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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:LEWIS LUKENS

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:CCHEINECK

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FOR U/S MOOSE

FOLLOWING BUJUMBURA 01182 DATED 07 APR 94 SENT ACTION
SECSTATE INFO USUN NEW YORK BAMAKO ADDIS ABABA BRUSSELS
CAIRO DAR ES SALAAM KAMPALA KIGALI KINSHASA LONDON NAIROBI
NIAMEY OUAGADOUGOU PARIS TUNIS YAOUNDE USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE
ATO AFRICA USIA IS BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO
QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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PAGE 02 STATE 091773 072235Z

DEPT FOR DAS BRYNN, AF/C, DSS/OP, DS/OP/AF
DEPT PLEASE PASS TO AID FOR AFR
NAIROBI FOR CO CO. "F"
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PARIS PLEASE PASS ARS FOR H. HENNING

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: AEMR, ASEC, AMGT, PREF, PREL, PHUM, BY

SUBJECT: EAC MEETING - APRIL 7, 1994

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REF: BUJUMBURA 1181

INTRODUCTION

1. THE EMERGENCY ACTION COMMITTEE MET THIS MORNING AT 0800 HOURS TO DISCUSS LAST NIGHT'S PLANE INCIDENT IN KIGALI AND THE RESULTING DEATHS OF BURUNDIAN PRESIDENT NTARYAMIRA; HIS MINISTER OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT, BERNARD CIZA; AND HIS MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION AND GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, CYRIAQUE SIMBIZI. THE THREE WERE TRAVELLING WITH RWANDAN PRESIDENT HABYRIMANA AND MEMBERS OF HIS RETINUE, WHO WERE ALSO KILLED IN THE CRASH. THE PRESENCE OF CIZA AND SIMBIZI ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT WAS ANNOUNCED BY RADIO BURUNDI THIS MORNING. ON THIS MORNING'S NEW, THE GRB IS CONTINUING TO CHARACTERIZE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF NTARYAMIRA'S DEATH AS AN ACCIDENT-- PRESUMABLY SINCE HE DECIDED AT THE LAST MINUTE TO FLY WITH HABYRIMANA. ALL AMCITS ARE ACCOUNTED FOR AND SAFE. BUJUMBURA REMAINS CALM AND THE AIRPORT IS OPEN--SABENA ARRIVED THIS MORNING.

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SECURITY OVERVIEW

2. FOLLOWING THE TV AND RADIO BROADCASTS BY BURUNDI LEADERS LAST NIGHT (REFTEL), BUJUMBURA HAS REMAINED CALM DURING THE NIGHT AND INTO TODAY. EAC MEMBERS NOTED NO/NO INCIDENTS OF GUNFIRE OR OTHER DISTURBANCES IN BUJUMBURA ENVIRONS LAST NIGHT. AFTER CIRCULATING THROUGH THE CITY THIS MORNING, THE RSO ADVISED ALL PERSONNEL THAT THE SITUATION APPEARED CALM, AND THAT MANY PEOPLE WERE HEADED TO THE CENTRAL MARKET AREA AS USUAL, THOUGH VEHICULAR TRAFFIC WAS MUCH LIGHTER THAN USUAL. MISSION PERSONNEL CAME IN FOR THE EAC AND SOME LOCAL EMPLOYEES CAME TO WORK AS WELL. EAC NOTED THAT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED SABENA FLIGHT ARRIVED, ALBIET SOMEWHAT EARLIER. THERE HAS BEEN NO/NO WORD OF ANY UNTOWARDS REACTIONS IN THE INTERIOR OF BURUNDI.

3. ALL AMERICANS HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR AND ARE SAFE, INCLUDING ECON/REFOFF JULIE O'REAGAN AND USAID DISASTER SPECIALIST C.W.T. BILL HAGELMAN, WHO TRAVELLED YESTERDAY TO BUTARE, RWANDA FOR A MEETING ON REFUGEES WITH EMBASSY

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KIGALI COUNTERPARTS AND NAIROBI REFCOORD. KIGALI GROUP
COULD NOT GET TO BUTARE. (FYI: RSO SPOKE WITH O'REAGAN
THIS MID-MORNING AND INFORMED THE GROUP ABOUT LAST
NIGHT'S INCIDENT--O'REAGAN AND HAGLEMAN RETURNED TO
BUJUMBURA EARLY AFTERNOON. END FYI). AMERICANS
(OFFICIAL, NON-OFFICIAL AND VISITORS) WERE INFORMED OF
THE CRASH LAST NIGHT (REFTEL) VIA THE WARDEN SYSTEM, AND
ADVISED TO STAY IN THEIR HOMES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

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AFTER CIRCULATING THROUGH THE CITY THIS MORNING, THE RSO
(W/CHARGE CONCURRENCE) ADVISED ALL PERSONNEL THAT THE
SITUATION APPEARED CALM, AND THAT MANY PEOPLE WERE
CIRCULATING TO MARKET ALMOST AS USUAL, THOUGH VEHICLE
TRAFFIC WAS MUCH LIGHTER THAN USUAL. MISSION PERSONNEL
AND A NUMBER OF LOCAL FSNS CAME IN TO THEIR OFFICES. EAC
MEMBERS NOTED NO/NO INCIDENTS OF GUNFIRE OR OTHER
DISTURBANCES IN BUJUMBURA LAST NIGHT.

ADVISORY RECOMMENDATION

4. EAC DISCUSSED INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON LAST NIGHTS

TRAGIC INCIDENT AND POTENTIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR AMCIT
SECURITY DERIVING FROM LOCAL REACTIONS, GRIEF AND
DISCUSSIONS ABOUT GRB CONTINUITY. EAC MEMBERS AGREED TO
CONTINUE ADVISING ALL AMERICANS TO EXERCISE ALL CAUTION
IN THEIR ACTIVITIES. SPECIFICALLY, THE EAC DECIDED TO
CONTINUE TO ADVISE NO NONE ESSENTIAL TRAVEL AFTER DARK IN
THE CITY AND THE AVOIDANCE OF TRAVEL TO SUBURBAN
QUARTIERS OF BUJUMBURA. EAC WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE
SITUATION CLOSELY AND UPDATE ITS ADVISORY IN LIGHT OF
DEVELOPMENTS. LANGE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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