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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL MOPS FR RW
SUBJECT: A/S MOOSE MEETS WITH RWANDAN PM-DESIGNATE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY. IN A MEETING WITH A/S MOOSE ON JUNE 17, VISITING RWANDAN PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU SAID HE DID NOT FORESEE A MILITARY SOLUTION TO RWANDA'S PROBLEMS; RATHER, THE SOLUTION WAS TO INSTALL

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES L DARIS
DATE/CASE ID: 25 NOV 2003 200300026

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A BROAD-BASED TRANSITION GOVERNMENT, AS ENVISIONED IN THE ARUSHA ACCORD. CITING FRANCE'S HISTORY IN RWANDA, HE EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT THE FRENCH INTERVENTION PROPOSAL. A/S MOOSE AGREED WITH TWAGIRAMUNGU'S POLITICAL ANALYSIS AND EXPLAINED THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTED THE FRENCH PROPOSAL BECAUSE IT OFFERED A QUICK MEANS TO HELP PROTECT CIVILIANS UNTIL EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCES ARRIVE. END SUMMARY

3. TWAGIRAMUNGU WAS ON A BRIEF VISIT TO THE U.S. AND WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MARC RUGENERA, FINANCE MINISTER IN THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT AND MEMBER OF ONE OF THE HUTU OPPOSITION PARTIES, THE PSD, AND JEAN-MARIE VINNEY NDAGIJIMANA, RWANDA'S AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, WHO IS NO LONGER ACCEPTED BY THE NEW INTERIM GOVERNMENT. DAS BUSHNELL, AF/C DIRECTOR RENDER AND DESKOFF AISTON ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING.

MILITARY SOLUTION REJECTED

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4. TWAGIRAMUNGU SAID HE REPRESENTED DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN RWANDA

HE ASKED FOR U.S.

SUPPORT FOR THE "SILENT MAJORITY" IN RWANDA, WHICH HE AND THE OTHER OPPOSITION LEADERS REPRESENTED.

5. HE AND HIS SUPPORTERS AND COLLEAGUES DO NOT FORESEE A MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE CURRENT CONFLICT. THEY SEE A NEED FOR CONFIDENCE BUILDING AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND WANT THE U.S. TO HELP RWANDANS INSTALL A BROAD-BASED TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT, AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE ARUSHA ACCORD.

6. TWAGIRAMUNGU OUTLINED THREE ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS FOR RESOLVING THE CRISIS AND REJECTED ALL THREE. FIRST, A VICTORY BY THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT FORCES WAS UNACCEPTABLE.

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[REDACTED]
THIRD, HE REJECTED DIVISION OF THE COUNTRY, SAYING IT WOULD NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM AND WOULD LEAD TO GUERRILLA WARFARE.

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7. A/S MOOSE AGREED WITH TWAGIRAMUNGU'S ANALYSIS. HE ASSURED HIM THAT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING ANYTHING THAT WOULD KEEP THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT IN PLACE. WE
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SUPPORTED THE UNHRC SPECIAL SESSION AND SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR, WANTED TO SEE FULL ACCOUNTABILITY, AND AGREED THAT THOSE INVOLVED IN THE MASSACRES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

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[REDACTED]
CONCERNS ABOUT FRENCH PROPOSAL

8. TWAGIRAMUNGU SAID [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] OBJECTED TO THE FRENCH PROPOSAL, SAYING IT CAME TOO LATE [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] IF THE FRENCH WANT TO HELP, TWAGIRAMUNGU SUGGESTED THEY DO WHAT THE U.S. IS DOING -- PROVIDE LOGISTICS AND EQUIPMENT TO SPEED UP DEPLOYMENT OF THE AFRICAN CONTINGENTS OF EXPANDED UNAMIR.

9. A/S MOOSE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD TWAGIRAMUNGU'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE FRENCH PROPOSAL, BUT HOPED HE WOULD WITHHOLD JUDGMENT UNTIL PLANS AND CONSULTATIONS ARE COMPLETED. HE EXPLAINED TO THE PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE THAT THE INITIATIVE WOULD BE AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT UNDER UN AUSPICES WITH THE SAME MISSION AS EXPANDED UNAMIR -- TO HELP PROTECT CIVILIAN POPULATIONS. THERE WAS AN URGENT NEED FOR A HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION TO STOP THE KILLINGS, AND THE FRENCH PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW THAT EFFORT TO START RIGHT AWAY, PENDING ARRIVAL OF EXPANDED UNAMIR. FOR THIS REASON, WE SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL, BUT WANT TO SEE
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THE OPERATION HAVE UN BLESSING AND BROAD PARTICIPATION. THE MISSION HAD TO BE CLEARLY EXPLAINED TO THE RPF AND RWANDA'S NEIGHBORS AND THEIR APPROVAL SOUGHT. THE MISSION CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO HAVE THE EFFECT OF PROTECTING THOSE INVOLVED IN THE KILLINGS. TWAGIRAMUNGU RESPONDED THAT IF THE OPERATION WERE IN FACT UNDER UN AUSPICES RATHER THAN UNILATERAL FRENCH INTERVENTION, HIS CONCERNS WOULD BE ASSUAGED. (NOTE: PRESS REPORTS THIS WEEK QUOTE TWAGIRAMUNGU AS STILL OPPOSED TO THE FRENCH PROPOSAL.)

IS RECONCILIATION POSSIBLE?

10. DAS BUSHNELL ASKED HOW RWANDANS COULD ACHIEVE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AFTER ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED. TWAGIRAMUNGU REPLIED THAT SECURITY MEASURES WOULD HAVE TO BE PUT IN PLACE AND SUGGESTED THAT AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE MIGHT ASSURE THE NECESSARY SECURITY. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING TO JUSTICE THOSE WHO PLANNED AND INCITED THE KILLINGS. HE SAW THE LEADERS OF THE VIOLENCE AS THE REAL CRIMINALS, NOT THE UNEMPLOYED YOUTH WHOM THEY INCITED AND USED TO DO MUCH OF THE KILLING. HE BELIEVED THAT SOME INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL WOULD BE NECESSARY.

11. BUJUMBURA - MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
CHRISTOPHER

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