

UNCLASSIFIED

K Walker #2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

Date: 11/29/96

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

TO: Ambassador Albright

THROUGH: Ambassador Walker

FROM: POL - Robert T. Grey

SUBJECT: March 4 Perm Five meeting on Rwanda

SUMMARY:

The French have circulated a draft resolution which would establish a buffer force between Rwandan government and patriotic front (RPF) forces before receiving a report from the Secretary General recommending or describing such a force.

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are not ready to set the precedent of establishing a new peacekeeping force without any report from the Secretary General.

we
Release this portion

BACKGROUND:

The USG is not opposed to either a neutral buffer force or a neutral border force, IF that is acceptable to all parties, including the RPF.

The Secretary General has sent a goodwill mission to Rwanda to look into the possibilities for establishing a border force. This mission could expand its investigations to also examine the possibility of establishing a buffer force.

-- It would be a departure from precedent to set up a new peacekeeping force without a report from the SYG. We expect the Russians to object to proceeding without a report.

X
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The OAU is already involved in Rwanda. They have brokered talks between the GOR and the RPF in Arusha, Tanzania, and have provided 50 ceasefire observers. More talks are scheduled for this weekend in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The GOR and the French believe the OAU is not neutral, but is supportive of the RPF.

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DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Classify as () Extend as (C) Downgrade to
Date 2/11/97 Declassify on 30413 Reason X6

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| ARP Action Cert. | <i>fwl</i> |
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-- The USG wants to keep the OAU involved in peacekeeping whenever and wherever possible. We do not oppose a UN force, but want it to work in conjunction with, not to replace, the OAU.

-- The SYG should consult with the OAU, as well as the Tanzanians, to get their input.

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B1

o With some fixes [] we could go along with a resolution on Rwanda. B1

-- A marked-up copy of the French draft is attached in case the Five go into paragraph-by-paragraph discussion of the resolution.

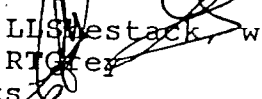
POINTS TO BE MADE:

- We share French concerns about the urgency of addressing the humanitarian problem in Rwanda.
- However, we would like to have a report from the Secretary General indicating the need for a buffer force, and spelling out the projected size and responsibilities of such a force, before the Council establishes another peacekeeping operation.
- Such a report should be based on the findings of the mission currently in Rwanda, the results of the meeting to be held this weekend in Dar es Salaam, and input from the OAU and concerned countries in the region.
- The Council could specify in its resolution that this report be submitted two weeks from the date the mission left New York, namely March 16.

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- The French draft is an excellent starting point. We would suggest, however, combining operative paragraphs 2 and 3, and deleting the reference to establishment of a force. Our amended paragraph 2 would read as follows:
 - Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the Council a report by March 16 containing recommendations for the possible deployment of a United Nations monitoring force to act in conjunction with OAU forces in the buffer zone between the forces of the Rwandan government and those of the RPF, under conditions agreed upon by the parties, in order to monitor the implementation of the cease-fire and to contribute to the protection of the civilian populations;
- We appreciate the French offer to supply troops to a buffer force, but wish to point out that all parties, including the RPF, should be consulted regarding the composition of both the buffer and border forces. We would hope that at least some troops would be contributed by African nations.
- We envision UN involvement in conjunction with, rather than as a replacement for, OAU involvement.


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cleared:POL:RTG
cc:Amb. Hicks
dist:POL(3), chron, subj, ref, DEttinger(3)

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The following 3 pages have been deleted
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