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ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX079 MCN = 94255/28347 TOR = 942552121
PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS7339 2552115-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

P 122115Z SEP 94
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N2/N22//
RHHJMCY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI
RUCMACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUCBSAA/CINCUSACOM NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUQYSDG/FOSIF ROTA SP
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUFGAID/USCINCEUR INTEL VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ2/DIA REP//
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK//CC/DOA//
RUEALGX/SAFE
P 121500Z SEP 94
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0130
INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 5127
RUCNANC/FRANCOPHONE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 5723
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 6769
RUEIBS/AMEMBASSY ASMARA 0269
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 6720
RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 3095
RUEHSB/AMEMBASSY HARARE 3431
RUTAKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 3153
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0488
RUEHOS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 5470
RUEHLG/AMEMBASSY LILONGWE 3430
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON 0707
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 8845
RUDKLD/AMEMBASSY LUANDA 0478
RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 0882
RUEHRU/AMEMBASSY MASERU 1248
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0069

Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 6/10/03 Exemption _____

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RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0563
RUEHTN/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN 2262
RUEHBG/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG 2266
RUTAKD/AMCONSUL KADUNA 2413
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEHFSI/DIR FSINFATC
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 24858
E.O. 12356: N/A

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

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BODY

TAGS: PGOV, ECON, OPRC, PREL, XA, FR
SUBJECT: AFRICA IN THE FRENCH PRESS

- SEPTEMBER 3-9, 1994

1. RWANDA-RELATED ARTICLES DOMINATED THE OTHERWISE LIGHT COVERAGE OF AFRICA IN THE FRENCH PRESS THIS WEEK.

RWANDA

2. THE SEPTEMBER 4-5 WEEKEND EDITION OF "LE MONDE" REPORTED THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITY IS THE RETURN OF 2 MILLION REFUGEES AND THE REBUILDING OF THE COUNTRY'S DEVASTATED INFRASTRUCTURE. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT WHAT NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED FIRST IS THE PROBLEM OF FEEDING THE POPULATION. A WORLD FOOD PROGRAM REPORT INDICATED THAT HALF THE POPULATION, OR ABOUT 5 MILLION PEOPLE, ARE STARVING. FOOD PRODUCTION HAS DROPPED BY 50 PERCENT AND THE COUNTRYSIDE IS STILL EMPTY DUE TO THE EXODUS AND UNSAFE CONDITIONS. A SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER AND THE LACK OF MATERIALS ARE ALSO MAJOR CONCERNS. RWANDAN AUTHORITIES CLAIMED THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT THE JUSTICE AND EDUCATION MINISTRIES WERE ELIMINATED BY THE HUTU MILITIAS. MORE VIOLENCE AND MORE MISSING PERSONS WERE REPORTED DESPITE THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO REASSURE THE COUNTRY'S HUTU POPULATION THAT THEY CAN RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.

3. "LE MONDE" ON SEPTEMBER 7 GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF THE SITUATION IN RWANDA, STARTING WITH A FRONT PAGE

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ARTICLE BY JEAN HELENE, DATED KIGALI, ENTITLED "RWANDAN VENGEANCE." THE ARTICLE DETAILED REPORTS OF SUMMARY EXECUTIONS, KIDNAPPINGS, MASSACRES, AND REPRISALS AND OPINED THAT THESE ACTS TEND TO INCRIMINATE THE TUTSI WINNERS OF THE CIVIL WAR.

4. THE SEPTEMBER 7 EDITION OF "LE MONDE" ALSO PAID SPECIAL ATTENTION TO FRANCE'S "NEUTRALITY" IN RWANDA. AN ARTICLE BY MARIE-PIERRE SUBTIL STATED: "FOR THE FIRST TIME, A FRENCH MILITARY INTERVENTION DID NOT AIM AT KEEPING A FRIENDLY REGIME IN PLACE." IT GAVE A STEP-BY-STEP ACCOUNT OF EVENTS WHICH PROMPTED OPERATION TURQUOISE. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDED THAT ALTHOUGH OPERATION TURQUOISE SAVED THOUSANDS OF LIVES, IT DID NOT RESOLVE THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS. THE WRITER ARGUED THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE FORCED FRANCE TO REMAIN NEUTRAL, SETTING A PRECEDENT IN FRANCE'S FUTURE POLICY TOWARDS AFRICA.

5. IN A SEPTEMBER 7 "LE MONDE" ARTICLE CONCERNING THE DISCOMFITURE OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WORKERS IN RWANDA AND GOMA, CORINE LESNES DESCRIBED THE EFFECT OF THE RWANDAN CRISIS ON MEDICAL PERSONNEL OF MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES AND THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. FOR MANY THE QUESTION BECOMES "WHY CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING TO GET THEMSELVES KILLED RIGHT AWAY?" THE ARTICLE DESCRIBED TENSIONS AND THREATS EVEN AMONG RWANDAN AUXILIARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL WORKING WITH THE

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS. A FORMER MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES PRESIDENT IS QUOTED AS SAYING THE SITUATION IS "NOT A HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE, BUT AN ABSOLUTE POLITICAL DRAMA."

6. A SEPTEMBER 7 ARTICLE ENTITLED "RADIOS AGAINST RADIOS" RECOUNTED HOW THE FAMILY OF THE LATE RWANDAN PRESIDENT HABYARYAMANA, WHO NOW LIVE IN PARIS, DENY THAT "RADIO-TELEVISION DES TROIS MILLE COLLINES" (RTL) IS BROADCASTING INCITEMENTS TO HATE AND MURDER, BUT NOTE THAT DEFENDERS OF RTL ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN. A SISTER STATION, "RUTOMORANGINGO," IS BROADCASTING FROM BURUNDI. THE ARTICLE NOTES THAT "SOME AMERICAN DIPLOMATS" WERE STRUCK THAT THERE WERE NO MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST RTL BY THE FRENCH IN THE COURSE OF

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OPERATION TURQUOISE. THREE NEW BELGIAN AND FRENCH "HUMANITARIAN" RADIO STATIONS ARE NOW SEEKING SUITABLE FREQUENCIES.

7. ALSO IN THE SEPTEMBER 7 ISSUE, "LE MONDE" REPORTED THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN KIGALI WOULD CREATE A NEW CURRENCY TO CUT OFF THE FUNDS OF HUTU EXTREMISTS WHO RAN OFF WITH 15 BILLION RWANDAN FRANCS WHEN THE OLD REGIME FELL.

8. "LIBERATION" ON SEPTEMBER 8 REFERRED TO A HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH REPORT OF KILLINGS OF PERSONS ACCUSED OF GENOCIDE BY RPF SOLDIERS, DESPITE PAUL KAGAME'S APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC TO END THE DENUNCIATIONS.

9. "LIBERATION" ON SEPTEMBER 9 RAN AN ARTICLE ON FORMER FAR SOLDIERS IN ZAIRIAN REFUGEE CAMPS RUMORED TO BE ARMING THEMSELVES TO FIGHT THE FPR. THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE IN RWANDA, SHAHRYAR KHAN, WAS QUOTED AS BEING WORRIED ABOUT GUERRILLA TACTICS AND SABOTAGE PRACTICED BY THE MILITIAS IN THE FORMER FRENCH HUMANITARIAN ZONE. OTHER FRENCH AND ZAIRIAN OFFICIALS QUOTED IN THE ARTICLE DISMISSED FEARS OF THE FAR REARMING ITSELF, SAYING THAT IT HAS NO MORE ARMS AND THAT ITS MEMBERS' ONLY CONCERN IS TO SURVIVE. FAR MILITARY LEADERS WARNED THAT UNLESS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RPF MOVED FAST ENOUGH, THE FAR WOULD NOT HESITATE TO RESORT TO ARMS.

NIGERIA

10. "LE FIGARO" ON SEPTEMBER 8 REPORTED THAT A SERIES OF DECREES APPEARED IN THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL GAZETTE GIVING THE MILITARY REGIME "ABSOLUTE POWER" IN ORDER TO PRESERVE ORDER AND PEACE IN THE COUNTRY.

SOUTH AFRICA

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/

11. "LE FIGARO" ON SEPTEMBER 7 REPORTED RISING TENSIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND COSATU, THE CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE UNIONS. ITS NEW LEADER, SAM SHILOWA, INDICATED THAT THE COSATU WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE ANC IN THE 1995 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS DESPITE FEARS THAT THE ANC-COSATU-COMMUNIST

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PARTY ALLIANCE WILL NOT SURVIVE. THE ARTICLE CITED THE DECISION OF THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY TO REDUCE THE TAX ON CAR IMPORTS BY 35 PERCENT AS THE MOST RECENT SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY. THE METALWORKERS' UNION JUST ENDED A FIVE WEEK STRIKE RESULTING IN A 10.5 PERCENT SALARY INCREASE, A RAISE UNPRECEDENTED IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTH AFRICA'S AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY. THIS EXAMPLE RISKS AGGRAVATING OTHER STRIKES THAT BEGAN THIS JULY AND WHICH HAVE ALREADY SPREAD TO ALL SECTORS.
HARRIMAN

ADMIN

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