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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5398

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR TAGS: PGOV, PINR, RW

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SUBJECT: GOR NAMES HIGH COMMAND MEMBERS

REF: KIGALI 4577

1. (U) THE 12/29 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMPLETED ITS CONSIDERATION OF MILITARY PROMOTIONS AND NAMED GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF THE JOINT GOR-RPF HIGH COMMANDS OF THB ARMY AND THE GENDARMERIE. TWO ARMY COLONELS WERE PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF MAJOR-GENERAL: COL. DEOGRATIAS NSABIMANA, CURRENT CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND COL. AUGUSTIN NDINDILIYIMANA, CURRENT CHIEF

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS DATE/CASE ID: 01 NOV 2007 200103014

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OF STAFF OF THE GENDARMERIE. NSABIMANA WILL RETAIN HIS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF POSITION. NDINDILIYIMANA WILL RETURN TO THE PRESIDENCY AS COUNSELOR FOR SECURITY AND DEFENSE, A POSITION HE HELD BEFORE HIS CURRENT POSITION.

2. (U) UNDER THE PEACE ACCORD THE GOVERNMENT IS TO FILL THE POSITIONS OF CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE GENDARMERIE, WITH THE RPF PROVIDING THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE GENDARMERIE. ARMY BRIGADE (4) AND DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMAND POSITIONS (4) AND GENDARMERIE BRIGADE COMMAND POSITIONS (12) ARE DIVIDBD 50-50 BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. THE GOR LINE-UP IS AS FOLLOWS:

ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF - MAJ-GEN. BEM DEOGRATIAS
-NSABIMANA
BRIGADE COMMANDER - COL. BEM AUGUSTIN BIZIMUNGU
BRIGADE COMMANDER - COL. BEM GATSINZI
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PAGE 03 KIGALI 04635 01 OF 02 301022Z DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMANDER - LT. COL. BEM ANTOINE -SEBAHIRE DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMANDER - LT. OL. BEM EDOUARD -GASARABWE

GBNDARMERIE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF - COL. LAURENT -RUTAYISIRE

BRIGADE COMMANDERS:

- -- LT. COL. INNOCENT BAVUGAMENSHI
- -- LT. COL. JEAN MARIE VIANNEY NZAPFAKUMUNSI
- -- MAJOR MUNYARUGERERO
- -- MAJOR JOSEPH NZABONIMPA
- -- MAJOR JEAN BAPTISTE NSANZIMFURA
- 3. (C) RPF LIAISON OFFICER LT. COL. KARAXE KARENZI STRONGLY HINTED TO CHARGE 12/29 THAT KAGAME, NOW MAJ-GENERAL, WILL PROBABLY BE NAMED TO FILL THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE ARMY SLOT, NOT/NOT HEAD OF THE GENDARMERIE AS EARLIER SUSPECTED (REFTEL). CONSEQUENTLY, HE PREDICTED THE GOR'S PROMOTION OF AT LEAST ONE PERSON IN THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES TO GENERAL IN ORDER TO HAVE SOMEONE OF HIGHER RANK THAM KAGAME AT THE HEAD OF THE ARMY.

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4. (C) COMMENT. THE GOR DECIDED EARLIER NOT TO PROMOTE ANYONE TO GENERAL. THIS AUTOMATICALLY EXTENDS RETIREMENT TO AGE 55 (INSTEAD OF AGE 50), THERE WERE TOO MAWY UNDESIREABLE CANDIDATES, AND, THE ARGUMENT WENT, RWANDA DOESN'T REALLY NEED A GENERAL. APPARENTLY THIS DECISION WAS REVISITED ONCE KAGAME'S RANK WAS AMNOUNCED. NDINDILIYIMANA HAS DONE A CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 04635 01 OF 02 301022Z COMMENDABLE JOB OF ENFORCING PROFESSIONALISM ON THE GENDARMERIE. HE COULD HAVE BEEN AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR HEAD OF THE ARMY, BUT SOURCES SUGGEST HE WAS NOT/NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE CHOICE OF NSABIMANA TO HEAD THE ARMY IS UNFORTUNATE. HE IS A HEAVY DRINKBR (WAS OUT MUCH OF THE YEAR AS A RESULT OF AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCHOHOL) AND IS ALLEGED TO HAVE MADE VERBAL DEATH THREATS AGAINST FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER JAMES GASANA.

5. COL. RUTAYISIRE, CURRENTLY HEAD OF EXTERNAL INTELLIGENCE AND FORMERLY HEAD OF INTERNAL INTELLIGENCE, IS A YOUNG (40), HIGHLY TRAINED GENDARME (FRANCE) WHO SERVED ON THE GOVERNMENT

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DELEGATION AT THE PEACE TALKS ON MILITARY ISSUES.
ALTHOUGH HE AROUSED RPF WRATH WHEN HE PLAYED A KIND
OF SHELL GAME WITH GENDARMERIE NUMBERS, HE SHOULD BE
ABLE TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP
WITH HIS RPF SUPERIOR. HE IS OFTEN ACCUSED IN TRACTS
AND LETTERS OF SCURULOUS ACTIVITIES (WHICH HE BRUSHES
OFF WITH DENIALS), SOMETIMES FOR BEING TOO CLOSE TO
THE PRESIDENT, SOMETIMES FOR SCHEMING AGAINST HIM.

T.EADER

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