

8-3-1994

Press Guidance - August 3, 1994

US Embassy Rwanda

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	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	NEA-01
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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
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JEDDAH PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
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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

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

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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 - AUGUST 3, 1994

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

2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION

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

A: ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE IS CURRENTLY IN BUJUMBURA.
HE IS MEETING WITH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY LEADERS TO
DISCUSS THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION AND RELATED ISSU S.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE WILL TRAVEL TO NAIROBI TOMORROW
FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH KENYAN OFFICIALS

AMBASSADOR RAWSON CONTINUES A FUL RANGE OF PO ITIC L

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 REGULARLY WITH VARIOUS OFFICIALS OF THE NEW
GOVERNMENT UNAMIR, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS HANDLING THE
RELIEF EFFORT. HE IS ALSO ENGAGED IN A VARIET OF
ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE REOPENING OF EMBASSY KIGALI.

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Q: IS THERE ARE THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF U.S. FORCES FROM THE REFORMATION OF THE FORMER RWANDAN GOVERNMENT'S ARMY?

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A: U.S. FORCES ARE ENGAGED IN A SOLELY HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN RWANDA.

WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION IN KIGALI AND IN GOMA ALLOWS THE PRESENCE OF OUR TROOPS.

IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THEY ARE THREATENED, WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ADEQUATE SECURITY BOTH THERE AND ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION TO PROTECT THEM.

WE THINK THE SECURITY SITUATION IS ADEQUATE.

3. IO PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: BIZIMUNGU'S STATEMENT

Q: WHAT IS THE US REACTION TO BIZIMUNGU.S STATEMENT CONCERNING THE DEPARTURE OF FRENCH TROOPS AND HIS IMPLIED THREAT TO START SHOOTING IF THEY ARE NOT GONE BY AUGUST 22ND?

A: WE BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH SHOULD NOT WITHDRAW UNTIL UNAMIR IS STRONG ENOUGH TO REPLACE THE DEPARTING FRENCH TROOPS AND TAKE OVER THE TASK OF PROVIDING SECURITY AND NUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. WE URGE THE GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA TO CONTINUE TO BE TOLERANT AND TO KEEP IN MIND THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL RWANDANS.

WE ARE WORKING WITH THE EUROPEANS AND AFRICANS TO STRENGTHEN UNAMIR AND SFEED UF DEPLOYMENT. WE EXFEC
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FURTHER DEPLOYMENTS THIS MONTH.

4. IO PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL

Q: THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA HAS CALLED FOR NATIONAL TH FORMER HUTU GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO COMMITTED ACTS OF GENO RWANDA. THOSE WHO PLANNED AND LED THE GENOCIDE MUST BE BRO

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JUSTICE.

A: WE ALSO SUPPORT THE DETENTION OF SUSPECTS BY NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN RWANDA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. WE STRONG THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT SUSPECTS ARE TREATED IN WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW.

WE UNDERSTAND THE CONCERNS OF THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT AND AR ITS DESIRE TO HOLD NATIONAL TRIALS.

HOWEVER, IT IS A FACT THAT SOME IN RWANDA. PARTICULARLY HUT QUESTION THE FAIRNESS OF TRIALS CONDUCTED BY A GOVERNMENT PERCEIVE AS DOMINATED BY TUTSIS.

WE URGE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES TO WORK WITH THE COO OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL TO INVES THE GENOCIDE AND RECOMMEND HOW A TRIBUNAL SHOULD BE ESTABL.

5. PRM PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE

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Q: WOULD YOU PROVIDE US WITH AN UPDATE ON RWANDAN REFUGEE-

A: ACCORDING TO THE UNITED NATIONS HIG4 COMMISSIONER FOR (UNHCR), THERE ARE CURRENTLY AN ESTIMATED 2 MILLION RWANDAN IN THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF ZAIRE, BURUNDI, TANZANIA,

ZAIRE: 1.4 MILLION:

1,000,000 IN GOMA AREA

412,000 IN BUKAVU AND UVIRA

BURUNDI: 200,000

TANZANIA: 322,000

UGANDA: 10,500

THERE ARE SOME 1.5 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE INSS

Q: WHAT IS THE HEALTH SITUATION OF THE REFUGEES IN THE GOO

A: AS MANY AS 80,000 REFUGEES ARE AFFECTED BY CHOLERA, DYY AND OTHER WATER-BORNE DISEASES.

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AN ESTIMATED 16,000 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY DIED FROM THESE DII
THE PAST WEEK.

MASSIVE RELIEF EFFORTS TO PROVIDE CLEAN WATER, FOOD AND MEE
THE REFUGEES HAVE HELPED REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM
1,800 PER DAY LAST WEEK TO ABOUT 900 PER DAY THIS WEEK.

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HOWEVER, AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF CLEAN WATER CONTINUES TO BE
PROBLEM IN GOMA. MORE WATER PURIFICATION UNITS AND TANKERR
DISTRIBUTE WATER ARE ARRIVING.

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

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

A: OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION NOW STANDS AT OVER DOLLARS 150
MAKING THE UNITED STATES THE LARGEST SINGLE GOVERNMENT CONT
OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE RWANDA CRISIS.

ON JULY 29 PRESIDENT CLINTON REQUESTED FROM CONGRESS SUPPLL
FUNDING OF DOLLARS 320 MILLION TO ASSIST IN THE URGENT HUMA
RELIEF EFFORTS FOR RWANDA.

DOLLARS 270 MILLION WOULD BE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ESTALISH AND OPERATE AIRFORT SERVICES AND AIR DISTRIBUTION
FACILITIES, PROVIDE SAFE WATER, DEPLOY AND SUSTAIN APPROXII
4,000 U.S. TROOPS, AND PROVIDE OTHER LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.

DOLLARS 30 MILLION WOULD BE FOR THE EMERGENCY REFUG E AND
ASSISTANCE FUND TO ENABLE THE UNITED STATES TO RESPOND TO
APPEALS FROM INTERNA IONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIO
(NGOS) PROVIDING RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE FOR RWANDAN REFUGEES
REGION.

DOLLARS 20 MILLION WOULD BE FOR THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNA
DEVELOPMENT (USAID) TO PROVIDE MEDICINE AND SUPPOR MEDICAL
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AND HELP BURY THOSE WHO DIED FROM CHOLERA.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE UN PLEDGING CONFERENCE

A: THE UNITED NATIONS HELD A PLEDGING CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

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AUGUST 2 TO SEEK DONOR SUPPORT FOR URGENTLY NEEDED RESOURC
RWANDA CRISIS.

THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE CONFERENCE REITERATED OUR GOVERN
CONTRIBUTION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE RWAND CRISI

HE UNITED STATES IS IMPLEMENTING FOUR OUT OF THE EIGHT SERV
PACKAGES REQUESTED BY UNHCR.

(FYI: THESE INCLUDE PROVIDING CLEAN WATER FOR THE REFUGEES
MANAGEMENT OF THE AIRHEAD AT ENTEBBE IN UGANDA. PROVIDING
AT AIRPORTS IN THE REGION, AND LOGISTICS SERVICES TO MOVE
SUPPLIES ONCE THEY ARRIVE IN GOMA, ZAIRE.)

OUR CASH CONTRIBUTION NOW STANDS AT OVER DOLLARS 150 MILLI
SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING OF DOLLARS 320 MILLION HAS BEEN REQUEE
CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT.

6. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NIGERIA: GENERAL SITUATION

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA?

A: IN ADDITION TO THE PETROLEUM WORKERS STRIKE CURRENTLY
THE GENERAL STRIKE CALLED FOR BY THE NATIONAL LABOUR CONGRE
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TODAY IN LAGOS. THERE IS NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND SEVE
STATIONS HAVE BEEN CLOSED.

"AREA BOYS" CONTINUE TO TRY TO EXTORT MONEY FROM MOTORISTS
BRIDGES WHICH CONNECT LAGOS MAINLAND WITH ISLAND NEIGHBORHO

WE ARE TOLD THE STRIKE IS NOT IN EFFECT IN OUTLYING AREAS
COUNTRY.

TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL AMERICANS ARE SAFE. ALL AMERICANS TRA
TO NIGERIA SHOULD EXERCISE CAUTION

WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR THIS SITUATION CLOSELY.

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF CHIEF M.K.O. ABIOLA'S TRIA ?

A: CHIEF ABIOLA'S TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE TODAY IN
HE REMAINS IN PRISON.

Q: WHAT IS OUR OVERALL POLICY TOWARD NIGERIA?

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A: THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE EFFORTS TO RESTT
CIVILIAN, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT TO NIGERIA. THE UNITED ST
NOT AND WILL NOT SUPPORT ANY INDIVIDUAL. OUR INTEREST IS
ESTABLISHMENT OF AND RESPECT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT
THAT THE WILL OF THE NIGERIAN FEOFLE IS RESPECTED.

7. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - SOMALIA: PROTECTION OF USLO

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Q: WITH THE MARINES LEAVING ON AUGUST 14, WHAT ARE OUR FLL
PROTECTING USLO IN MOGADISHU?

A: THE FAST MARINES CURRENTLY PROVIDING SECURITY FOR THE
LIAISON OFFICE ARE SCHEDULED TO ROTAE OUT OF MOGADISHU ON
14. HOWEVER, A FINAL DECISION ON THEIR REDEPLOYMENT HAS NN
BEEN TAKEN.

THE STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS ARE CONSIDERING VARIOUS
ENSURE THE FUTURE SECURITY OF USLO INCLUDING A CONTINUED
THE FAST MARINES.

BOTH THE STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS ARE COMMITTED TO PRO
THE BEST POSSIBLE PROTECTION FOR PERSONNEL STATIONED IN SOO

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

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