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ACTION AF-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 C-01 OASY-00 DODE-00 DOEE-00 EUR-01
HA-09 H-01 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-01 PRS-01
P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 USIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5427

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 00034

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS: MAYBE JANUARY 5?

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REF: KIGALI 0032

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY. SOME TRANSITIONS INSTITUTIONS MAY BE INSTALLED JANUARY 5. THE PRESIDENT HAS AGREED TO TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE IN THE MORNING AND HAS AGREED TO SWEAR IN ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES IN THE AFTERNOON. THE PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE AND POLITICAL PARTIES LEADERS. INCLUDING THE RPF, WHO OBJECT TO THE LIST OF

LIBERAL PARTY (PL) DEPUTIES SUBMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT, ARE SCRAMBLING TO FIND FORMULAS THEY CAN LIVE WITH, GIVEN THIS ACKNOWLEDGED OPENING FROM THE PRESIDENT. INVITATIONS TO CEREMONIES HAVE YET TO BE EXTENDED. END SUMMARY.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES CEREMONIES

3. A COMMUNIQUE FROM THE PRESIDENCY, ISSUED MORNING OF JANUARY 4 VIA RADIO RTLM, ANNOUNCED THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS PREPARED TO TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE UNDER THE ARUSHA PEACE ACCORD MORNING OF JANUARY 5. IT FURTHER SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO SWEAR IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES THE SAME AFTERNOON. IT SAID HE HAD GIVEN A LIST OF DEPUTIES FOR THE SWEARING-IN TO THE CURRENT PRIME MINISTER SO SHE COULD INVITE THOSE CONCERNED TO THE CEREMONY.

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KIGALI 00034 01 OF 03 041716Z PAGE 03 4. RTLM SUBSEQUENTLY READ OUT THE LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET DIRECTOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER CONTAINING THE LISTS OF DEPUTIES PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT. AS EXPECTED, IT CONTAINED THE CONTESTED LIST SUBMITTED BY PL PRESIDENT MUGENZI. THIS LIST IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE PL/LANDO WING OF THE PARTY, TO PM-DESIGNATE FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU, AND TO THE RPF FOR ALLEGEDLY INCLUDING MRND AND CDR MEMBERS LOYAL TO PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA RATHER THAN PERSONS "LEGALLY" ELECTED BY THE PARTY IN SEPTEMBER. TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE, THE PROPOSAL CONTAINED THE MDR LIST SUBMITTED BY TWAGIRAMUNGU. THIS LIST INCLUDES SOME PERSONS FAVORABLE TO TWAGIRAMUNGU AND SOME TO THE OTHER FACTION OF HIS PARTY.

PM-DESIGNATE ACKNOWLEDGES OPENING

5. CHARGE CONTACTED PRIME MINISTER DESIGNATE AT BEHEST OF WESTERN DIPLOMATS, THE NONCE, AND UNAMIR, TO DISCUSS HIS REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S OVERTURE. THE DIPLOMATS AND UNAMIR, WHO MET MIDDAY TO REVIEW THE STATE OF PLAY, WERE WORRIED THAT TWAGIRAMUNGU MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE POSSIBILITY FOR MOVEMENT BY ISSUING AN IRRESPONSIBLE PUBLIC STATEMENT AT A

MEETING OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HE CONVOKED FOR AFTERNOON 1/4.

6. TWAGIRAMUNGU TOLD CHARGE HE HAD CANCELLED THE DIPLOMATIC MEETING IN FAVOR OF CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL WHICH HE SAID HE VIEWED AS A POSITIVE OPENING. THE MAJOR CONFIDENTIAL

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KIGALI 00034 01 OF 03 041716Z PAGE 04 STRONG OBJECTIONS TO THE PL/DEPUTIES LIST PROBLEM: PROVIDED BY MUGENZI. HE HINTED AT TWO OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION -- HAVING THE TWO FACTIONS SHARE THE SEATS OR HAVING NO/NO PL DEPUTIES SWORN IN UNTIL THE PARTY RESOLVES ITS DIFFERENCES. HE HINTED THAT PSD LEADER GATABAZI WAS AN OBSTACLE TO MODERATION AND COMPROMISE. HE SAID HE IS SATISFIED WITH THE MDR LIST, WHICH HE PRESENTED, AND BELIEVES HAVING THE PRESIDENT TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT. TWAGIRAMUNGU SAID HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH THE RPF. CHARGE URGED TWAGIRAMUNGU TO USE THE PRESIDENT'S OPENING TO ARRIVE AT A POSITIVE SOLUTION TO THE IMPASSE AND ENCOURAGED

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HIM NOT TO LET "EXTREMISTS" DICTATE THE TERMS OF A SOLUTION. AT GENERAL DALLAIRE'S REQUEST, CHARGE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT A RESPONSE TO THE PRESIDENT WHICH APPEARED TO BLOCK PROGRESS MIGHT BE USED AS A PROVOCATION FOR VIOLENCE.

7. CHARGE CONTACTED GATABAZI WHO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE AND PROVIDE A FIXED DATE FOR THE CEREMONY WAS POSITIVE. BUT HE NOTED THE ABSENCE OF REFERENCE TO FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AS A DRAWBACK. HE SAID HE HAD PROPOSED THAT THE SWEARING-IN OF THE GOVERNMENT BE ADDED TO THE JANUARY 5 SCHEDULE. ON THE PL LIST OF DEPUTIES, GATABAZI REITERATED THE TWO OPTIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION AND SAID LANDO, LEADER OF THE PL FACTION OPPOSING MUGENZI, BELIEVES BOTH ARE REASONABLE: HE IS WILLING TO WAIT FOR THE PL DEPUTIES TO BE SWORN IN AND HE IS WILLING TO SEEK WAYS OF SHARING THE ELEVEN PL SEATS. CHARGE REITERATED THE POINTS MADE TO TWAGIRAMUNGU. GATABAZI

SAID "WE ARE NOT GOING TO CLOSE THE DOOR THE PRESIDENT HAS OPENED."

8. PL PRESIDENT MUGENZI ALONG WITH HIS VICE
PRESIDENT CALLED ON CHARGE AFTERNOON OF 1/5. HE
EXPRESSED TOTAL SATISFACTION WITH THE PRESIDENT'S
PROPOSAL, WITHOUT ACKNOWLEDGING POSSIBLE CHALLENGES
FROM THOSE OPPOSED TO HIS LIST OF DEPUTIES. INSTEAD,
HE SAID THE PARTIES SHOULD ADOPT A POLICY OF
NON-INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER PARTIES AND
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PAGE 03 KIGALI 00034 02 OF 03 041718Z SHOULD INSIST THAT PARTY MEMBERS BE LOYAL TO PARTY RULES AND IDEOLOGY. HE ACCUSES THE "DISSIDENTS" IN HIS PARTY OF LACK OF LOYALTY AND OTHER PARTY LEADERS OF INTERFERENCE. MUGENZI SAID THAT IF THE PL FAILS TO SAY "NO" NOW TO RPF-MDR-PSD INTERFERENCE, HE WORRIES WHERE IT WILL END.

9. MUGENZI WENT ON TO TALLY VOTES ALLEGEDLY
CONTROLLED BY THE RPF IN THE GOVERNMENT AND ASSEMBLY
AND TO RAIL AGAINST TWAGIRAMUNGU'S PROPOSAL TO HAVE A
TUTSI HEAD THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE. HE PREDICTED
RWANDANS WILL FEEL DECEIVED WHEN THEY DISCOVER
THEY'VE TRADED CONTROL BY PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA FOR
CONTROL BY THE RPF. HE SAID HAVING TUTSIS IN CONTROL
OF JUSTICE, INTERIOR AND THE GENDARMERIE WOULD RETURN
POWER TO THE TUTSI. WHAT, HE ASKED, DO WE SAY TO THE
HUTU? CHARGE LISTENED, THEN MADE THE SAME POINTS AS
ABOVE. SHE ALSO MADE POINTS MADE WITH PRESIDENT,
PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE, AND RPF PRESIDENT
(REFTEL).

COMMENT

10. THE POLITICAL ALLIANCE BETWEEN TWAGIRAMUNGU OF THE MDR AND MUGENZI OF THE PL, THAT ENDURED FOR TWO YEARS AND LED THE INTERNAL POLITICAL CHALLENGE TO PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA'S TOTAL CONTROL OF RWANDA, IS DEAD. THE POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION OF MUGENZI, WHOSE COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION AND A MULTI-ETHNIC SOCIETY SEEMED UNSHAKABLE -- HE LOST A BROTHER TO ASSASSINS IN THE PROCESS -- IS NOTHING SHORT OF CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 KIGALI 00034 02 OF 03 041718Z INCREDIBLE. IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT TWAGIRAMUNGU REJECTS HIM AS A MEMBER OF HIS CABINET.

11. THE OPENING FROM THE PRESIDENT IS A HOPEFUL SIGN. IF THE POLITICAL PARTIES OBJECTING TO THE PL/MUGENZI LIST CAN FIND A FORMULA THEY CAN LIVE WITH, THERE IS A CHANCE THAT WE WILL HAVE AT LEAST TWO OF THE THREE INITIAL TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS IN PLACE IN TIME FOR SECURITY COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS JANUARY 5. MUGENZI'S INTRANSIGENCE COULD FOIL THIS. THERE ARE ALSO SKEPTICS WHO BELIEVE THAT HAVING THE PRESIDENT THE ONLY "INSTITUTION" DULY SWORN IN UNDER THE PEACE ACCORD COULD OPEN THE WAY FOR FURTHER

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NEGATIVE MACHINATIONS AND MEDDLING.

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