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ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX077 MCN = 94202/21253 TOR = 942021606
PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS7958 2021604-UUUU--RUEALGX.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

P 211604Z JUL 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//

RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CARA//

RUQYSDG/FOSIF ROTA SP

RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//

RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA

RUFGAID/USCINCEUR INTEL VAIHINGEN GE

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUEALGX/SAFE

P 211537Z JUL 94

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8126

INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 4711

RUCNANC/FRANCOPHONE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 5701

RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 6714

RUEIBS/AMEMBASSY ASMARA 0256

RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 6675

RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 3076

RUEHSB/AMEMBASSY HARARE 3404

RUTAKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 3096

RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0469

RUEHOS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 5425

RUEHLG/AMEMBASSY LILONGWE 3410

RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON 0671

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 8511

RUDKLD/AMEMBASSY LUANDA 0470

RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 0854

RUEHRU/AMEMBASSY MASERU 1229

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

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RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0013
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0532
RUEHMG/USLO MOGADISHU 0502
RUEHTN/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN 2244
RUEHBG/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG 2256
RUTAKD/AMCONSUL KADUNA 2395
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEHFSI/DIR FSINFATC
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19915
FSI PLEASE PASS TO HANNA BALDWIN
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
- JULY 9-15, 1994: RWANDA

1. SUMMARY. FRENCH MEDIA COVERAGE AND EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS WAS DOMINATED BY RWANDA THIS WEEK. COVERAGE FOCUSED ON RWANDAN REFUGEES OVERWHELMING ZAIRE BORDER POSTS, ON FRANCE'S ANNOUNCEMENT IT WOULD WITHDRAW 300 FRENCH TROOPS BY THE END OF THE MONTH, AND ON ITS PLEA FOR UN REPLACEMENTS.
END SUMMARY.
BALLADUR'S SPEECH

2. MOST MAJOR FRENCH DAILIES JULY 12 LED THEIR FRONT PAGES WITH ARTICLES DETAILING PRIME MINISTER BALLADUR'S ADDRESS TO THE UN, UNDERLINING HIS APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR RELIEF FROM PEACEKEEPING DUTIES IN RWANDA. BALLADUR SAID THE HUMANITARIAN GOAL OF OPERATION TURQUOISE HAS LARGELY BEEN ATTAINED, GIVEN THAT NEARLY ONE MILLION REFUGEES ARE GATHERED UNDER THE PROTECTION OF FRENCH AND SENEGALESE FORCES AND THAT, AS A RESULT, A "CRISIS OF FAMINE AND FURTHER MASSACRES HAS BEEN AVERTED." AFTER THE SPEECH, BALLADUR TOLD FRENCH TV THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF

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PEACEKEEPING TROOPS FROM A NUMBER OF UN MEMBER-STATES.
3. ARTICLES ALSO HIGHLIGHTED BALLADUR'S REQUEST THAT WAR CRIMINALS BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL. "THE LEADERS OF THESE MASSACRES SHOULD ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR ACTIONS BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY," BALLADUR SAID, IN CALLING FOR "AN IMMEDIATE INQUEST" INTO THE "CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY" COMMITTED IN RWANDA.
HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS

4. FRENCH DAILIES ALSO FOCUSED ON THE DETERIORATING REFUGEE SITUATION. "LE FIGARO" ON JULY 10 CITED A JUST-RELEASED FAO STUDY PREDICTING THAT "THOUSANDS" RISK DEATH BY STARVATION IF URGENT FOOD AID DOES NOT ARRIVE SOON. "LIBERATION" THE SAME DAY REPORTED ON THE MASS EXODUS OF HUTUS FROM KIGALI TO GISENYI. "AFTER THE FALL OF THE CAPITAL, THE QPOPULATION OF THE NORTHEAST IS FLEEING THE ADVANCING TROOPS OF THE RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT," THE PAPER REPORTS. "ENTIRE FAMILIES ARE MOVING OUT. THOSE WHICH CAN'T ADVANCE ARE ABANDONED BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD."

5. AN ARTICLE IN "LIBERATION" JULY 12 REPORTED THAT 1,500 ELITE FRENCH SOLDIERS FROM OPERATION TURQUOISE RISK BECOMING OVERWHELMED BY A FLOOD OF REFUGEES, "BUT THE UNITED NATIONS IS IN NO HURRY TO EXTEND HELP, CONSCIOUS OF THE 'HUMANITARIAN TRAP.'" THE PARIS DAILY REPORTED JULY 15 THAT ZAIRE HAS BECOME OVERWHELMED WITH

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

HUTU REFUGEES FLEEING THE TUTSI-DOMINATED RPF FORCE. MORE THAN 900,000 REFUGEES HAVE ALREADY SWAMPED REFUGEE CAMPS, AND MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION COULD BE PROCESSED BY NEXT WEEK. THE PAPER SAID NGO'S HAVE NEITHER THE RESOURCES NOR THE MANPOWER TO DEAL WITH THE ONSLAUGHT.

6. AN ARTICLE IN "LIBERATION" PUBLISHED JULY 13 DETAILED HOW RELATIVES OF THE LATE RWANDAN PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABYARIMANA WERE DENIED VISAS BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. PARIS REFUSED VISAS TO 15 KIN OF THE SLAIN LEADER, OFFICIALLY CITING IMMIGRATION LIMITS. THE PAPER SPECULATED THAT THE REAL REASON WAS THE FAMILY'S INVOLVEMENT IN RWANDA'S BLOODSHED.
EDITORIAL COMMENTARY

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7. EDITORIAL COMMENTARY IN THE FRENCH PRESS WAS LIVELY. A FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL JULY 12 IN "LE FIGARO" STATED: "THE FRENCH PRIME MINISTER WENT TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC TO SOUND AN ALARM ... WE ARE ALONE IN RWANDA, AND WE ARE ASKING TO BE RELIEVED, AND NOT AT ANY OLD TIME -- BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH. ... FRANCE HAS GOTTEN ITSELF, FREE OF CHARGE, INTO A TRAP. ITS ARMED FORCES HAVE CREATED THE FAMOUS SECURITY TRIANGLE INTO WHICH HAVE CROWDED, LIKE IN A FUNNEL, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF OUTCASTS. THEY ARE SAFE, BUT WHO IS GOING TO FEED THEM? TAKE CARE OF THEM? NOT US. SO, WHOSE TURN IS IT?"

8. A JULY 12 EDITORIAL IN "FRANCE SOIR" READ: "IF THE GREAT NATIONS DO NOT GET INVOLVED IN A SIGNIFICANT WAY, BY SENDING MEN AND MATERIEL TO A UN CONTINGENT ON THE GROUND, THEN EVERYONE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT RWANDA HAS BEEN ABANDONED TO ITS TRAGIC END." "NICE MATIN" ON JULY 11 WEIGHED IN WITH AN EDITORIAL, COMMENTING: "IN THIS RWANDAN AFFAIR, IN THIS FRANCOPHONE AFRICA WHERE IT EXERCISES CONTROL, FRANCE COULD EXPERIENCE ITS FIRST AND VERY SEVERE REVERSAL ... IT'S NOW A CASE OF RETREATING IN GOOD ORDER AND TO REDUCE, AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT TRULY CONSTITUTES THE FIRST FAILURE OF FRANCE'S AFRICAN POLICY." MINIMIZED CONSIDERED

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