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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5756
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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DEPT FOR IO/UNP, IO/PHO, AF/C AND L/AF; WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR SRICE, DMOZENA JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3; CONFIDENTIAL

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E.0.12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: MOPS, PREL, MARR, PGOV, KDEM, RW, UNSC, CG

SUBJECT: TFRWOL: SECURITY COUNCIL AT IMPASSE ON UNAMIR'S

FUTURE

REFTEL: USUN 1588

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: IN DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO SECURITY COUNCIL INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON APRIL 15, THE US AGREED TO THE PROPOSAL OFFERED EARLIER IN THE DAY BY WHICH ENTAILED AN IMMEDIATE DRAWDOWN OF TROOPS WITH A SMALL PROTECTIVE FORCE FOR THE UN STAFF REMAINING IN RWANDA.

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HOWEVER, THE NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS REJECTED THIS PROPOSAL. THEY AND MANY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS SUPPORTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION TO KEEP UNAMIR'S FORCE AS IS FOLLOWING THE DEPARTURE OF THE BELGIANS, AT LEAST FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. THIS WAS BOLSTERED BY THE SECRETARIAT'S VIEW THAT RAPID WITHDRAWAL MIGHT ACTUALLY PLACE THE FORCES IN JEOPARDY WHERE NONE IS PRESENT. RECOGNIZING THAT IT WOULD BE UNABLE TO AGREE ON A RESOLUTION, THE SECURITY COUNCIL AGREED TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF UNAMIR'S FUTURE NEXT WEEK AND FOR THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT TO BRIEF THE PRESS ON THE COUNCIL'S DELIBERATION. END SUMMARY.

PRE-SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION

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3. PRIOR TO THE AFTERNOON ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS, NEW
ZEALAND AS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, CALLED A MEETING
WITH THE AMBASSADORS FROM THE UNITED STATES, NIGERIA,
FRANCE AND THE UK. HAD
PREPARED LANGUAGE TO IMPLEMENT HIS PROPOSAL MADE IN THE
MORNING SESSION (REFTEL), TO SUSPEND UNAMIR OPERATIONS
IN RWANDA, WHILE LEAVING AN INTERIM UN PRESENCE. THIS
PRESENCE WOULD BE HEADED BY THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE,
WOULD INCLUDE SUFFICIENT UN MILITARY PERSONNEL TO ENSURE
ITS PROTECTION, AND WOULD CONTINUE THE UNITED NATIONS'
EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE RWANDAN CRISIS. ACCORDING TO THE
UK, THE SECRETARIAT ESTIMATED THAT APPROXIMATELY 250-300
MILITARY PERSONNEL WOULD BE REQUIRED.

4. FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SECRETARY,
AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT INFORMED THE GROUP THAT WE COULD
ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL OF SUSPENSION.

AGREED TO CONSULT WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE NAM CAUCUS. THE NAM, HOWEVER, DECIDED THAT THE
SUGGESTION FELL SHORT OF WHAT THEY WANTED, THE
SECRETARY GENERAL'S PREFERRED OPTION FOR ALL OF UNAMIR
MINUS THE BELGIANS TO REMAIN FOR SOME DESIGNATED PERIOD
OF WEEKS TO ENCOURAGE A CEASE FIRE AND RESUMED
NEGOTIATIONS AMONG THE PARTIES. ON THIS BASIS THE
SECURITY COUNCIL MOVED INTO INFORMALS.

SECURITY COUNCIL INFORMALS

5. THE SECURITY COUNCIL CONTINUED INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF UNAMIR ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 15. A/SYG IQBAL RIZA BEGAN BY ADDRESSING ISSUES RAISED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE SECURITY COUNCIL INFORMALS HELD EARLIER THAT SAME
DAY (REFTEL). WHILE THERE IS OVERT HOSTILITY DIRECTED
AT BELGIUM, UNAMIR FORCES ARE NOT UNDER IMMEDIATE
THREAT. AFTER SOME FIGHTING LAST NIGHT AND EARLY TODAY,
THE AIRPORT IS RELATIVELY SECURE AND QUIET. MOREOVER,
THE FORCE COMMANDER ASKS THAT NO PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT
BE MADE ON EITHER THE PROSPECTS OF BELGIUM LEAVING
BEHIND ITS EQUIPMENT OR THE NEUTRALIZATION OF THE
AIRPORT, SINCE THIS WOULD MAKE HIS TASK MORE DIFFICULT.

- 6. UNAMIR HAS SPONSORED TWO-PARTY DIALOGUES BETWEEN THE RPF AND THE GOVERNMENT, THE LATTER IS COMPRISED OF THE COMMANDER OF THE GENDARMERE, WHO HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE SOME ELEMENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES (AND POSSIBLY THE PRESIDENTIAL GUARD THROUGH ITS COOPERATION WITH THE DEFENSE MINISTER).
- 7. THE FORCE COMMANDER BELIEVES THAT ABRUPT WITHDRAWAL OF UNAMIR WOULD NOT BE "FEASIBLE, ADVISABLE, OR WISE," AND THAT ANY HINT OF WITHDRAWAL MIGHT CAUSE PANIC BY THE LOCAL POPULATION AND PLACE THE UNAMIR TROOPS IN HARM'S WAY. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION,

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RIZA CONTINUED, WOULD CAUSE IMMEDIATE MOVES BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE RPF TO TRY TO CAPTURE THE AIRPORT, WHICH MIGHT PLACE UNAMIR TROOPS IN JEOPARDY. AN ORDERLY AND SAFE WITHDRAWAL, HE CONCLUDED, WAS PREDICATED ON A CEASE-FIRE. SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT KEATING LATER COMMENTED THAT "THE RISKS ASSOCIATED TO UNAMIR ARE A FUNCTION OF THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND SECURITY COUNCIL ACTIONS." RIZA ALSO NOTED THAT THE UNEXPECTED ARRIVAL OF THE ITALIAN CONTINGENT HAS POTENTIALLY RAISED THE SECURITY RISKS, SINCE THERE ARE RUMORS THAT THE ITALIAN PLANE IS LOADED WITH MERCENARIES; THE FORCE COMMANDER IS TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR ITS TIMELY DEPARTURE.

8. RIZA THEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE SYG HAS A CLEAR PREFERENCE FOR "OPTION A" - KEEPING UNAMIR FORCE STRUCTURE AS IS, WITH STRICT DEADLINES FOR A CEASE-FIRE AND POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS - WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVING TO "OPTION B" - AN ANGOLA-TYPE SCENARIO THAT INCLUDES IMMEDIATE DRAWDOWN TO A SKELETAL FORCE, IF "OPTION A" BECOMES UNWORKABLE.

| 9. BOTH | /A | ANNOUNCED THAT I | THEY SUPPORTED |
|-----------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| OPTION A. | ADDED TH | HAT IN ITS COMMUN | ICATION WITH |
| · | CONFIDENTIAL | | |

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PAGE 03 USUN N 01607 02 OF 03 160142Z GHANA AND BANGLADESH, THE TWO LARGEST TROOP CONTRIBUTERS REMAINING AFTER BELGIUM'S DEPARTURE, BOTH INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD REMAIN.

- 10. KEATING THEN REVIEWED THE PROSPECT OF OBTAINING A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING UNAMIR'S FUTURE: THE SYG PREFERS OPTION A; THE NAM PREFERS A MODIFIED OPTION A; AND THE UK AND THE US ARE SETTLED ON A MODIFIED VERSION OF OPTION B. SINCE THE COUNCIL IS UNABLE TO MAKE A DECISION, KEATING CONTINUED, PERHAPS IT IS WISE TO USE UNAMIR TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE PARTIES; THAT IS, SUGGESTING TO THE PARTIES THAT UNAMIR'S CONTINUED PRESENCE IS PREDICATED ON A CEASE-FIRE AND POLITICAL RECONCILIATION.
- 11. KEATING THEN CIRCULATED A PAPER THAT BECAME THE BASIS FOR HIS BRIEFING TO THE PRESS ON THE SITUATION IN RWANDA. AFTER SUGGESTED REVISIONS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS, THE FOLLOWING BECAME THE BASIS OF KEATING'S BRIEFING:
- -- THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL HAVE HAD A THOROUGH DISCUSSION TODAY ABOUT THE SITUATION IN RWANDA AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR UNAMIR.
- -- IT TOOK CAREFULLY INTO CONSIDERATION INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARIAT AS FORWARDED BY THE UNAMIR FORCE COMMANDER AND THE SRSG, AS WELL AS THAT PROVIDED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BELGIUM.
- -- COUNCIL MEMBERS TOOK NOTE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND BELGIUM'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS IN UNAMIR AT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 USUN N 01607 02 OF 03 160142Z THE SAME TIME THAT IT IS REPATRIATING THE TROOPS THAT HAVE BEEN PROVIDING SECURITY FOR THE EVACUATION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS.

- -- THEY ALSO TOOK INTO CONSIDERATION THE WILLINGNESS OF OTHER MAJOR TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES TO MAINTAIN THEIR TROOPS WITH UNAMIR AS LONG AS THERE IS A USEFUL ROLE FOR THEM TO PERFORM.
- -- IN THE COUNCIL'S VIEW, THE IMMEDIATE PRIORITY IN RWANDA IS A CEASE-FIRE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT FORCES AND THE RPF. THE SRSG AND THE FORCE COMMANDER HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH BOTH PARTIES TO TRY TO SECURE THIS OBJECTIVE.
- -- THE COUNCIL MEMBERS URGE THE SRSG TO MAKE EVERY

EFFORT TO FACILITATE A CEASE-FIRE. IN THIS REGARD, THE COUNCIL MEMBERS WELCOMED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE OAU TO PROMOTE A CEASEFIRE IN RWANDA.

- -- THE COUNCIL DEMANDS THAT BOTH THE GOVERNMENT FORCES AND THE RPF RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE
- -- THE MEMBERS REAFFIRMED THAT THE ARUSHA PEACE

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AGREEMENT REMAINS THE ONLY VIABLE FRAMEWORK FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE RWANDA CONFLICT AND SERVES AS THE BASIS FOR PEACE, NATIONAL UNITY AND RECONCILIATION IN THE COUNTRY.

- -- COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMEND THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE LEADERS OF THE SUBREGION AT FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS IN RWANDA AND URGE THE LEADERS OF THE REGION TO PERSEVERE AND INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS FOR PEACE, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE OAU.
- -- BUT, THE SITUATION IS GRAVE AND THE COUNCIL IS DETERMINED NOT TO ALLOW THE SECURITY OF UNAMIR PERSONNEL TO BE PLACED AT SERIOUS RISK.
- -- COUNCIL MEMBERS INTEND TO KEEP UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW THE FORCE LEVELS AND ACTIVITIES OF UNAMIR AND TO TAKE DECISIONS IN THIS REGARD AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.

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