



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520 9408116

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April 8, 1994

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MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM H. ITOH
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Request for Department of Defense participation in joint U.S.-Belgian-French evacuation of expatriates from Rwanda and for Department of Defense provision of appropriate air support on a non-reimbursable basis

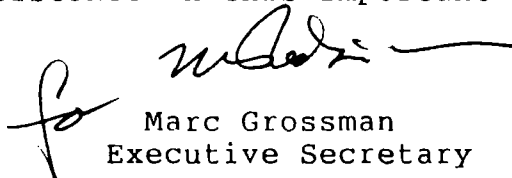
The situation on the ground in Kigali remains chaotic and violent. The French and Belgian Governments share our concern over the security of our respective nationals, and have suggested informally that we coordinate our efforts in any evacuation.

Belgium may be prepared to dispatch approximately 800 troops to Rwanda to assist in any evacuation, but may require U.S. airlift assistance to move these forces and their equipment. France may be prepared to contribute four Jaguar fighter planes in support of an evacuation operation.

The Department of State requests that the Department of Defense participate in planning for a joint U.S.-Belgium-France operation to evacuate our respective nationals from Rwanda. The Department of State also requests that the Department of Defense be prepared to provide all appropriate airlift support to such an operation.

Department of State will reimburse the Department of Defense for airlift of U. S. citizens. The Department of State will consult the Department of Defense and the National Security Council on other funding issues, including whether reimbursement should be sought from the French and Belgians, and/or whether the President should be asked to order a drawdown of defense services under the Foreign Assistance Act.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.


Marc Grossman
Executive Secretary

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