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INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	ARA-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00
	DOEE-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	JUSE-00	LAB-01	L-01	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OIC-02
	OIG-04	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00
	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	SA-01	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/048W	
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P 062336Z JUL 94
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7567
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
JOINT STAFF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
SECDEF WASHDC
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 002788

WHITEHOUSE PASS TO NSC FOR RICE AND STEINBERG;
JOINT STAFF FOR CHAIRMAN, DIR JS, J3;
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISA
PARIS FOR PERLOW

E.O.12356: N/A
TAGS: MARR, PREL, PHUM, MOPS, FR, RW, UN

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SUBJECT: RWANDA: FRENCH REASSURE SC ABOUT HUMANITARIAN ZONE

REF: A) USUN/DEPT FAX 7/5, B) USUN/DEPT FAX 7/6

1. SUMMARY: THE SECURITY COUNCIL JULY 6 DISCUSSED THE FRENCH PLAN TO ESTABLISH A HUMANITARIAN SAFE ZONE IN RWANDA, AS DESCRIBED IN FRENCH AMBASSADOR MERIMEE'S LETTER TO THE SYG OF JULY 1 (REF A). MANY STRESSED TO THE FRENCH THE NEED TO MAINTAIN STRICT NEUTRALITY AND DEMILITARIZATION WITHIN THE ZONE. THE COUNCIL IS RESPONDING TO THE SYG'S TRANSMITTAL OF THE FRENCH LETTER WITH AN EXTREMELY SHORT, NON-SUBSTANTIVE LETTER ACKNOWLEDGING RECEIPT. AMB GHAREKHAN WILL ORALLY BRIEF THE COUNCIL ON JULY 7, AS REQUIRED BY SC RESOLUTION 929, ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRENCH OPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. A REPORT FROM FRANCE ON OPERATION TURQUOISE, AS REQUIRED BY RESOLUTION 929, WAS CIRCULATED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS JULY 7 (REF B). IN ADDITION, AMB MERIMEE OF
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FRANCE BRIEFED THE COUNCIL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HUMANITARIAN ZONE IN SOUTHWESTERN RWANDA. MERIMEE EXPLAINED THE FRENCH HAD TO TAKE ACTION SWIFTLY IN THE FACE OF A MASSIVE EXODUS OF CIVILIANS FROM THE APPROACHING RPF. THE HUMANITARIAN SAFE ZONE WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER AUTHORIZATION OF PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 OF RESOLUTION 929, AND PARAGRAPH 4A OF RESOLUTION 925. THE ZONE EXTENDS FROM CYANGUGU DISTRICT TO GIKONGORO DISTRICT TO THE N'DABA PASS JUST NORTH OF KIBUYE. SOME 500,000 DISPLACED ARE IN THAT AREA. THE ZONE WILL NOT INCLUDE GISENYI, WHERE THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS.

3. MERIMEE STRESSED THAT THE USE OF FORCE WITHIN THE ZONE WAS COMPLETELY BANNED. THIS PROHIBITION COVERS THE GOR FORCES, THE RPF, AND THE MILITIAS. ALSO, THE ZONE MAY NOT BE USED AS A STAGING BASE FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS, OR A PLACE FOR TROOPS TO REST AND REGROUP. THE AREA WILL BE COMPLETELY NEUTRAL IN MILITARY TERMS, MERIMEE EMPHASIZED. SINCE THE ZONE WAS ESTABLISHED ON JULY 4, THE FRENCH TROOPS HAVE DISARMED SOME MILITIAS WHO TRIED TO HARM CIVILIANS. MERIMEE ASSURED THE COUNCIL THE FRENCH WOULD NOT BECOME AN INTERPOSITION FORCE. THEY WILL NOT AID THE GOR, WHOSE TROOPS ARE

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MAINLY IN THE NORTHWEST OF RWANDA, OUTSIDE OF THE ZONE.

4. MERIMEE TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT RPF LEADER GENERAL KAGAME AND UGANDAN PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WERE INFORMED OF THE PLANS TO SET UP THE ZONE, AND DID NOT OBJECT. FRANCE IS DISCUSSING THE MODALITIES OF THE ZONE WITH THE RPF. FRANCE IS NOT SEEKING A CONFRONTATION WITH THE

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RPF. IN FACT, MERIMEE NOTED, FRENCH RELATIONS WITH THE RPF WERE IMPROVING DAILY, WHILE THEY WERE DETERIORATING WITH THE GOR.

5. FRANCE APPEALED TO HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS TO BE MORE ACTIVE IN THE ZONE, AND INVITED THE SPECIAL RAPPOREUR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS TO VISIT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN TESTIMONY REGARDING WAR CRIMINALS. MERIMEE PLEDGED THAT FRANCE WOULD NOT GIVE PROTECTION TO THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR WAR CRIMES, AND WOULD COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIAL RAPPOREUR AND THE COMMISSION OF EXPERTS. IN CLOSING, HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR DONORS TO MAKE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR UNAMIR, SO IT COULD DEPLOY QUICKLY, BEFORE OPERATION TURQUOISE TIME LIMIT RAN OUT.

6. USUN AMBASSADOR INDERFURTH EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MERIMEE'S CLARIFICATIONS, ESPECIALLY ON THE POINTS OF NOT BECOMING AN INTERPOSITION FORCE AND AVOIDING CONFLICT WITH THE RPF. INDERFURTH UNDERScoreD THE HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE FRENCH MANDATE, THE NEED TO KEEP MILITARY ACTIVITIES OUT OF THE ZONE, AND KEEPING THE SIZE OF THE ZONE ONLY AS LARGE AS NECESSARY. MANY

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ZONE

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ECHOED CONCERNS ABOUT DEMILITARIZATION OF THE ZONE. THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH ABSTAINED ON RESOLUTION 929 (NIGERIA, BRAZIL, NEW ZEALAND, CHINA) MADE A POINT OF SAYING THE COUNCIL HAD NOT TAKEN ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE FRENCH ZONE, ALTHOUGH NO ONE VOICED ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO THE FRENCH MOVE. THEY, AND OTHERS, EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE FRENCH REMAIN STRICTLY NEUTRAL. SEVERAL ALSO NOTED THAT THE ZONE SEEMED RATHER LARGE, COVERING 15 OF RWANDA'S TERRITORY.

7. COUNCIL PRESIDENT (PAKISTAN) TOLD OF RPF DECLARATIONS THAT THEY WOULD NAME A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY, BASED ON THE ARUSHA FRAMEWORK, WITHIN A FEW DAYS. (COMMENT: RPF REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK SOUGHT A MEETING WITH AMB INDERFURTH JULY 5 TO CONVEY
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THE SAME MESSAGE. END COMMENT) U/SYG GHAREKHAN
INFORMED THE SC THAT THE RPF HAD TAKEN KIGALI, WHICH WAS NOT CALM- HOSTILE BROADCASTS AGAINST UNAMIR HAD STOPPED FOR THE PAST 24 HOURS. THE NEW SRSG, SHAHRYAR KHAN, HAD BEGUN DISCUSSIONS WITH RPF AND GOR LEADERS, AND TOURED KIGALI. KIGALI HAS NO WATER, ELECTRICITY, MARKETS, FOOD TO BUY, OR TRANSPORTATION. GHAREKHAN ALSO SAID UNAMIR HAD SET UP COORDINATING MECHANISMS WITH OPERATION TURQUOISE. FOUR MILITARY OBSERVERS WERE SENT FROM UNAMIR TO FRENCH HQ IN GOMA, ZAIRE. GENERAL DALLAIRE WOULD TRAVEL TO GOMA SOON FOR HIS SECOND MEETING WITH THE FRENCH FORCE COMMANDER.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED

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