## CONFIDENTIAL



## REVIEW OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2415
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L KIGALI 004217

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/20/03 TAGS: MASS, PREL, PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA

**REF: STATE 172567** 

- 1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY DCM NESBITT FOR REASONS 1.5 (B&D)
- 2. (C) EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT MILITARY ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES/VISITS PLANNED FOR RWANDA OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WILL RE REVIEWED AT A SEPT. 22 MEETING AND THAT THE PURPOSE IS TAKE A COMPREHENSIVE, RATHER THAN PIECEMEAL, APPROACH TO THE ISSUE. WE OFFER OUR VIEWS ON HOW THE ISSUE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED. WE PROCEED FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE ISSUE IS NOT WHETHER TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE, BUT WHICH ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE RETAINED.
- 3. (C) THERE IS LEGITIMATE CONCERN THAT U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE NOT BE PERCEIVED AS SUPPORTING, ENCOURAGING, OR OTHERWISE AIDING ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE RWANDAN ARMY THAT CONTRADICT USG POLICY GOALS. IN VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN DROC, EMBASSY AGREES THERE IS A NEED TO MINIMIZE ACTIVITIES THAT COULD BE MISCONSTRUED AS U.S. COMPLICITY IN RWANDA'S MILITARY ACTIVITY IN CONGO OR SUPPORT FOR A MILITARY SOLUTION. WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN SOME STEPS TO THIS END: WE CUT SHORT THE JCET TRAINING PROGRAM THAT WAS UNDERWAY WHEN THE CONFLICT IN CONGO BROKE OUT, AND THE MILITARY ASSESSMENT TEAM (RIAT) WAS RECALLED. GENERAL CLARK'S VISIT HAS NOW BEEN CANCELLED. WE WOULD AGREE TO CANCELLATION OF OTHER HIGH-LEVEL VISITS, SUCH AS THE ONE PLANNED BY GENERAL HUGHES FOR LATER THIS YEAR. WE WOULD ALSO AGREE THAT JCET TRAINING DIRECTED AT THE INFANTRY SHOULD BE POSTPONED FOR NOW.
- 4. (C) EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS CONTINUATION OF ALL IMET-E PROGRAMS. TRAINING FOR SELECTED INDIVIDUALS IN THE U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE BECAUSE THESE ACTIVITIES PAY THE GREATEST DIVIDENDS IN TERMS OF SHAPING THE WAY MILITARY LEADERS THINK AND HOW THEY APPROACH THEIR

  RESPONSIBILITIES. SPECIFIC ITEMS ALREADY PLANNED ARE:
   REMAINDER FY98:

1) MASTER DEGREE IN CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS AT THE NAVASCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1998.

2) MASTERS IN DEFENSE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT - AN 18 MONTH

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, (2) Release (, ) Excise ( ) Deny (4) Declassing Date 4/16/2002 Exemption

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PROGRAM SCHEDULED TO BEGIN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1998.

3) 2 SLOTS AT THE CIVIL-MILITARY STRATEGY FOR INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR.
-FY 99

IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PERFORMED BY THE DEFENSE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES (DILLS). A FOUR-WEEK INVESTIGATOR TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULED FOR FEB/MARCH 1999.

5. (C) AS THIS REVIEW TAKES PLACE, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT THE EXCELLENT ACCESS WE CURRENTLY ENJOY TO RPA LEADERS IS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE ASSISTANCE WE HAVE PROVIDED IN THE PAST AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE. WE SHOULD THINK LONG AND HARD ABOUT THE FUTURE IMPACT OF DECISIONS TAKEN NOW TO TERMINATE ANY OF OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

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