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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(C), 1.5(D)

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-----31DD38 131055Z /38

R 131006Z MAY 92
FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2445
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
SECDEF WASHDC
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DEPT ALSO PASS AID
LONDON FOR MCKINLEY
PARIS FOR FENDRICK

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, KDEM, PREL, PHUM, ECON, MASS, MARR, UG, RW, SU, FR
SUBJECT: A/S COHEN'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MUSEVENI

REF: (A) KAMPALA 2470, (B) KAMPALA 2581
- (C) KAMPALA 2472
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN S. BLODGETT
DATE/CASE ID: 20 AUG 2002 199903052
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.6(5), 1.6(6)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 12 MAY 2017

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1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY

2. VISITING AF/AS COHEN MET WITH PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ON MAY 9. COHEN COMMENDED UGANDA FOR ITS PROGRESS IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AND ENCOURAGED THE PRESIDENT TO DO MORE. COHEN TOUCHED BRIEFLY ON RECENT PROBLEMS IN THE ECONOMIC SITUATION; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] /COHEN SAID THAT WE WOULD BE WILLING TO DO SO, IF ASKED BY ALL THE PARTIES, ALTHOUGH WE WOULD PREFER MUSEVENI'S ALTERNATE SUGGESTION OF THE EC. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
COHEN SAID WE WOULD CONSIDER HELPING WHEN THE THREAT WAS REAL; IN THE MEANTIME WE WOULD PROVIDE HIM INFORMATION ABOUT THE REAL SIZE AND CAPABILITY OF THE [REDACTED] END SUMMARY.

3. A/S COHEN, IN KAMPALA FOR THE GLOBAL COALITION ON AFRICA'S (GCA) SECOND ADVISORY MEETING, MET WITH PRESIDENT MUSEVENI FOR ABOUT AN HOUR AND A HALF ON MAY 9. AID/ACTING ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA JOHN HICKS, AMBASSADOR CARSON AND THE DCM ACCOMPANIED COHEN; FOREIGN MINISTER SSEMOGERERE, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DIDI, MFA PERMANENT SECRETARY ODOI, AND MFA DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAS DIVISION KATSIGAZI WERE PRESENT ON THE UGANDAN SIDE.

GCA

4. FOR OPENERS, THE PRESIDENT ASKED COHEN HOW HE THOUGHT THE GCA MEETING WAS GOING; COHEN SAID HE THOUGHT IT WAS GOING WELL, NOTING THAT AT NO OTHER PLACE CAN DONORS AND AFRICANS TALK SO OPENLY AND FRANKLY ABOUT AFRICA'S PROBLEMS.

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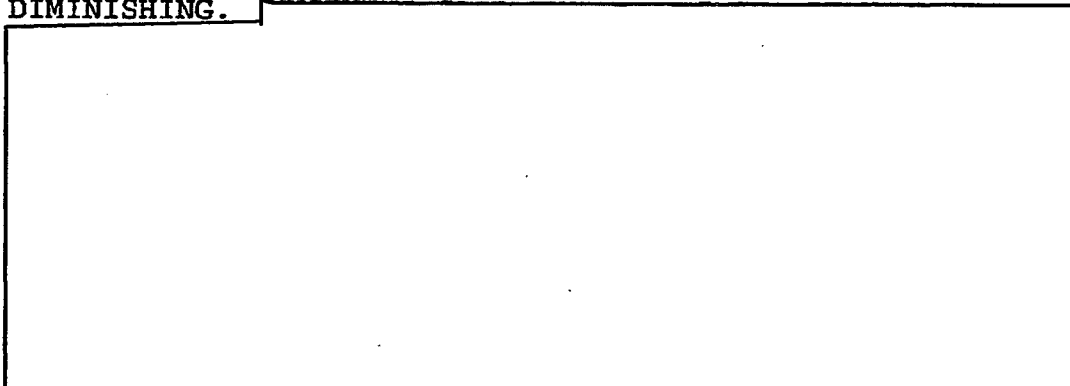
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HUMAN RIGHTS

5. COHEN BEGAN THE DISCUSSION BY NOTING THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN UGANDA WAS GOING WELL, AND CONGRATULATING MUSEVENI FOR GOING PERSONALLY TO THE
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NORTH TO OVERSEE THE ARMY'S RECENT COUNTERINSURGENCY ACTIVITIES. COHEN SAID IT LOOKED LIKE THINGS WERE IMPROVING, AND THE GUERRILLA PROBLEM WAS DIMINISHING.



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AMEMBASSY KIGALI
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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[REDACTED]

6. COHEN ASKED IF THE VILLAGERS ARE FRIENDLY TO THE
GUERRILLAS. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

8. COHEN SAID THAT THERE WAS A CLEAR IMPROVEMENT IN UGANDA'S HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE, BUT ASKED ABOUT THE 480 DAY PERIOD WHERE PEOPLE CHARGED WITH A CAPITAL OFFENSE CAN BE HELD WITHOUT BEING ELIGIBLE FOR BAIL. MUSEVENI SAID THE LAW WAS A CARRY-OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS REGIME, ADDING THAT "WE'RE GOING TO CHANGE THIS -- NINE MONTHS SEEMS ABOUT RIGHT."

ECONOMICS

9. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, COHEN SAID THAT UGANDA HAD BEEN SLIPPING, BUT THAT STEPS HAD RECENTLY BEEN TAKEN TO GET THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.

[REDACTED]

HE SAID DROUGHT HAD ALSO BEEN A PROBLEM. IN AN ASIDE ON IRRIGATION, MUSEVENI SAID THAT MR. JAYCOX OF THE WORLD BANK HAD PROMISED TO SEND AN IRRIGATION EXPERT TO UGANDA.

THE MILITARY

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10. COHEN ASKED WHETHER, NOW THAT THE INSURGENCY IS OVER, THE ARMY WOULD BE REDUCED. MUSEVENI SAID, YES, AND THAT THE WORLD BANK IS HELPING WITH THE DEMOBILIZATION. HE SAID THE GOAL IS TO GET RID OF

[REDACTED]

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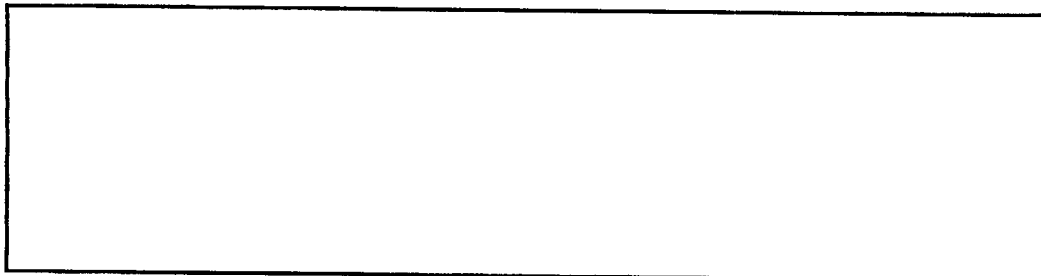
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FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2447
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
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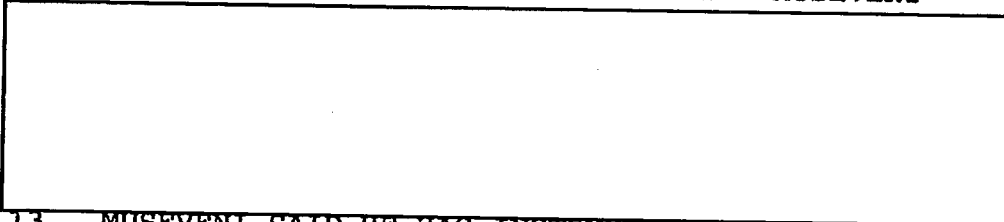
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DEMOCRACY

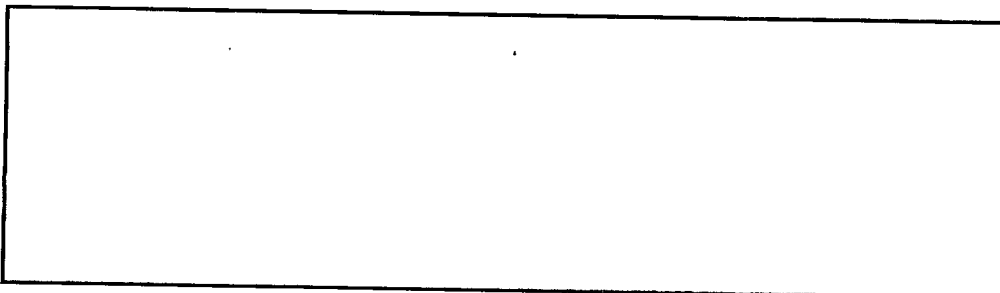
12. THE AMBASSADOR SAID THERE WAS SOME CONCERN IN THE U.S. AND AMONG OTHER WESTER/ DONORS WITH RESPECT TO THE TIMING OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION. MUSEVENI SAID THE PROBLEM IS "LOGISTICS," BUT THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO PROVIDE THE SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE NEEDS. HE SAID ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, HE IS MAKING MOVES TO HAVE AN ELECTED CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, AS OPPOSED TO THE ORIGINAL IDEA OF HAVING THE ARMY COUNCIL AND THE PRESENT NATIONAL RESISTANCE COUNCIL (NRC, MANY OF THE MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE APPOINTED) BE THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY. MUSEVENI



13. MUSEVENI SAID HE HAS INSTRUCTED HIS TREASURY TO GET MONEY TO HELP THE COMMISSION, BUT WOULD
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APPRECIATE ANYTHING THE U.S. COULD DO. THE
AMBASSADOR SAID THAT 116(E) FUNDS MIGHT BE AVAILABLE,
AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY.



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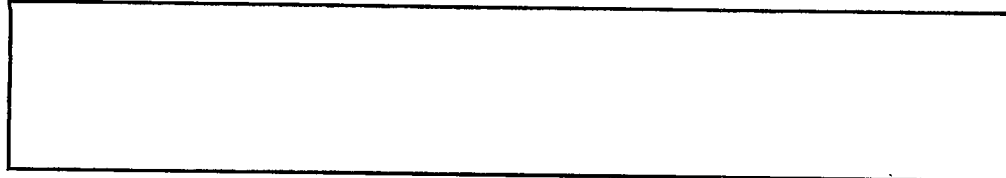
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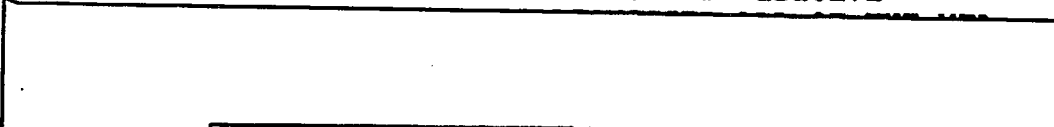
15. COHEN NOTED THAT STABILITY IN AFRICA COMES WHEN PEOPLE FEEL THEY HAVE SOME POWER AND REPRESENTATION, AND THAT PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION SYSTEMS SEEM TO WORK BETTER THAN THE BRITISH "WINNER TAKE ALL." MUSEVENI CONCLUDED THE DISCUSSION BY SAYING THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCESS UGANDA WAS GOING THROUGH WAS A VERY GOOD ONE; THAT "ALL PEOPLE" WERE REPRESENTED (IN THE OPINIONS PRESENTED TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION).

RWANDA

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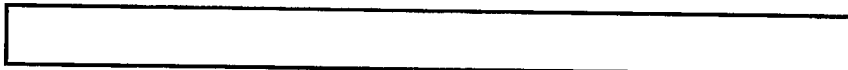
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HE SAID IN 1990, INTERESTED STATES HELD FIVE MEETINGS AND AGREED UPON THREE GOALS: A CEASE FIRE, THE RIGHT OF REFUGEES TO RETURN, AND A DIALOGUE. "NOTHING HAPPENED. HABYARIMANA IGNORES US." MUSEVENI SAID UGANDA HAS ONE MILLION "IMMIGRANTS" FROM RWANDA WHO ARE NOT INTERESTED IN RETURNING; UGANDA IS THINKING OF NATURALIZING THEM. IT ALSO HAS 250,000 REFUGEES, WHO ARE "ACTIVE."

17.



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R 131006Z MAY 92
FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2448
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
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[REDACTED] HE
THOUGHT A NEUTRAL NEGOTIATOR COULD BE EITHER THE
"WIDER" EC OR THE U.S. -- NEITHER IS PART OF THE OLD
PROBLEM.

18. COHEN SAID THAT HE APPRECIATES WHAT MUSEVENI HAS
DONE SO FAR. HE (COHEN) HAD ASKED THE AMBASSADOR TO
TALK WITH MUSEVENI ABOUT INFLUENCING THE RPF (REFTEL
A). WHEN COHEN SPOKE WITH THE RPF (REFTEL B), THEY
TOLD HIM THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN A NEW ROUND OF

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NEGOTIATIONS IN FRANCE. COHEN SAID HE WILL TALK WITH HABYARIMANA IN KIGALI AND URGE HIM TO PARTICIPATE.

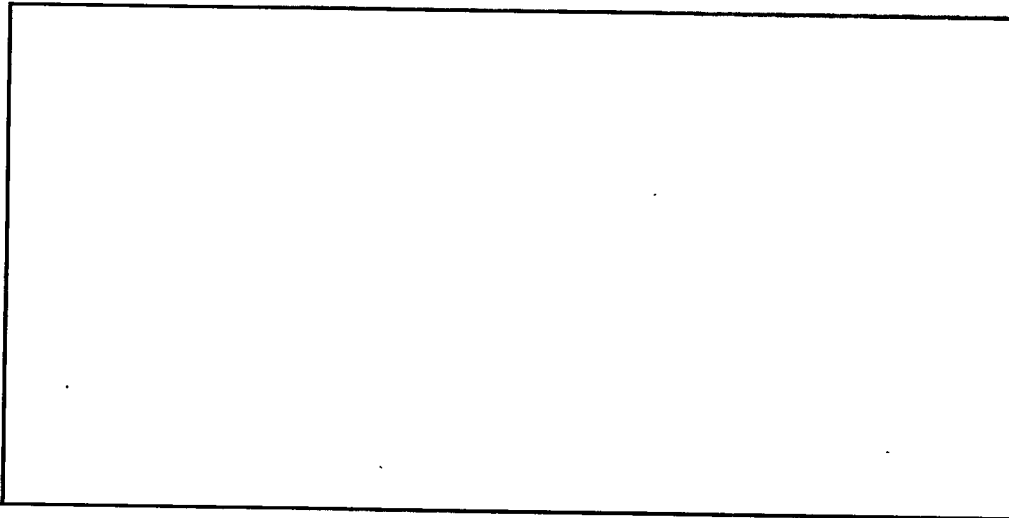
19. COHEN SAID THE THREE GOALS (PARA 17) ARE STILL GOOD, AND THE NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT IN RWANDA IS GOOD. WITH RESPECT TO "EXPANDING THE NEGOTIATORS," THE QUESTION IS DELICATE BECAUSE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FRENCH. WE WOULD BE WILLING TO DO IT "IF ALL SIDES ASK," BUT WE LIKE THE EC IDEA BETTER. MUSEVENI SAID "I AM ASKING; THAT'S ONE."

SUDAN

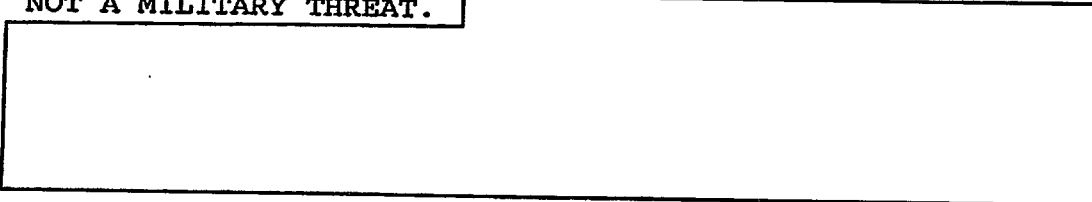
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21. COHEN SAID THAT THE U.S. SHARES MUSEVENI'S CONCERN ABOUT SUDAN, WHOSE GOAL IS TO ISLAMICIZE/ARABIZE THE SOUTH. BUT THE U.S. CONGRESS SAYS AFRICA NEEDS DEVELOPMENT, NOT ARMS; BEFORE THE U.S. WILL DELIVER LETHAL WEAPONS, THE THREAT MUST BE CLEAR. WHEN THERE IS A REAL THREAT, THE U.S. REACTS, E.G., IN CHAD. SUDAN AT THIS POINT IS A POLITICAL, NOT A MILITARY THREAT.



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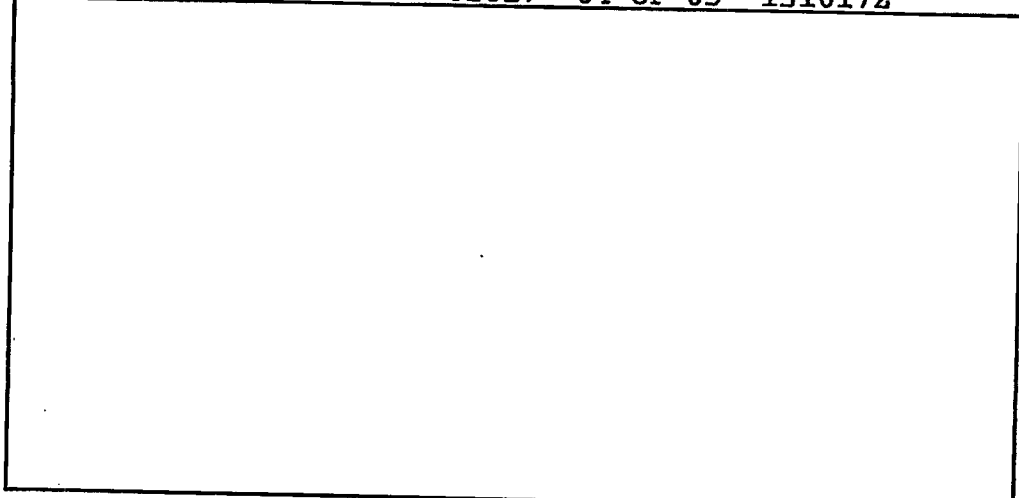
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24. A/S COHEN CLEARED ON THIS CABLE.

CARSON

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