

8-4-1994

### Press Guidance - August 4, 1994

US Embassy Rwanda

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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

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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

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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 209171

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - AUGUST 4, 1994

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

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2. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - BURUNDI: CURRENT SITUATION  
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Q: DO YOU HAVE A READ-OUT ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE'S  
AND ACTIVITIES?

A ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE DEPARTED BUJUMBURA FOR  
NAIROBI AT 1200 LOCAL TIME TODAY. HE TRAVELS TO DAR ES  
SAAAM AUGUST 5.

IN BUJUMBURA, A/S MOOSE HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH BURUNDI'S  
POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERSHIP. BASED ON THOSE  
DISCUSSIONS WE BELIEVE THAT MEN AND WOMEN OF GOOD WILL  
ARE WORKING HARD TO RESOLVE BURUNDI'S POLITICAL PROBLEMS.

HE WAS, HOWEVER, CONCERNED ABOUT THE PRESENCE OF  
EXTREMISTS WHO APPEAR DETERMINED TO BLOCK A RESOLUTION TO  
THE QUESTION OF PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION IN BURUNDI A  
CRITICAL ISSUE FOR BURUNDI'S POLITICAL STABILITY AND THE  
CONSOLIDATION OF ITS DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS.

A/S MOOSE URGED THOSE INDIVIDUALS TO JOIN WITH MORE  
MODERATE VOICES TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR BURUNDI TO MOVE  
FORWARD POLITICALLY, GROW ECONOMICALLY, AND DEVELOP  
DEMOCRATICALLY.

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Q: DO WE STILL BELIEVE THE ARUSHA FRAMEWORK IS VIABLE?  
WHAT ABOUT POWER-SHARING?

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A: CLEARLY, THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN RWANDA HAS  
CHANGED SINCE THE ARUSHA ACCORD WAS SIGNED ONE YEAR AGO  
TODAY. THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF THAT AGREEMENT, HOWEVER,  
REMAINS VALID.

THE ARUSHA ACCORD EMBODIES THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF  
POWER-SHARING WHICH WILL FACILITATE NATIONAL  
RECONCILIATION IN RWANDA.

THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MAY HAVE TO BE CHANGED TO REFLECT  
CONSIDERABLE CHANGES IN CIRCUMSTANCES IN RWANDA SINCE  
AUGUST 1993, WHEN THE ACCORD WAS SIGNED. HOW THAT PLAN  
CHANGES IS A DECISION FOR THE PARTIES IN RWANDA TO MAKE.

WE CONTINUE TO URGE ALL PARTIES IN RWANDA TO FIND A MEANS  
TO IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ARUSHA ACCORD IN ORDER TO  
BRING ABOUT NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

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3. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: CURRENT SITUATION  
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Q: DO YOU HAVE A READ-OUT ON AMBASSADOR RAWSON'S  
ACTIVITIES?

A: 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

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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.

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4. PRM PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA: REFUGEE UPDATE  
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Q: WHAT'S BEING DONE TO CONVINCE THE REFUGEE LEADERS TO RETURN TO RWANDA? DO WE HAVE ANY REPORTS OF RETURNING REFUGEES BEING KILLED?

A: WE DO NOT HAVE ANY CONFIRMED REPORTS OF REFUGEES BEING KILLED UPON THEIR RETURN TO RWANDA.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES GOING BACK HAS DROPPED RECENTLY DUE TO RUMORS OF RETURNEES BEING KILLED.

VOLUNTARY REFATRIATION IS THE BEST SOLUTION TO ANY REFUGEE CRISIS. INCLUDING THIS ONE. WE, ALONG WITH THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR), RECOGNIZE THAT REFUGEES MUST FEEL SECURE ENOUGH TO CHOOSE TO RETURN.

WE ARE WORKING ON SEVERAL FRONTS TO HELP CREATE A SECURE CONTEXT FOR REPATRIATION. WE ARE HELPING EQUIP THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN RWANDA (UNAMIR) TO DEPLOY MORE WIDELY.

UNHCR IS PLANNING TO USE RADIO BROADCASTS TO COUNTER ADVERSE RUMORS AND DISINFORMATION.

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) HAVE BEGUN TO SET UP RECEPTION CENTERS AND RELIEF DISTRIBUTION POINTS FOR THE RETURNEES.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHATTUCK IS GOING TO THE REGION TODAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE ISSUE OF ESTABLISHING STRUCTURES OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE GENOCIDE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN RWANDA.

Q: DID ZAIREAN SOLDIERS HOLD UP RELIEF WORKERS AT GOMA AIRPORT, OR ARE RELIEF WORKERS PILFERING AID?

A: WE CANNOT CONFIRM THESE REPORTS, BUT WE ARE CONCERNED AND ARE LOOKING INTO THEM.

Q: WOULD YOU PROVIDE US WITH AN UPDATE ON RWANDAN REFUGEES?

A: ACCORDING TO UNHCR, THERE ARE CURRENTLY AN ESTIMATED 2 MILLION RWANDAN REFUGEES IN THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF ZAIRE, BURUNDI, TANZANIA AND UGANDA.

ZAIRE: 1.4 MILLION:

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1,000,000 IN GOMA AREA

412,000 IN BUKAVU AND UVIRA

BURUNDI: 200,000

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TANZANIA: 322,000

UGANDA: 10,500

THERE ARE SOME 1.5 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE  
INSIDE RWANDA.

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

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

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

MASSIVE RELIEF EFFORTS TO PROVIDE CLEAN WATER, FOOD AND  
MEDICINE FOR THE REFUGEES HAVE REDUCED BY MORE THAN HALF  
THE NUMBER OF DEATHS, FROM ABOUT 1,800 PER DAY LAST WEEK  
TO ABOUT 800 A DAY THIS WEEK.

THE CURRENT LEVEL OF WATER PRODUCTION NOW MEETS ABOUT 60  
PERCENT OF THE BASIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS IN THE CAMPS.  
PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY OF CLEAN WATER CONTINUES TO BE THE  
MAIN FOCUS OF HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS IN GOMA.

THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL HAVE 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  
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A: OUR TOTAL CONTRIBUTION NOW STANDS AT OVER DOLLARS  
150 MILLION. MAKING THE UNITED STATES THE LARGEST SINGLE  
GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTOR OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE  
RWANDA CRISIS.

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

DOLLARS 270 MILLION WOULD BE 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 30 MILLION WOULD BE 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 WOULD BE FOR THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) TO PROVIDE MEDICINE AND SUPPORT MEDICAL TEAMS, AND HELP BURY THOSE WHO DIED FROM CHOLERA.

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5. DRL PRESS GUIDANCE - RWANDA. A/S SHATTUCK'S TRIP  
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Q: WHERE WILL ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHATTUCK BE TRAVELLING IN AFRICA? WHAT WILL HE BE DISCUSSING?

A: JOHN SHATTUCK, ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND LABOR, WILL BE LEAVING TODAY FOR A BRIEF TRIP TO RWANDA, THE GOMA REFUGEE CAMP IN ZAIRE, AND BURUNDI.

IN RWANDA HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT WILL FOCUS ON THE GENERAL ISSUE OF CREATING STRUCTURES OF ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE GENOCIDE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE SUCH AS A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL. LIKELY ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED ARE HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS, COOPERATION WITH THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER, ENCOURAGING RETURNEES, DETENTIONS OF PERPETRATORS OF GENOCIDE, AND SECURITY CONDITIONS IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS.

IN BURUNDI, HE WILL CONVEY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO AMELIORATE AND DEFUSE ETHNIC TENSIONS.

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6. AF PRESS GUIDANCE - NIGERIA: GENERAL SITUATION  
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Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN NIGERIA?

A: THE GENERAL STRIKE, WHICH BEGAN YESTERDAY, HAS BEEN SUSPENDED, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. THE AIRPORT IS BEING OPERATED BY THE MILITARY WITH LONG FLIGHT DELAYS. NO POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN REPORTED TODAY.

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THERE IS NO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION. SEVERAL POWER STATIONS ARE CLOSED. THE STRIKE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE IN EFFECT IN THE OUTLYING AREAS AROUND THE COUNTRY.

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

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

WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR THIS SITUATION CLOSELY.

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

A: CHIEF ABIOLA'S TRIAL HAS BEEN ADJOURNED UNTIL AUGUST 16TH. HE REMAINS IN PRISON.

Q: WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF A COMPLETE CUTOFF OF NIGERIAN OIL AS A RESULT OF THE CURRENT STRIKE?

A: A COMPLETE CUTOFF OF NIGERIAN OIL COULD RESULT IN A SHARP IMMEDIATE RISE OF A FEW DOLLARS PER BARREL IN WORLD OIL PRICES. THE PRICE WOULD THEN GRADUALLY DECLINE AS OTHER PRODUCERS INCREASED PRODUCTION. THE LONGER TERM PRICE IMPACT WOULD DEPEND ON THE DURATION OF THE CUTOFF.

Q: ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO IMPOSE AN EMBARGO ON US PURCHASES OF NIGERIAN OIL?

A: NOT AT THIS TIME.

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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 RESPECT FOR A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS THAT ENSURES THAT THE WILL OF THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE IS RESPECTED.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

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