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(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

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242000Z JAN 91

FROM

FM SSO DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

TO

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

CINCCENT (b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

CONTROLS

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BODY

SUBJ: DIA COMMONWEALTH I&W SUMMARY 16-91/242000Z JAN 91

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(U) THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS I&W SUMMARY HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

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11. ~~(S)~~ OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS: **RWANDA** -- RWANDAN REBELS SEIZED THE TOWN OF RUHENGERI ON 23 JANUARY, POSSIBLY MARKING THE START OF A MAJOR REBEL OFFENSIVE. RUHENGERI IS HOME TO THE PARACOMMANDO BATTALION HEADQUARTERS AND TRAINING CAMP. ALTHOUGH THE 600-MAN PARACOMMANDO BATTALION WAS IN THE CAPITAL AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK, THE TOWN WAS STILL DEFENDED BY MORE THAN 1,000 MEN. THE BATTALION IS REPORTEDLY RETURNING TO RUHENGERI TO LEAD A COUNTERATTACK. THE CAPTURE OF RUHENGERI IS A MAJOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY BLOW TO THE GOVERNMENT. EVEN IF THE REBELS ARE UNABLE TO HOLD THE TOWN, CONFISCATED MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES WILL CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO FUTURE REBEL OPERATIONS.

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