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ACTION IO-16

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	ARA-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DOEE-00
	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01
	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SB-00	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	SA-01
	SNIS-00	NISC-02	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-01	/050W

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O 170122Z JUN 94
 FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
 TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
 SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7153
 INFO JOINT STAFF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
 AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
 AMEMBASSY TUNIS
 AMEMBASSY ACCRA
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
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 AMEMBASSY ROME
 AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 002513

WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR RICE AND STEINBERG;
 JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3;
 SECDEF FOR OSD/ISA

PARIS FOR PERLOW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 10 JUN 2016
 DATE/CASE ID: 06 MAY 2011 201005065

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E.O.12356: DECL:OADR
TAGS: MARR, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, FR, RW, UN
SUBJECT: FRANCE READY TO SEND TROOPS TO RWANDA

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1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE FRENCH PERMREP INFORMED THE PERMFIVE THEY ARE READY TO DEPLOY TROOPS INTO RWANDA FOR TWO MONTHS TO PROTECT THREATENED CIVILIANS IF FOUR CONDITIONS ARE MET, THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH IS FINDING ANOTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRY TO GO IN WITH THEM. THE OTHER P-5 HAD PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS AND RESERVATIONS. JUST PRIOR TO THE P-5 MEETING, THE FRENCH INFORMED THE NEW SRSG AND THE STAFF OF DPKO OF THEIR DECISION TO DEPLOY. END SUMMARY.

3. FRENCH PERMREP MERIMEE CALLED A MEETING OF THE PERMFIVE TO DISCUSS THE GOF DECISION TO DEPLOY TROOPS INTO RWANDA. HE EXPLAINED THERE WERE FOUR CONDITIONS TO FRENCH DEPLOYMENT -- A) NO CEASEFIRE HOLDING, B)

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KILLINGS CONTINUING, C) OTHER TROOPS HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED, D) FINDING A EUROPEAN PARTNER. MERIMEE EMPHASIZED THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT SEND TROOPS IN UNLESS ANOTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRY ALSO SENT TROOPS. SENEGAL IS ALSO READY TO GO, AND FRANCE IS LOOKING FOR AN ANGLOPHONE AFRICAN COUNTRY AS WELL.

4. THE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE PURELY HUMANITARIAN, AS SET OUT IN RESOLUTION 925, PARAGRAPH 4(A), TO PROTECT THREATENED CIVILIAN POPULATIONS. FRANCE, SAID MERIMEE, HAS ABSOLUTELY NO POLITICAL AGENDA IN MIND. THE MISSION WILL BE RISKY, BUT FRANCE WILL NOT HESITATE TO FIGHT, IF NECESSARY, TO PREVENT FURTHER MASSACRES. THE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT MUST BE EXTREMELY ROBUST. MERIMEE STRESSED THAT THE TROOPS MUST BE UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH UNAMIR AND GENERAL DALLAIRE. HOWEVER, FRANCE COULD NOT PUT ITS TROOPS INTO A SITUATION WHERE THEY WOULD HAVE TO FIGHT UNDER A UN CHAIN OF COMMAND. FRANCE IS READY TO FIGHT TUTU MILITIAS IN ORDER TO PROTECT TUTSIS, AND IS ALSO READY TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR UNAMIR, IF NECESSARY.

5. THE MAXIMUM DURATION OF THE MISSION WOULD BE TWO MONTHS. THE FRENCH TROOPS WOULD FILL THE GAP UNTIL

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UNAMIR COULD BE FULLY DEPLOYED, AT WHICH TIME FRANCE
COULD LEAVE. MERIMEE TOLD THE FIVE THAT UN SYG
BOUTROS-GHALI WELCOMED THE INITIATIVE AND WANTED THE
KILLINGS TO STOP. THERE ARE TWO FORMULAS TO GIVE THIS
FRENCH OPERATION THE UN'S BLESSING: A) A SHORT SC
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEMBER STATES TO TAKE ALL
NECESSARY MEASURES UNDER CHAPTER VII OF THE CHARTER TO
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CARRY OUT THE MANDATE OF RESOLUTION 925, OR B) A LETTER
FROM THE SYG TO THE SC APPOINTING A FRENCH COMMANDER AND
INTEGRATING THE FRENCH FORCES INTO UNAMIR. FRANCE DOES
NOT FAVOR THE SECOND APPROACH, SINCE THEY WILL NOT PUT
THEIR FORCES UNDER THE UN'S CHAIN OF COMMAND, EVEN WITH
A FRENCH FORCE COMMANDER, SINCE HE WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER
TO THE SRSG AND THE SYG. FRANCE SEEKS THE SUPPORT OF
THE P-5 FOR A FUTURE SC RESOLUTION, WHICH WOULD BE
INTRODUCED AS SOON AS THE FRENCH FOUND A EUROPEAN
PARTNER.

6. AFTER THE FRENCH PRESENTATION, THE OTHERS ASKED
QUESTIONS AND EXPRESSED CONCERNS. RUSSIA ASKED HOW MANY
TROOPS FRANCE WOULD SEND, BUT MERIMEE DID NOT KNOW.
USUN AMBASSADOR INDERFURTH ASKED WHICH EUROPEANS HAD
BEEN ASKED, AND WHAT THE LIKELIHOOD WAS OF FINDING ONE
WILLING TO GO. MERIMEE SAID ITALY, SPAIN, BELGIUM, UK,
AND ALL THE EU MEMBERS HAD BEEN APPROACHED. HE DID NOT
KNOW THE LIKELIHOOD OF A POSITIVE RESPONSE. THE UK
QUESTIONED THE RPF'S RESPONSE.

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TRYING TO CONVINCE THEM THEY WOULD PROTECT TUTSIS AGAINST THE HUTUS, AND WOULD NOT INTERFERE IN THE POLITICAL OR MILITARY SITUATION. MERIMEE HOPED THAT WITH INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT, THE RPF COULD COME TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THE OPERATION.

7. THE UK WENT ON TO POINT OUT THE DIFFICULTIES OF RUNNING TWO SEPARATE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY OPERATIONS, WITH DIFFERENT RULES OF ENGAGEMENT, AND DIFFERENT COMMANDS, IN THE SAME COUNTRY. AMB HANNAY FOUND IT HARD TO SEE HOW THE CHAPTER VI UN OPERATION COULD TAKE OVER AT THE END OF THE FRENCH OPERATION, WITH A MANDATE AND MEANS WHICH WOULD BE SEEN AS INADEQUATE. HE POINTED TO THE EXPERIENCE IN SOMALIA AS A LESSON IN THE PITFALLS OF SWITCHING FROM A NATIONAL TO A UN OPERATION. MERIMEE EXPLAINED THAT THE FRENCH WOULD FIGHT THEIR WAY IN,

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PAVING THE WAY TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE UN.

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8. AMB INDERFURTH NOTED THAT FM JUPPE AND SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WERE TO HAVE SPOKEN TODAY, BUT THAT USUN HAD NO READ-OUT ON THE CONVERSATION AS YET. IN THE ABSENCE OF FEED-BACK ON THAT CONVERSATION, HE COULD ONLY REGISTER SOME PRELIMINARY CONCERNS. INDERFURTH OBSERVED THAT THE FRENCH OFFER MIGHT SLOW DOWN THE MOMENTUM THAT WAS JUST STARTING TO BUILD AROUND DEPLOYMENT OF UNAMIR. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT TROOP CONTRIBUTORS OR EQUIPMENT DONORS MIGHT HESITATE NOW, WAITING TO SEE WHAT WOULD DEVELOP IN RELATION TO FRENCH DEPLOYMENT. HE ARGUED FORCEFULLY FOR CONTINUING UNABATED ALL EFFORTS TO GET UNAMIR EQUIPPED AND DEPLOYED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE FRENCH DEPUTY PR WRYLTY NOTED THAT, ONCE IN RWANDA, IT WOULD BECOME FRANCE'S HIGHEST PRIORITY TO ENSURE THAT OTHERS MADE AVAILABLE THE TROOPS THAT WOULD ALLOW FRANCE TO DEPART.

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9. RUSSIA REASONED THAT IF FRANCE HAD TO FIGHT ONE SIDE, HOSTILITY TOWARDS UNAMIR COULD ARISE, MAKING IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE UNAMIR FROM A CHAPTER VI TO A CHAPTER VII OPERATION. CHINA QUESTIONED WHY FRANCE COULD NOT GO TO RWANDA AS PART OF UNAMIR, AND ASKED ABOUT THE REACTION OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA.

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