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| INFO | LOG-00 | AMAD-01 | CIAE-00 | C-01 | OASY-00 | DODE-00 | DOEE-00 |
| | EUR-01 | HA-09 | H-01 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | IO-19 | L-03 |
| | ADS-00 | NSAE-00 | NSCE-00 | OIC-02 | OMB-01 | PA-01 | PM-02 |
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APPROVED BY: AF/C: RCPORTER

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 FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY BONN
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 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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LILONGWE AND YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MOPS PREL MARR RW

SUBJECT: RWANDA: ATMOSPHERE AT ARUSHA TALKS DETERIORATES MARKEDLY

JOYCE LEADER PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING REPORT FROM ARUSHA.

1. THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE ARUSHA PEACE TALKS HAS DETERIORATED MARKEDLY SINCE THE REINTRODUCTION EARLY THIS

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WEEK OF THE FORCE PROPORTION ISSUE. THE RPF DELEGATION GAVE THE FACILITATOR'S REPRESENTATIVE, DEFENSE MINISTER KINANA, A RESOUNDING "NO" TO THE PROPOSAL TO BASE NEGOTIATIONS ON 35 - 40 PERCENT FOR THE RPF AT A CONSULTATION SESSION JUNE 3. AMBASSADOR MPUNGWE, BRIEFING OBSERVERS JUNE 4, SAID THE RPF CALLED THE PROPOSAL "UNACCEPTABLE" BUT HAD PUT FORWARD NO NEW SUGGESTIONS. APPARENTLY THE RPF MAINTAINS ITS EARLIER DEMAND THAT THE FINAL PERCENTAGES FOR THE TWO SIDES FALL IN THE 45 - 55 PERCENT RANGE. THEY CONTINUE TO INSIST THE SAME PROPORTION APPLY TO THE GENDARMERIE.

2. MPUNGWE REITERATED TANZANIA'S COMMITMENT TO ASSIST THE PEACE PROCESS, BUT SAID A REVIEW OF THE SITUATION IS UNDER WAY. PRESIDENT MWINYI HAS BEEN FULLY BRIEFED AND IS "DISAPPOINTED." MPUNGWE SAID THE RPF REJECTED THE PROPOSITION "WITH CONTEMPT AND ARROGANCE" THAT MADE THE TANZANIANS "UNCOMFORTABLE." HE REFERRED AGAIN TO POSSIBLE STALLING BY THE RPF TO BUY TIME "FOR OTHER THINGS," AND AGAIN QUESTIONED RPF COMMITMENT TO THE PEACE PROCESS.

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3. IN THE OBSERVER'S MEETING, THE UGANDAN OBSERVER CALLED THE FACILITATOR'S PROPOSAL "REASONABLE" AND ARGUED FOR MOUNTING AS MUCH PRESSURE AS POSSIBLE TO "BRING REALITY HOME TO THE RPF." HE SAID THERE IS NO REASON FOR THE RPF TO THROW AWAY WHAT IT HAS GAINED WHEN IT IS ALMOST ENTERING THE DOOR FOR GOVERNANCE. HIS POSITION WAS ENDORSED BY SENEGAL'S AMBASSADOR TO THE OAU (WHO HAS JUST RETURNED TO ARUSHA.) BELGIUM AND US OBSERVERS ENDORSED KEEPING THE TWO SIDES TALKING. THERE WAS NO FORMAL DISCUSSION OR DECISION ON THE "REASONABLENESS" OF THE FACILITATOR'S PROPOSAL.

4. THE RPF AGGRAVATED TENSIONS THE EVENING OF JUNE 3, AFTER THEIR PRELIMINARY REJECTION OF THE FORCE PROPORTION PROPOSAL, BY BOYCOTTING A RECEPTION OFFERED BY THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE OPENING OF TALKS ON REFUGEE RETURN. THE RPF TOLD MINISTER KINANA THEIR ABSENCE WAS A REFUSAL TO CELEBRATE A GOR "VICTORY" ON THE PROPORTION ISSUE--THE REAL REASON, THE RPF ALLEGED, FOR THE RECEPTION. THE TANZANIANS AND ALL OBSERVERS HAVE EXPRESSED ASTONISHMENT TO THE U.S. OBSERVER AT RPF BEHAVIOR. SOME, INCLUDING THE U.S., HAVE EXPRESSED SAME TO RPF.

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5. MEANWHILE, REFUGEE TALKS CONTINUED JUNE 3 IN A PLENARY SESSION WITH SPEECHES FROM BOTH SIDES, UNHCR, OAU, REFUGEE REPRESENTATIVES, AND U.S. OBSERVER. THE RPF DELEGATION HEAD MANAGED TO KEEP THE ATMOSPHERE CHARGED WITH TENSION IN HIS CONFRONTATIONAL INTERVENTIONS. THE TWO SIDES BEGAN FACE-TO-FACE SESSIONS ON REFUGEES JUNE 4 (TO BE REPORTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEPTTEL).

6. COMMENT: UNLESS THE TWO SIDES CAN BEGIN NEGOTIATING ON FORCE PROPORTIONS, THE YEAR-LONG PEACE PROCESS COULD COME TO AN ABRUPT, PREMATURE END. WE SHOULD IMPRESS ON BOTH THE RPF AND THE GOVERNMENT THAT THERE CAN BE NO SATISFACTORY MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE RWANDAN CONFLICT, THAT THEY SHOULD KEEP THE DIALOGUE GOING, AND NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH. BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE REMINDED THAT, LIKE THE TANZANIAN FACILITATOR, THE U.S. CANNOT/WILL NOT SUPPORT A RETURN TO WAR. THE RPF SHOULD BE URGED TO BE REASONABLE IN ITS DEMANDS AND REMINDED THAT IT HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED THE PRINCIPLE THAT OVERALL FORCE PROPORTIONS WOULD FAVOR THE GOVERNMENT WHILE DIFFERENT PROPORTIONS COULD BE NEGOTIATED FOR DIFFERENT LEVELS OF THE ARMY. END COMMENT.
CHRISTOPHER

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