

7-27-1994

## Press Guidance - July 27, 1994

US Embassy Rwanda

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	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
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DRAFTED BY: AF/P:TKURTH

APPROVED BY: AF/P:MSWANN

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 FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
 TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY  
 ALL OECD CAPITALS  
 AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
 AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
 AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY  
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 AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY  
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 AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
 USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
 USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD  
 DATE/CASE ID: 08 SEP 2003 200301834

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USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 0000  
SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
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USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
USCINCTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY  
USOFFICE ABUJA PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - JULY 27 1994

1. THE FOLLOWING IS RWANDA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF, PRM, AND PM), GAMBIA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF), AND NIGERIA PRESS  
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GUIDANCE (AF) AND A WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT (7/26).

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2. AF FRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: TROOPS/RAWSON MEETINGS  
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Q: IS THE U.S. SENDING 2,000 TROOFS TO KIGALI?

A: IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS WAS A NOTIONAL NUMBER FOR A POSSIBLE AIRHEAD/HEADQUARTER/WAY STATION OPERATION. NO OFFICIAL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE. LT. GEN. SCHROEDER HAS DEPLOYED TO THE REGION TODAY TO HEAD THE ASSESSMENT TEAM AND WILL MAKE FIRM FROPOSALS FOR APPROVAL.

Q: ARE WE AWAITING AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM THE RPF TO GO INTO KIGALI?

A: PRESIDENT BIZIMUNGU (RECENTLY ELECTED PRESIDENT BY THE RPF) TELEPHONED ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE LAST SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1994. THEY REVIEWED THE US HUMANITARIAN OPERATION. AT THAT TIME, MR. MOOSE URGED MR. BIZIMUNGU TO CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE THE RAPID RETURN OF RWANDAN REFUGEES.

FOLLOWING THAT CONVERSATION, AMBASSADOR RAWSON RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FROM THE RPF TO PROVIDE U.S. FORCES TO

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ASSIST WITH THE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO  
RWANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE AND TO DISPLACED PERSONS WITHIN  
RWANDA.

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Q: DO YOU HAVE A READOUT ON AMBASSADOR RAWSON'S MEETINGS  
AND ACTIVITIES IN RWANDA?

A: AMBASSADOR RAWSON MET WITH FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU  
(FO-STAN TWA-GEE-RA-MOON-GOO), THE PRIME MINISTER  
DESIGNATED BY THE ARUSHA ACCORDS, AND WITH THE MINISTER OF  
DEFENSE. HE ALSO MET WITH GENERAL DALLAIRE, COMMANDER OF  
UNAMIR, AND WITH SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE RPF.

AMBASSADOR RAWSON BRIEFED THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE US  
HUMANITARIAN OPERATION AND URGED THE RWANDAN AUTHORITIES  
TO CREATE CONDITIONS TO ENCOURAGE THE RETURN OF REFUGEES.

Q: ARE WE ON THE VERGE OF RECOGNITION OF THE NEW  
GOVERNMENT?

A: WE WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION AT AN  
APPROPRIATE TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE. FOR THE MOMENT, OUR  
EFFORTS ARE CONCENTRATED ON THE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN  
ASSISTANCE TO RWANDAN REFUGEES, AND TO HELPING  
RE-ESTABLISH SECURITY CONDITIONS IN RWANDA WHICH WILL GIVE  
THE REFUGEES THE CONFIDENCE TO RETURN HOME.

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3. PRM PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE  
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Q: WOULD YOU PROVIDE US WITH AN UPDATE ON RWANDAN  
REFUGEES?

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THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED 2.2 MILLION RWANDAN REFUGEES IN  
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES:

ZAIRE: 1.5 MILLION:

1,000,000 IN GOMA

312,000 IN BUKAVU

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230,000 IN UVIRA

BURUNDI: 210,000

TANZANIA: 460,500

UGANDA: 10,500

ACCORDING TO UNHCR, ABOUT 40,000 REFUGEES FROM GOMA HAVE  
CROSSED BACK INTO RWANDA SINCE THE BORDER REOPENED LAST  
SUNDAY.

INSIDE RWANDA, ABOUT 45,000 PEOPLE LEFT THE FRENCH SAFE  
ZONE AND RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES IN AREAS CONTROLLED BY  
THE RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF).

AN ESTIMATED 2,000 RWANDAN REFUGEES PER DAY CONTINUE TO  
LEAVE THE FRENCH SAFE ZONE FOR THE BUKAVU AREA OF ZAIRE  
(SOUTH OF GOMA).

Q: WHAT IS THE HEALTH SITUATION OF THE REFUGEES IN GOMA?

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A: THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES HAVE ALREADY DIED FROM CHOLERA,  
HUNGER, EXHAUSTION, AND DEHYDRATION.

SOME 3,000 PEOPLE A DAY ARE REPORTED TO BE DYING OF  
CHOLERA IN THE GOMA AREA.

THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL HAS ALREADY SENT 4  
DOCTORS TO GOMA, AND WILL SEND AN ADDITIONAL 7 DOCTORS  
THIS WEEK TO GOMA, BUKAVU AND UVIRA TO HELP UNHCR WITH THE  
CHOLERA EPIDEMIC.

WATER IS STILL IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY.

U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL HAVE STARTED SETTING UP WATER  
PURIFICATION UNITS IN GOMA, AND CURRENT CAPACITY TO PURIFY

AND DISTRIBUTE WATER IS 74,000 GALLONS PER DAY.  
ACCORDING TO UNHCR (UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR  
REFUGEES), THE MINIMUM WATER REQUIREMENT PER PERSON IN  
GOMA IS ONE GALLON PER DAY.

MORE WATER PURIFICATION UNITS FROM THE UNITED STATES AND  
GERMANY ARE ON THEIR WAY.

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Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO HELP?

A: THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED ON JULY 22 AN IMMEDIATE AND MASSIVE INCREASE IN OUR RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN RWANDA TO BE DIRECTED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.

THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT IN PROVIDING  
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HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE SINCE THE RWANDA CRISIS BEGAN IN  
APRIL 1994.

OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION NOW STANDS AT OVER DOLLARS 150  
MILLION, MAKING THE UNITED STATES THE LARGEST SINGLE  
GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTOR OF AID.

THIS INCLUDES FUNDING FOR UNHCR, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS;  
AND PROVIDES FOOD COMMODITIES, MEDICAL AND RELIEF  
SUPPLIES, LOGISTICAL SERVICES AND AIRLIFT SUPPORT.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE BEING  
SOUGHT.

Q: WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU HAVE ABOUT A UN APPEALS AND A  
PLEDGING CONFERENCE?

A: THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES  
(UNHCR) IS COORDINATING THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO THIS  
CRISIS.

A UNITED NATIONS INTERAGENCY APPEAL ON RWANDA WAS LAUNCHED  
IN NEW YORK AND GENEVA LAST FRIDAY.

A PLEDGING CONFERENCE TO SEEK DONOR SUPPORT FOR URGENTLY  
NEEDED RESOURCES FOR THE RWANDA CRISIS WILL BE HELD IN  
GENEVA ON AUGUST 2.

ASIDE FROM THE UNHCR TEAM IN GOMA, THE INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC), WORLD FOOD PROGRAM  
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(WFF), AND A NUMBER OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
(NGOS) ARE WORKING TO HELP THE RWANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE  
AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

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4. PM PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: U.S. ASSISTANCE  
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Q: ANY DETAILS ON U.S. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO RWANDANS IN ZAIRE?

A: TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT FLYING OUT OF ENTEBBE UGANDA, NOW HAVE THE CAPACITY TO BRING ABOUT 700 TONS OF SUPPLIES PER DAY TO GOMA ZAIRE.

A PROBLEM WITH A RAMP AT THE AIRFIELD IS KEEPING SOME AIRCRAFT FROM FLYING INTO GOMA TODAY. FRENCH ENGINEERS ARE WORKING ON THE RAMP; WE EXPECT ALL FLIGHTS TO GOMA WILL RESUME TOMORROW.

THE U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND IS SENDING MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO GOMA TO ADMINISTER REHYDRATION FACILITIES AND MONITOR SANITATION.

A U.S. SURVEY TEAM IS ASSESSING CONDITIONS OF OTHER AIRFIELDS AND ROADS IN THE REGION.

U.S. EMBASSIES IN THE REGION ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH HOST COUNTRIES, THE U.S. MILITARY, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO ENSURE COORDINATION AND  
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COOPERATION OF RELIEF EFFORTS ON THE GROUND.

Q: WHAT ABOUT AIRDROPS?

A: AIRDROPS OF HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES NEAR GOMA WERE SUSPENDED AT THE REQUEST OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER ON REFUGEES (UNHCR).

WE ARE CONSULTING WITH UNHCR ABOUT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AIRDROPS. WE BELIEVE AIRDROPS CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES TO THOSE THAT NEED THEM IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

WE STAND READY TO RESUME AIRDROPS OF HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES WHENEVER THE UNHCR DETERMINES THEY WOULD BE USEFUL.

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5. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - GAMBIA: SITUATION UPDATE  
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Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN THE GAMBIA?

A: BANJUL CONTINUES TO REMAIN CALM. IT IS NORMA AND QUIET. STORES, INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE LINES, BORDERS AND THE AIRPORT ARE OPEN.

Q: HAS THERE BEEN ANY MOVEMENT ON THE FOLITICAL FRONT?

A: THE ARMED FORCES PROVISIONAL RULING COUNCIL (AFPRC) LEADERSHIP HAS NAMED A CABINET WITH AN EQUAL MIX OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN MEMBERS.

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THE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY OFFERED TO MEDIATE BETWEEN THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND PRESIDENT JAWARA. THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY COUNCIL REJECTED THAT OFFER.

WE CONTINUE TO URGE BOTH SIDES TO SOLVE THEIR GRIEVANCES AND DIFFERENCES THROUGH DIALOGUE.

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6. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NIGERIA: JACKSON MISSION  
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Q: WHAT IS OUR ROLE IN THE JESSE JACKSON PRESIDENTIAL MISSION?

A: JESSE JACKSON IS TRAVELING TO NIGERIA ON A PRESIDENTIAL MISSION. THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIF IS TO DELIVER A LETTER TO GENERAL ABACHA

THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE WHITE HOUSE TO COORDINATE THE TRIP. A NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND A STATE DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE WILL ACCOMPANY REVEREND JACKSON ON THE TRIP.

Q: WHAT IS OUR REACTION TO THE CRITICISM OF THE TRIP?

A: THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MISSION IS TO PRESS THE ABACHA REGIME TO ACCELERATE THE RETURN TO A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q: WHAT IS OUR OVERALL POLICY TOWARD NIGERIA?

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A: THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE EFFORTS TO RESTORE CIVILIAN, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT TO NIGERIA.

THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT AND WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY INDIVIDUAL. OUR INTEREST IS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AND RESPECT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT ENSURES THAT THE WILL OF THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE IS RESPECTED.

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA?

A: ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUED IN THE WESTERN REGION, INCLUDING LAGOS, JULY 26. LOCAL UNEMPLOYEED YOUTHS KNOWN AS "AREA BOYS" TOOK TO THE STREETS. THE POLICE USED TEAR GAS TO BREAK UP THE DEMONSTRATIONS.

TALKS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND LABOR UNIONS HAVE STALLED.

WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY. WE REMIND ALL AMERICANS THAT CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED WHEN TRAVELLING TO NIGERIA.

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7. WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT - NIGERIA: JACKSON TRIP (7/26)  
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AS PART OF HIS CONTINUING EFFORT TO PROMOTE CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE IN NIGERIA, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON TO TRAVEL TO NIGERIA TODAY TO CONVEY TO LEADERS OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT THE PRESIDENT'S

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PERSONAL CONCERNS OVER THE ABSENCE OF PROGRESS TOWARD THE RESTORATION OF CIVILIAN DEMOCRACY THERE. HE WILL ALSO CONVEY THE PRESIDENT'S CONCERN OVER THE RECENT DETENTION OF PROMINENT NIGERIANS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED VIEWS CRITICAL OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZED FEACEFUL OPPOSITION, AND WILL URGE THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE THESE INDIVIDUALS TO FULL FREEDOM.

PRESIDENT CLINTON SAID THE CURRENT WAVE OF UNREST IN NIGERIA RESULTS DIRECTLY FROM THE ABSENCE OF PROGRESS TOWARD THE RESTORATION OF CIVILIAN DEMOCRACY. THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO

PROMOTE DEMOCRATIC REFORM AND ALLOW NIGERIANS TO JOIN THE RANKS OF OTHER PEOPLE IN AFRICA AND AROUND THE WORLD MAKING TRANSITIONS TOWARD DEMOCRACY AND FULL RESPECT FOR

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HUMAN RIGHTS.

REVEREND JACKSON WILL CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO NIGERIAN HEAD OF STATE GENERAL SANI ABACHA AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT. HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH LEADERS OF NIGERIAN CIVIL SOCIETY, LABOR MOVEMENTS AND DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATIONS. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED DURING HIS VISIT BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO NIGERIA, WALTER CARRINGTON AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS. HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES ON FRIDAY.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

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