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RWANDA



UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL
MEMORANDUM
199 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

April 28, 1994

TO: — Ambassador Albright
THRU: Ambassador Walker
FROM: POL - John S. Boardman
SUBJECT: Security Council Informals on Rwanda, Thursday, April 28, 3:30 pm

The Department and Interagency Core Group have been examining things the USG can do to help in Rwanda, particularly on the humanitarian side. They are also considering whether an arms embargo resolution would be helpful, but have not yet made a firm decision. They want to encourage cross-border assistance to refugees who are concentrated on the borders with Zaire, Uganda, Tanzania and Burundi. **They are getting to the point where they acknowledge that the government forces have been the major perpetrators of the slaughter.** Department officials have already told Rwandan "officials" that they must instruct the army and militias to stop killing civilians.

TALKING POINTS:

-- My government continues to be appalled by the level of violence and brutality that persists in Rwanda. We are examining various possibilities for lessening the agony in Rwanda.

-- One possibility that we have heard suggested by human rights groups is a Security Council-mandated arms embargo. **We have heard allegations that the Rwandan army is actively seeking to buy arms at the moment. We have not yet finalized our position on this idea, and would be very eager to hear the opinions of other Council members of whether an embargo might be helpful.**

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- Another step to take might be for the Council to call upon Rwandan military authorities to instruct their troops and militias immediately to stop killing civilians. This would go beyond, and be in addition to, reiterating the Council's call for a ceasefire.
- We might also encourage neighboring states to do whatever possible to facilitate cross-border feeding and relief efforts.
- These last two points could be either included in the President's remarks to the press, or in the next Presidential statement that the Council issues.

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