SOLDIERS.

CANADA TAKES THE LEAD AT THE UNHRC

5. ON MAY 9, THE CANADIAN DELEGATION IN GENEVA FORMALLY REQUESTED A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (UNHRC) TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION IN RWANDA. ROSS HYNES, DFA'S DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATOR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, TOLD THE EMBASSY THAT THE GOC HAD JUST BEGUN TO RECEIVE REPLIES FROM ITS DEMARCHES IN UNHRC CAPITALS. THE CANADIANS ARE FOCUSSED ON THEIR EFFORTS ON THE AFRICAN GROUP AND HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED "FIRM INDICATIONS OF SUPPORT" FROM TOGO, NIGERIA, MAURITIUS, MALAWI, MAURITANIA, LESOTHO, GABON, AND GUINEA-BISSAU. IN ADDITION, CAMEROON AND KENYA REPORTED THAT THEY "DIDN'T SEE A PROBLEM" WITH THE CANADIAN INITIATIVE. HYNES WAS CONFIDENT THAT ALL WEOG MEMBERS WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE, AND WAS TOLD BY PERU THAT THE LATIN AMERICA GROUP (EXCEPT CUBA) WAS FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARDS THE PROPOSAL.

6. FOLLOWING REFTEL (A) INSTRUCTIONS, POLOFF QUESTIONED HYNES ON CANADA'S GOALS FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. HYNES REPLIED THAT, FOR THE MOMENT, THE GOC IS CONCENTRATING ON GAINING SUPPORT FOR THE SESSION. IT WOULD BE "PREMATURE" TO DISCUSS A DRAFT RESOLUTION OR FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SESSION UNTIL AFTER THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PRESENTS HIS REPORT.

GOC STATEMENTS ON RWANDA

7. THE GOC HAS NOT MADE ANY FORMAL PRONOUNCEMENTS ON RWANDA COMPARABLE TO PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATEMENT (REFTEL C). MINISTER OUELLET DID ADDRESS THE CRISIS (IN A SPEECH TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN MONTREAL) AND ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE IN SUPPORT OF THE RWANDA MISSION BY THE U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER. ACCORDING TO SAINT-HILAIRE, THE GOC BELIEVES THAT GENERAL DALLAIRE IS THE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE AND EFFECTIVE CANADIAN SPOKESMAN ON THE ISSUE.

RWANDA RETAINS A HIGH PROFILE

8. THE CRISIS IN RWANDA CONTINUES TO RECEIVE FRONT-PAGE PRESS COVERAGE AND HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL ATTENTION IN CANADA. FOREIGN MINISTER OUELLET RAISED THE SUBJECT BT

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SEVERAL TIMES IN PARLIAMENT. BOTH OUELLET AND PRIME MINISTER CHRETIEN DISCUSSED RWANDA WITH AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT DURING HER VISIT TO OTTAWA ON MAY 9.

9. THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, LUCIEN BOUCHARD, RECENTLY OPENED PARLIAMENT'S QUESTION PERIOD BY CONDEMNING THE GOC'S "ZIGZAGGING" AND "ABOUT FACE" ON RWANDA. HE CRITICIZED OUELLET FOR PURPORTING TO SUPPORT THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL'S CALL FOR ADDITIONAL

MCN=94133/09761

TOR=94133/1849Z

TAD=94133/1851Z

CDSN=MAU486

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PEACEKEEPERS, WHILE REFUSING TO COMMIT CANADIAN TROOPS TO
THE EFFORT.

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