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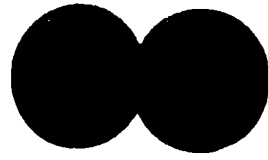
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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON DC 20506

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September 20, 1993



ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: RICHARD CLARKE/JENNIFER WARD

FROM: SUSAN RICE/NICK BRASMUSSEN

SUBJECT: Deputies Committee Meeting on African Peacekeeping Issues

The Peacekeeping Core Group met September 9 to discuss proposed operations in Rwanda and Liberia. It was clear from that meeting that there are issues that warrant Deputies' attention. As a next step, we suggest that you convene a DC meeting possibly as soon as this week, to consider the proposed Rwanda operation. We would also use the meeting to tie up a few loose ends relating to Liberia. Global Affairs will draft a paper for the DC on the Rwanda operation.

Rwanda

A UN resolution is likely to be voted on within the next couple of weeks. The USG has never addressed at a senior level the question of whether or not we should support a Rwanda operation or whether such an operation is consistent with the guidelines set out in PRD-13. This issue may fuel concern on the Hill that we can't say no. It's yet another operation that we cannot pay for. On the other hand, we must consider the implications of failing to support the Rwanda peace plan, which the U.S. helped broker.

E.O. 13526, 1.4(b), E.O. 13526, 1.4(d)

E.O. 13526, 1.4(b), E.O. 13526, 1.4(d)

Liberia

Though the Deputies agreed some weeks ago to support in principle a UN observer mission in Liberia, they left a key issue unresolved: the question of participation by U.S. military observers. Since the last DC, the UN has informally requested 15-20 U.S. military observers. Deputies should decide how to answer that request. In addition, there is the question of placing U.S. logisticians on the ground. One of the key prerequisites for the participation of the potential new ECOMOG contributors is that the U.S. provide sustaining logistical support in Liberia for the duration of the operation. This would

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require U.S. military personnel to facilitate operations in Monrovia, at Roberts Field, and at two major ports.

You should also be aware that Jennifer Ward, with support from Global Affairs is working closely with State and Defense to resolve a number of related Liberia issues before a UNSC vote. A EUCOM assessment team has just returned from Liberia. Their report, plus a State-drafted Progress Report, will address all of these issues, including:

- Level of Support for ECOMOG Forces: Although we have expressed a willingness in principle to help ECOMOG stand up and sustain 4 additional battalions, there are unanswered questions about specific requirements. Lift, equipment, personnel costs, ongoing logistical support.
- Costs: We need a better handle on what the entire spectrum of our involvement could cost. At present, we have no sense of total cost. Presumably, there will be a need also to fund demobilization and resettlement of the combatants, as well as an election process and humanitarian support.
- Timeframe: Is the 7 month period for elections overly ambitious? Should we push for an extension of the UN mandate?
- Humanitarian Requirements: We need to get OFDA's view of the humanitarian assistance requirements needed to make a peacekeeping operation viable, as well as post-PKO requirements.
- ECOMOG Viability: There are concerns about the availability of sufficient African troops to augment ECOMOG. The OAU has not taken steps to accelerate recruitment. There are no countries committed to participate at this stage and deployment could take several months. There is also some concern that Nigeria may reduce its participation in peacekeeping, including in Liberia.
- The French Problem: We need to manage effectively the French attempt to link Liberia and Rwanda.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That you agree to convene a meeting of the Deputies in the near future as soon as papers have been prepared to discuss Rwanda and tie up loose ends related to Liberia.

Approve \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

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