

6-16-1994

### Press Guidance- Thursday, June 16, 1994

US Embassy Rwanda

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AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - THURSDAY, JUNE 16. 1994

1. BELOW IS IO AND AF PRESS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA.
2. IO PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION  
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Q: PLEASE PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE SITUATION ON THE  
GROUND IN RWANDA. NYT AND WP CARRY STORIES OF THE  
MASSACRE OF 60 TEENAGERS. PLEASE PROVIDE ANYTHING NEW  
FROM THE GUIDANCE GIVEN YESTERDAY.

A: UN SOURCES REPORT THAT HEAVY FIGHTING BETWEEN RPF AND  
GOVERNMENT FORCES HAS RESUMED TODAY IN KIGALI. FOLLOWING A  
BRIEF LULL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. THE RPF APPEARS TO BE  
MAKING SOME GAINS IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY, BUT THIS  
REMAINS UNCONFIRMED. THE CEASE-FIRE TALKS SCHEDULED FOR  
TODAY HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED; NO DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND HAS  
BEEN SET.

WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE REPORTS YESTERDAY  
FROM UNAMIR THAT 60 TUTSI BOYS WERE ABDUCTED ON TUESDAY  
FROM A CHURCH COMPLEX IN KIGALI AND LATER KILLED BY HUTU  
MILITIA.

3. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: INTERVENING  
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Q: WHAT DO WE THINK ABOUT THE FRENCH COMMENT ABOUT  
INTERVENING IN RWANDA?

A: SINCE THE RWANDA CRISIS BEGAN ON APRIL 6, THE U.S. HAS  
REPEATEDLY CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO THE SENSELESS  
KILLING IN RWANDA. WE SHARE THE ANGUISH AND OUTRAGE OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OVER THE CONTINUED CARNAGE IN  
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RWANDA AND UNDERSTAND THE DESIRE TO INTERVENE AS QUICKLY  
AS POSSIBLE.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE BEST COURSE FOR SUCCESSFUL  
INTERVENTION IN RWANDA IS THAT OUTLINED IN UN SECURITY  
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 918 AND 925 WHICH CALL FOR THE  
DEPLOYMENT OF EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCES OF UP TO 5,500 TROOPS.

WE ARE DISCUSSING WITH FRANCE AND OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL  
MEMBERS THE BEST WAY THAT WE, OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES, AND  
AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OAU CAN MOVE  
QUICKLY TO STOP THE KILLINGS IN RWANDA, BRING ABOUT AN  
IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE, AND END THE MINDLESS VIOLENCE AND  
CARNAGE WHICH IS ENGULFING THE COUNTRY.

Q: YOU HAVE SAID THE U.S. HAS EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE  
THAT ACTS OF GENOCIDE HAVE OCCURRED IN RWANDA. WHAT ARE  
WE DOING ABOUT IT?

A: THE U.S. AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAVE MADE A  
CONCERTED EFFORT TO PUT A STOP TO THE KILLINGS AND ACHIEVE  
A CEASE-FIRE IN RWANDA.

THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED EXPANSION OF UNAMIR TO  
5,500 TROOPS TO HELP PROTECT THREATENED CIVILIAN  
POPULATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS.

UN HAS PROVIDED DOLLARS 94 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN AID  
SINCE EARLY MAY.

50 APC'S WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE UN TO SPEED UP  
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ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF THE ENLARGED FORCE. WE

HOPE TO HAVE THE APC'S DELIVERED AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK.

WE HAVE DISPATCHED AN INTER-AGENCY TEAM, LED BY AMBASSADOR RAWSON, TO THE REGION TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF REGIONAL LEADERS IN OUR EFFORTS TO PRESSURE THE WARRING PARTIES TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND TO FACILITATE RAPID DEPLOYMENT OF THE EXPANDED UNAMIR FORCE.

WE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE CONVENING OF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (UNHRC), WHICH RESULTED IN THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR TO INVESTIGATE THE ATROCITIES. HE WILL BE SUPPORTED BY A TEAM OF HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD OFFICERS.

THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR'S MANDATE IS TO INVESTIGATE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN RWANDA, INCLUDING ACTS OF GENOCIDE, AND TO REPORT HIS FINDINGS TO THE UNHRC BY THE END OF JUNE. ONCE THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR COMPLETES THIS REPORT, WE WILL WORK WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

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