

8-1-1994

### Press Guidance - August 1, 1994

US Embassy Rwanda

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/rawson\\_rwanda](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/rawson_rwanda)

---

#### Recommended Citation

US Embassy Rwanda, "Press Guidance - August 1, 1994" (1994). *David Rawson Collection on the Rwandan Genocide*. 27.

[https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/rawson\\_rwanda/27](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/rawson_rwanda/27)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Archives and Museum at Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in David Rawson Collection on the Rwandan Genocide by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolfe@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolfe@georgefox.edu).

UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 22

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Channel: n/a

RELEASED IN FULL

&lt;&lt;&lt;&gt;&gt;&gt;

PAGE 01            STATE    205251   012148Z  
ORIGIN AF-01

|      |         |         |         |         |         |        |         |
|------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| INFO | LOG-00  | ACDA-17 | ACDE-00 | AID-01  | AMAD-01 | ARA-01 | A-01    |
|      | CIAE-00 | SMEC-00 | OASY-00 | DODE-00 | EAP-01  | EUR-01 | OIGO-01 |
|      | H-01    | TEDE-00 | INR-00  | IO-16   | ADS-00  | NEA-01 | NSAE-00 |
|      | OIC-02  | OIG-04  | OIS-01  | PA-02   | PM-00   | PRS-01 | SP-00   |
|      | SR-00   | SA-01   | PMB-00  | PRME-01 | DRL-09  | /064R  |         |

DRAFTED BY: AF/P:TKURTH  
APPROVED BY: AF/P:MSWANN

-----63116C   012150Z /38

P 012140Z AUG 94  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY  
ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY  
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL JEDDAH PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02            STATE    205251   012148Z  
AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 22

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD  
DATE/CASE ID: 09 SEP 2003 200301834

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Page: 23  
Channel: n/a

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

UNCLAS STATE 205251

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US  
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - AUGUST 1, 1994

1. THE FOLLOWING IS RWANDA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF AND PRM)  
AND NIGERIA PRESS GUIDANCE (AF).

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 205251 012148Z

-----  
2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION  
-----

Q: DO YOU HAVE A READ-OUT ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE'S  
AND AMBASSADOR RAWSON'S ACTIVITIES IN KIGALI?

A: COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES HAVE DELAYED OUR READOUTS  
OF THESE MEETINGS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE SPENT THE EVENING OF JULY 31 IN  
KAMPALA, WHERE HE MET WITH LOCAL DIPLOMATS AND THE UGANDAN  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER.  
HE WAS EN ROUTE TO KIGALI THIS MORNING, SCHEDULED TO  
ARRIVE THERE AT 1600 LOCAL TIME.

AMBASSADOR RAWSON CONTINUES A FULL RANGE OF POLITICAL  
CONTACTS IN KIGALI. HE CONTINUES TO WORK TO FACILITATE  
THE RELIEF EFFORT AND TO ENCOURAGE THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO  
ESTABLISH CONDITIONS THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE RETURN OF THE  
REFUGEES. HE MEETS WITH VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE NEW  
GOVERNMENT, UNAMIR, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS HANDLING THE  
RELIEF EFFORT. HE IS ALSO ENGAGED IN A VARIETY OF  
ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE REOPENING OF EMBASSY KIGALI.

Q. ARE WE RE-OPENING EMBASSY KIGALI?

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 23

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Page: 24

Channel: n/a

A: THE DEPARTMENT GRANTED AUTHORITY ON JULY 29 TO RESUME  
OPERATIONS AT EMBASSY KIGALI ON A LIMITED BASIS.  
AMBASSADOR RAWSON WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A HANDFUL OF  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 205251 012148Z  
SUPPORT STAFF.

INITIAL EMBASSY OPERATIONS WILL COVER ONLY EMERGENCY  
CONSULAR SERVICES. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONTINUES TO  
WARN AMERICAN CITIZENS NOT TO TRAVEL TO RWANDA.

-----  
N-SS

2

AMBASSADOR RAWSON CONTINUES A FULL RANGE OF POLITICAL  
CONTACTS IN KIGALI. HE CONTINUES TO WORK TO FACILITATE  
THE RELIEF EFFORT AND TO ENCOURAGE THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO  
ESTABLISH CONDITIONS THAT WOULD ENCOURAGE RETURN OF THE  
REFUGEES. HE MEETS WITH VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE NEW  
GOVERNMENT, UNAMIR, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS HANDLING THE  
RELIEF EFFORT. HE IS ALSO ENGAGED IN A VARIETY OF  
ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE REOPENING OF EMBASSY KIGALI.

Q. ARE WE RE-OPENING EMBASSY KIGAL?

A: THE DEPARTMENT GRANTED AUTHORITY ON JULY 29 TO RESUME  
OPERATIONS AT EMBASSY KIGALI ON A LIMITED BASIS.  
AMBASSADOR RAWSON WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A HANDFUL OF  
SUPPORT STAFF.

INITIAL EMBASSY OPERATIONS WILL COVER ONLY EMERGENCY  
CONSULAR SERVICES. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONTINUES TO  
WARN AMERICAN CITIZENS NOT TO TRAVEL TO RWANDA.

-----  
3. PRM PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE  
-----

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 205251 012148Z

RWANDA, BUT UNFOUNDED RUMORS OF HUTUS BEING KILLED HAVE  
REDUCED THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RETURNING TO 10,000 A DAY.

INSIDE RWANDA, AN ESTIMATED 60,000 PEOPLE HAVE LEFT THE  
FRENCH SAFE ZONE AND RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES.

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

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 24

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Page: 25

Channel: n/a

A: OVER 20,000 REFUGEES HAVE ALREADY DIED FROM CHOLERA, HUNGER, EXHAUSTION, AND DEHYDRATION. MOST OF THESE DEATHS RESULTED FROM CHOLERA.

THE NUMBER OF DEATHS PER DAY HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 1,800 TO 1,000. AN ESTIMATED 80,000 REFUGEES ARE INFECTED WITH CHOLERA.

RELIEF WORKERS ARE NOW MORE CONCERNED WITH DYSENTERY. ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION (ABOUT 300,000) IS AT RISK FROM THIS DISEASE, WHICH IS MORE CONTAGIOUS THAN CHOLERA.

THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL HAS SENT A TEAM OF 11 DOCTORS TO THE AREA TO HELP UNHCR WITH THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC.

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

A: PRESIDENT CLINTON REQUESTED FROM CONGRESS ON JULY 29 SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING OF DOLLARS 320 MILLION TO ASSIST IN  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 205251 012148Z  
THE URGENT HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS FOR RWANDA.

DOLLARS 270 MILLION IS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE AIRPORT SERVICES AND AIR DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES, PROVIDE SAFE WATER, DEPLOY AND SUSTAIN APPROXIMATELY 4,000 U.S. TROOPS, AND PROVIDE OTHER LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.

DOLLARS 50 MILLION IS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

DOLLARS 30 MILLION IS FOR THE EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND TO ENABLE THE UNITED STATES TO RESPOND TO URGENT APPEALS FROM INTERNATIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) PROVIDING RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE FOR RWANDAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION.

DOLLARS 20 MILLION IS FOR THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) TO PROVIDE MEDICINE AND SUPPORT MEDICAL TEAMS, AND HELP BURY THOSE WHO DIED FROM CHOLERA.

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

OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION NOW STANDS AT OVER DOLLARS 150

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 25

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Page: 26  
Channel: n/a

MILLION, MAKING THE UNITED STATES THE LARGEST SINGLE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTOR OF AID.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 205251 012148Z  
A: THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) IS COORDINATING THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO REFUGEE CRISIS.

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 (WFP), AND A NUMBER OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) ARE WORKING TO HELP THE RWANDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

-----  
4. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NIGERIA: GENERAL SITUATION  
-----

Q: CAN YOU GIVE US AN UPDATE ON THE DEMONSTRATIONS IN NIGERIA?

A: NIGERIA IS CALM AFTER YOUNG UNEMPLOYED YOUTHS KNOWN AS AREA BOYS RIOTED NEAR BRIDGES CONNECTING LAGOS MAINLAND WITH ISLAND NEIGHBORHOODS EARLIER TODAY. NO DEATHS WERE REPORTED.

WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

WE REMIND ALL AMERICANS THAT CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED WHEN TRAVELLING TO NIGERIA.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 205251 012148Z  
Q: DO WE AGREE WITH JESSE JACKSON'S COMMENT THAT "WAR IS IMMINENT" IN NIGERIA?

A: TENSIONS ARE VERY HIGH IN NIGERIA. THE OIL WORKERS' STRIKE, THE ARREST OF POLITICAL DISSIDENTS, AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS ARE ALL CONTRIBUTING FACTORS.

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 26

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 1994STATE205251

Page: 27

Channel: n/a

WE CONTINUE TO REVIEW THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA ON A REGULAR BASIS AND WILL TAKE SUCH FURTHER ACTIONS AS MAY CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS TOWARDS DEMOCRACY.

Q: DID MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS GO TO NIGERIA?

A: ON THURSDAY, JULY 29, THE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA MADE IT CLEAR THEY WOULD NOT ISSUE VISAS FOR CONGRESSMAN PAYNE AND HIS GROUP TO TRAVEL TO NIGERIA. WE DEEPLY REGRET THIS ACTION AND REGISTERED OUR CONCERN THAT VISAS COULD NOT BE PROVIDED IN TIME FOR THE SCHEDULED DEPARTURE OF THE CONGRESSMEN.

CONGRESSMAN PAYNE WAS TO HAVE CARRIED A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT. THE MESSAGE OF THIS LETTER WAS THE SAME AS THE ONE CARRIED BY REVEREND JACKSON.

Q: WHAT IS OUR OVERALL POLICY TOWARD NIGERIA?

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  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 205251 012148Z  
RESPECT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT ENSURES THAT THE WILL OF THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE IS RESPECTED.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 27

UNCLASSIFIED