

115/23/37

Your file:

Our file: 161/1/1

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FROM: WASHINGTON	C02755/WSH	11-Apr-1994
TO: WELLINGTON WGTN UNSC	NEW YORK	Immediate Routine
CC: BEIJING CANBERRA LONDON MOSCOW	BRUSSELS HARARE PARIS OTTAWA	Routine Routine Routine Routine
MFAT	(MEA, EUR, UNC, CONS, LGL, DSP1, EAB)	

Subject

U04029: SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA: US VIEWS

Your C21746.

Summary

2 All US citizens wishing to leave Rwanda have now been evacuated. US may assist an isolated group of Germans. US is looking closely at UNAMIR mandate - no decisions made but a growing feeling that withdrawal may be necessary. US is now (with embassy closed) receiving limited reporting from Kilgali. There is talk of a truce from tomorrow am.

Action

3 For information.

Report

4 We checked in with State's newly-convened Rwanda Task Force (Zelle) on 11 April. State reported that most Americans in Rwanda had now been evacuated. Exceptions were a few missionaries who had opted to stay and one or two still reporting from Kilgali. The US Embassy there was now closed and all staff had been removed.

5 The US understands a group of Germans has been stranded "atop a hill" en route to the border by a minefield blocking their road. State said the US may assist with their removal but gave no details.

6 State understands that the UN Secretariat briefed the Council this afternoon - only US comment worth reporting was their understanding that UNAMIR is now unable to fulfill its mandate (though they acknowledged that Kilgali airport is now secure and some patrolling is being conducted).

7 This has apparently led to debate within the US system over the future of the mandate. No firm US position is yet available. Our contact indicated however that there is some feeling growing that if UNAMIR cannot perform its mandate and if UN personnel are under threat then the Council should consider its withdrawal.

8 Our contacts had little to add to media reports (Washington Post articles follow by bag to Wgtn) on the situation in Kilgali. With the closure of its embassy the US is now only receiving reports from one source in Kilgali by radio. The provisional government appears to be holding together for now, but its control over the situation is minimal. A truce appears to have been negotiated by the UN to take effect from 6 am tomorrow. The RPF has signed off on this (for the purposes of allowing foreigners to leave) but refuses to negotiate directly with the provisional government.

End Message