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E.O. 12356: N/A TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - APRIL 7, 1994

1. BELOW IS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA/BURUNDI AND SOUTH AFRICA.

5. RWANDA/BURUNDI -- AF GUIDANCE

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Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT YESTERDAY'S CRASH NEAR KIGALI OF A PLANE CARRYING THE RWANDAN AND BURUNDI PRESIDENTS?

A: LAST NIGHT, THE PRIVATE PLANE OF RWANDAN PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABYARIMANA (JOO-VENAL HAB-EE-ARI-MANA) CRASHED ON APPROACH TO KIGALI (KI-GA-LEE) AIRPORT, KILLING THE RWANDAN PRESIDENT AND BURUNDI PRESIDENT CYPRIEN NTARYAMIRA (SIP-REE-EN N-TAR-I-AMEERA). THE TWO LEADERS WERE RETURNING FROM A ONE-DAY REGIONAL SUMMIT ON BURUNDI HELD EARLIER IN THE DAY IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA. PRESIDENT NTARYAMIRA REPORTEDLY DECIDED TO RETURN IN PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA'S PLANE AND SPEND THE NIGHT IN KIGALI.

Q. WAS THIS AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMP WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

WE DO NOT KNOW THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH. THERE ARE REPORTS THAT THE PLANE WAS FIRED ON AND SHOT DOWN, BUT THESE REPORTS HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.

Q. DO WE KNOW OF ANY OTHER CASUALTIES?

A: THE BURUNDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING (BERNARD CIZA) (CHEE-ZA) AND THE BURUNDI MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (CYRIAQUE SIMBIZI) (SIM-BEE-ZEE) WERE ALSO KILLED IN THE CRASH, ALONG WITH THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE RWANDAN ARMY, A RWANDAN PRESIDENTIAL AIDE AND THE CREW. THERE ARE NO

REPORTS OF SURVIVORS.

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PAGE 04 STATE 092110 080412Z Q. WHAT IS THE SECURITY SITUATION LIKE IN THE TWO COUNTRIES?

A: IN RWANDA, THERE IS GUNFIRE IN THE CAPITAL OF KIGALI. THERE ARE REPORTS OF COMMUNAL VIOLENCE IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. THE AIRPORT IN KIGALI IS CLOSED.

SOMETIME TODAY, ELEMENTS OF THE RWANDAN SECURITY FORCES EXECUTED THE CURRENT PRIME MINISTER, AGATHE UWILINGIYIMANA (OO-WILLINGI-YIMANA), AFTER SHE SOUGHT SHELTER IN A UNDP INSTALLATION. AT LEAST ONE OTHER MINISTER IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN MURDERED BY MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY, WHILE OTHER MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN TAKEN HOSTAGE.

IN BURUNDI, THE CAPITAL CITY BUJUMBURA REMAINED CALM THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND INTO TODAY. THERE ARE NO REPORTS OF VIOLENCE IN THE INTERIOR. THE AIRPORT IN BUJUMBURA IS OPEN.

Q. HAS CIVIL WAR RETURNED TO RWANDA?

A: THERE ARE REPORTS OF CLASHES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT FORCES AND THE REBEL PATRIOTIC FRONT BUT IT IS TOO EARLY TO ASSESS THE SITUATION.

Q. HOW MANY AMERICANS ARE IN EACH COUNTRY? WHAT ARE WE TELLING THEM AND ARE THEY SAFE?

A: THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 200 AMERICANS IN RWANDA AND ABOUT 180 IN BURUNDI, FEWER THAN HALF OF WHOM ARE OFFICIAL UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05STATE092110080412ZAMERICANS AND DEPENDENTS.TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL AMERICANSARE BELIEVED SAFE.BOTH EMBASSIES HAVE ACTIVATED THE

WARDEN SYSTEMS.

IN RWANDA, ALL AMERICANS HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO STAY AT HOME. THE EMBASSY IN KIGALI IS CLOSED. THERE IS AN EXISTING TRAVEL WARNING ASKING ALL AMERICANS TO DEFER TRAVEL TO RWANDA.

IN BURUNDI, AMERICANS WERE ADVISED TO STAY AT HOME LAST NIGHT. THE EMERGENCY ACTION COMMITTEE MET TODAY AND IS ADVISING RESIDENT AMERICANS TO EXERCISE CAUTION. THE EMBASSY IN BUJUMBURA IS OPEN.

Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE TWO PRESIDENTS?

A: RWANDA -- HABYARIMANA, AGE 57, CAME TO POWER IN RWANDA IN A MILITARY COUP IN 1973. AT THE BEGINNING OF 1994, HE WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OF THE BROAD-BASED TRANSITION GOVERNMENT PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE ARUSHA ACCORDS. THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REBEL RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT, IS TO LEAD THE COUNTRY TO MULTIPARTY ELECTIONS AT THE END OF A 22-MONTH TRANSITION PERIOD. THE TRANSITION PRIME MINISTER, CABINET, AND ASSEMBLY HAVE NOT YET BEEN SWORN IN.

BURUNDI -- NTARYAMIRA, AGE 39, WAS CHOSEN BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO FILL THE VACANCY LEFT BY THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT NDADAYE IN OCTOBER, 1993. NTARYAMIRA WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT IN FEBRUARY, 1994. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 092110 080412Z SERVED AS MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE IN THE NDADAYE ADMINISTRATION.

Q. WHO SUCCEEDS THE TWO LEADERS?

A: UNDER THE BURUNDI CONSTITUTION, THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ACTS AS INTERIM PRESIDENT UNTIL THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SELECTS A SUCCESSOR.

IN RWANDA, THE SUCCESSION IS NOT CLEAR. THE ARUSHA ACCORD PROVIDES THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRANSITION NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ASSUMES THE PRESIDENCY ON AN INTERIM BASIS. HOWEVER, THE ASSEMBLY HAS NOT YET BEEN INSTALLED.

Q. HOW MUCH AID DO WE PROVIDE TO THESE COUNTRIES?

A: IN BURUNDI, THE U.S. IS PROVIDING APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 18 MILLION IN EMERGENCY RELIEF TO REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED. U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO BURUNDI IS BUDGETED AT DOLLARS 8 MILLION FOR FY-94. WE SUPPORT

FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES AND MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CARE, PRIVATIZATION AND ENTERPRISE CREATION, AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. WE HAVE ALSO PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO THE

DEMOCRATIC REFORM PROCESS. WE SUSPENDED AID FOLLOWING THE COUP ATTEMPT BUT LIFTED THE AID SUSPENSION ON DECEMBER 10, 1993.

IN RWANDA, OUR FY-94 BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS DOLLARS 14.6 MILLION. OUR AID FOCUSES ON BUDGET REFORM, DEMOCRATIZATION, PROMOTION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, FAMILY UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 092110 0804122 PLANNING, AND AIDS PREVENTION. IN ADDITION, IN FY-93, WE PROVIDED OVER DOLLARS 35 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN AID TO PERSONS DISPLACED BY THE WAR. SOME 350,000 REMAIN DISPLACED, AND WE ESTIMATE THAT HUMANITARIAN AID WILL BE AT LEAST DOLLARS 10 MILLION IN FY-94.

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3. BURUNDI: (IO) -- IMPACT OF DEATHS OF TWO PRESIDENTS

Q. WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT OF THE DEATHS OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS ON THE PEACE PROCESS IN THOSE COUNTRIESJ ON UN OPERATIONS? UN PERSONNEL? WHAT ACTIONS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE UN?

A. IT IS TOO EARLY TO KNOW WHAT THE IMPACT OF THESE DEATHS WILL BE ON THE PEACE PROCESS OR ON UN OPERATIONS. WE ARE URGING ALL PARTIES IN BOTH COUNTRIES NOT TO LET THIS TRAGIC EVENT DERAIL THE PEACE EFFORTS, WHICH ARE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY THE VAST MAJORITY OF THEIR PEOPLES.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT, COLIN KEATING OF NEW ZEALAND, YESTERDAY ISSUED A STATEMENT OF CONCERN AND CONDOLENCES TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLE OF RWANDA AND BURUNDI. HE ADDED THAT THE UN WOULD REVIEW THE SITUATION OF UN PERSONNEL IMMEDIATELY TO ENSURE THEIR SAFETY.

4. BURUNDI: WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

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PAGE 08 STATE 092110 080412Z I WAS SHOCKED AND DEEPLY SADDENED TO LEARN OF THE TRAGIC DEATHS OF PRESIDENT JUVENAL HABYARIMANA OF RWANDA AND PRESIDENT CYPRIEN NTARYAMIRA OF BURUNDI LAST NIGHT IN A PLANE CRASH OUTSIDE KIGALI, RWANDA. THE TWO PRESIDENTS

WERE RETURNING FROM A REGIONAL SUMMIT IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA, INTENDED TO BRING AN END TO THE CIVIL WARS THAT HAVE PLAGUED THEIR TWO COUNTRIES FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES.

BOTH PRESIDENTS WERE SEEKING MEANS TO END THE BLOODSHED IN THEIR TROUBLED COUNTRIES AND FACILITATE A MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE AND DEMOCRACY. THEIR DEATHS ARE A TRAGIC BLOW TO THE LONG-SUFFERING RWANDAN AND BURUNDIAN PEOPLE.

I AM EQUALLY HORRIFIED THAT ELEMENTS OF THE RWANDAN SECURITY FORCES HAVE SOUGHT OUT AND MURDERED RWANDAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE PRIME MINISTER, AGATHE UWILINGIYIMANA.

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, I EXTEND MY CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE DECEASED PRESIDENTS AND THE PRIME MINISTER AS WELL AS TO THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO NATIONS.

I STRONGLY CONDEMN THESE ACTIONS AND I CALL ON ALL PARTIES TO CEASE ANY SUCH ACTIONS IMMEDIATELY. THESE TRAGEDIES MUST NOT DERAIL RWANDA AND BURUNDI FROM PURSUING NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND DEMOCRACY.

, -----5. SOUTH AFRICA: KISSINGER AND MEDIATION

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Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT REPORTS THAT HENRY KISSINGER HAS BEEN ASKED TO MEDIATE THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE ANC AND THE INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY?

A: WE UNDERSTAND THAT A JOINT COMMITTEE OF ANC AND INKATHA OFFICIALS NOMINATED SEVEN INDIVIDUALS TO HELP MEDIATE THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN THE ANC AND INKATHA. NELSON MANDELA AND CHIEF BUTHELEZI HAVE SENT LETTERS OF INVITATION TO THESE SEVEN PEOPLE. HENRY KISSINGER WAS AMONG THE SEVEN INVITED.

THE USG HAD NO ROLE IN THE SELECTION OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THE MEDIATION INITIATIVE. ANY AMERICANS PARTICIPATING WOULD BE ACTING IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY.

INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE INVITATION TO DR. KISSINGER SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO HIS OFFICE.

: DOES THE USG SUPPORT KISSINGER'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE MEDIATION?

A: WE HAVE SUPPORTED DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE MAJOR

NEGOTIATING PARTIES TO ADDRESS OUTSTANDING CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES. IF THEY ENDORSE A MEDIATION PROCESS, WE WOULD SUPPORT THAT AS WELL.

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