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INFO	LOG-00	COR-01	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DS-00	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00
	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	ASDS-01	RPE-01	/044W				

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O 231613Z FEB 94.  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5794  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA

USDAO YAOUNDE CM  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4//SAA//

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C O R R E C T E D COPY (ADDED ADDRESSEES)

STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AF  
BUJUMBURA FOR RSO  
YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW  
SUBJECT: INSECURITY ESCALATES; A KIGALI AND ELSEWHERE

REF: (A) KIGALI 784, (B) KIGALI 786

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS  
DATE/CASE ID: 20 NOV 2002 200003723

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1. (LOU) SUMMARY. RWANDA'S FRAGILE PEACE IS UNDER TREMENDOUS STRAIN WITH SCORES OF PEOPLE DEAD IN CIVIL UNREST BOTH IN KIGALI AND ELSEWHERE IN THE WAKE OF TWO POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS (REFTELS). GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND PRIVATE BUSINESSES ARE VIRTUALLY CLOSED DOWN IN KIGALI. THE PRESIDENT CONVOKED A SWEARING-IN CEREMONY AND SET THE TERMS OF COMPROMISE TO BREAK THE POLITICAL IMPASSE, BUT THE RPF VOWED NOT TO PARTICIPATE FOLLOWING AN ATTACK ON A UNAMIR-ESCORTED RPF CONVOY. WE HOPE RWANDANS CAN MOVE THROUGH THIS VIOLENCE AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST PRELIMINARY TO A MAJOR STEP ON THI OKJQALATES

2. (LOU) TENSIONS EVIDENT MORNING OF 2/22 FOLLOWING ASSASSINATION OF PSD MINISTER AND POLITICIAN GATABAZI (REF A) MOUNTED IN THE AFTERNOON WITH THE NEWS THAT LEADER OF THE HUTU-EXTREMIST CDR PARTY HAD ALSO BEEN KILLED (REF B). RWANDAN EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS REPORT KNOWING OF AT LEAST 25 DEATHS, AROUND TOWN AS WELL AS  
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INCIDENTS OF ROBBERY, RAPE, HOUSE BURNINGS, AND ROADBLOCKS WITH BURNING TIRES. THE AGGRESSORS WERE GENERALLY BANDS OF YOUTH -- SOMETIMES NUMBERING UP TO 100. VICTIMS WERE PRIMARILY TUTSI, ALTHOUGH SOME INCIDENTS INVOLVED PARTY CLASHES AND UNDOUBTEDLY SCORE-SETTLING. TERRIFIED RWANDANS ARE ABANDONING THEIR HOMES AND POSSESSIONS TO SEEK SAFETY IN CALMER PARTS OF TOWN.

3. (U) MORNING OF 2/23, EMBASSY LEARNED OF DEMONSTRATIONS BY CDR MEMBERS IN NORTHERN TOWN OF RUHENGERI THAT LEFT ONE CONFIRMED DEAD AND THREE INJURED. BUTARE, HOME OF ASSASSINATED GATABAZI, ALSO REPORTS UNREST. IN CYANGUGU, HOME OF ASSASSINATED BUCYANA, HOMES WERE REPORTEDLY BURNING. KIBUNGO, IN THE SOUTHEAST, REPORTS AN UNEASY CALM. MSF/B REPORTED NUMEROUS ROADBLOCKS EN ROUTE FROM BURUNDI REFUGEE CAMPS SOUTH OF KIGALI AFTERNOON OF 2/22.

4. (C) WITH TENSIONS MOUNTING AFTERNOON OF 2/22, AMBASSADOR ALERTED UN FORCE COMMANDER GENERAL DALLAIRE TO OUR CONCERNS FOR POSSIBLE POLITICAL AND ETHNIC CLASHES IN TOWN AND SUGGESTED TO PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORS THAT A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT COULD BE USEFUL IN CALMING THE POPULATION. AS EMBASSY

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PERSONNEL RECEIVED REPORTS OF VIOLENCE, THEY CONTACTED BOTH THE GENDARMERIE AND THE UN FORCES TO ALERT THEM TO THE LOCATION OF TROUBLE.

5. (U) KIGALI IS PRACTICALLY ABANDONED 2/23, WITH FEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES OTHER THAN THE PRESIDENCY AND  
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PRACTIALLY NO PRIVATE BUSINESSES OPERATING. ONLY A HANDFUL OF EMBASSY STAFF MADE IT TO WORK, SOME BECAUSE THEY FELT SAFER AT WORK THAN AT HOME. AT THE END OF THE DAY 2/23, THE UN FORCES REPORT ROADS OPEN BUT VIOLENCE PERSISTS IN KIGALI NEIGHBORHOODS.

RPF CONVOY AMBUSHED

6. (U) AN RPF COMMUNIQUE REPORTED THAT ITS CONVOY, ESCORTED BY UN OBSERVER (UNARMED) FORCES, WAS AMBUSHED EVENING OF 2/22 FIVE KMS OUTSIDE KIGALI ON THE ROAD TO BYUMBA AND THE RPF'S MULINDI HEADQUARTERS.

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	ASDS-01	RPE-01	/044W				

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5795  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USDAO YAOUNDE CM  
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE//ECJ4//SAA//

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STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AF  
BUJUMBURA FOR RSO  
YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW  
SUBJECT: INSECURITY ESCALATES; A KIGALI AND ELSEWHERE

ONE RPF SOLDIER WAS CRITICALLY WOUNDED AND ONE UNAMIR  
OBSERVER WAS INJURED. TWO CONVOY VEHICLES WERE  
DAMAGED AND HAD TO BE ABANDONED AT THE SITE. RPF  
POLITICIANS, SCHEDULED TO COME TO KIGALI FOR THE  
SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES ANNOUNCED FOR TODAY, WERE  
NOT/NOT IN THE CONVOY, HAVING DECIDED AT THE LAST  
MINUTE TO REMAIN IN MULINDI. THE RPF BLAMED THE  
ATTACK ON GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS AND DEMANDED AN  
EXPLANATION OF THE INCIDENT.

7. (U) THE RPF COMMUNIQUE SAID THE RPF COULD IN NO  
WAY ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES  
ORGANIZED BY HABYARIMANA AND HIS "ENTOURAGE". IT  
ACCUSED PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA OF MASSACRING HIS OWN  
PEOPLE AND CALLED HIM AND HIS PARTY MEMBERS  
TERRORISTS. THE RPF SAID THAT "MR. HABYARIMANA", BY  
REFUSING TO GUARANTEE NATIONAL UNITY, HAD  
DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF AS FUTURE PRESIDENT OF THE  
TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS.

ANOTHER ABORTED INSTALLATION CEREMONY

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8. (U) RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PRESIDENCY EVENING  
2/22 CONVOKED ALL PARTIES TO SWEARING-IN CEREMONY AT

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10 AM THE NEXT DAY AND WENT ON TO SPECIFY HOW MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS AND DEPUTY SEATS HAD BEEN ALLOCATED (WE LATER LEARNED THAT FORMULAS WERE THOSE PUT FORWARD AT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT CHAIRED BY PRESIDENT 2/21 AT WHICH ALL PARTY FACTIONS WERE REPRESENTED, BUT NOT RPF.)

9. (LOU) DISAFFECTION WITH PRESIDENT'S FORMULAS WAS EVIDENT BY MORNING LIGHT AND CEREMONY WAS DELAYED TO 2 PM. PRESIDENT ARRIVED AN HOUR LATER TO INFORM GATHERED DIPLOMATS, CLERGY AND POLITICIANS FROM HIS CIRCLE THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER PARTIES, HE COULD NOT PROCEED WITH INVESTITURE. AFTER REFERRING TO MEETINGS HE HAD HELD WITH PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE AND UNDERSTANDING DERIVED FROM THOSE MEETINGS REGARDING POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, HE THANKED CLERGY AND DIPLOMATS, ESPECIALLY THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE BOOH BOOH, FOR THEIR ADVICE AND PATIENCE.

10. (U) HABYARIMANA THEN INDICATED HIS OPENESS TO FURTHER SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO LAUNCH THE GOVERNMENT. HIS BRIEF MESSAGE ENDED WITH A PLEA TO MEDIA TO TEACH UNITY RATHER THAN DIVISION AND A CALL TO ALL RWANDANS, REGARDLESS OF PARTY, REGION, OR ETHNIC GROUP, TO KEEP STRIVING FOR PEACE. THE PRESIDENT'S SUBSEQUENT REMARKS IN KINYARWANDA TRACKED CLOSELY WITH HIS SPEECH IN FRENCH.

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11. (C) IN A BRIEF ASIDE AFTER CEREMONIES, UN FORCE COMMANDER DALLAIRE TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT ESCORTED RPF CAR HAD BEEN ATTACKED EVENING 2/22 NOT BY RWANDAN ARMY BUT BY PARTY MILITIA. RPF CAR WAS CARRYING OFFICIALS WHO HAD TRAVELLED NORTH TO MEET DELEGATION OF RPF DIGNITARIES COMING TO INSTALLATION CEREMONIES BUT, HAVING MISSED THE RENDEZVOUS, WAS RETURNING TO KIGALI. THE GENERAL SAID THE ATTACK WAS BY GUNFIRE AND GRENADE; HE CONFIRMED CASUALTIES AS TWO WOUNDED.

COMMENT

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 12. (C) THE DELIBERATE ATTACK ON MINISTER GATABAZI AND THE UN-ESCORTED RPF CONVOY ARE AGAIN EXAMPLES OF

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O 231613Z FEB 94  
 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5796  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
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 USMISSION GENEVA  
 USDAO YAOUNDE CM  
 USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ4-SAA//

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ESCALATING VIOLENCE JUST AS RWANDANS REACH A MAJOR  
 CROSSROADS ON THE ROAD TO PEACE. ALWAYS BEFORE  
 RWANDANS HAVE WORKED THROUGH THE VIOLENCE TO REACH A

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NEW COMMON UNDERSTANDING AS A BASIS FOR MOVING FORWARD. WE HOPE THIS WILL HAPPEN AGAIN BUT ARE AWARE THAT WITH EACH MAJOR DECISION-POINT, THE STAKES BECOME HIGHER FOR THOSE IN A POSITION TO LOSE OR GAIN AS THE PROCESS MOVES FORWARD.

13. (C) WE ARE CONTINUING TO USE WARDEN AND RADIO NETS TO INFORM ALL AMCITS OF THE SECURITY SITUATION. WE HAVE INSTITUTED A TWICE-DAILY STATUS REPORTS VIA RADIO TO THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY AND ARE KEEPING THE NON-OFFICIAL AMCITS ADVISED OF THE SAME INFORMATION VIA THE WARDEN NET. THIS PRACTICE WILL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE SITUATION STABILIZES.

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