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042107Z OCT 90

FROM

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC (b)(3):10 USC 424

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TO DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

CONTROLS

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PASS: (b)(3):10 USC 424;(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i)

SERIAL: DODID 277-9A

BODY

SUBJ: **RWANDA**: S1TUATION UPDATE. ~~(S/NF)~~

DOI: 4 OCT 90 (AS OF 1555 EDT)

TEXT: 1. ~~(S/NF)~~ RWANDAN HELICOPTERS HAVE INFLICTED HEAVY LOSSES ON REBEL FORCES NEAR GABIRO AND KAGITUMBA.

2. ~~(S/NF)~~ THE AIR FORCE, USING ITS FRENCH-BUILT GAZELLE HELICOPTERS EQUIPPED WITH ROCKETS AND CANNONS, IS SAID TO HAVE DESTROYED A REBEL SUPPLY COLUMN NEAR GABIRO THE EVENING OF 3 OCTOBER AND THE REBEL HEADQUARTERS AT KAGITUMBA ON THE 4TH.

3. ~~(S/NF)~~ THE REBELS HAVE REPORTEDLY DIVIDED INTO SMALL GROUPS AND ARE CONDUCTING GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF LAKE MUHAZI. GOVERNMENT ARMORED AND PARATROOP BATTALIONS HAVE RETURNED TO KIGALI TO PREVENT GUERRILLA INCURSIONS IN THE CAPITAL.

4. ~~(S/NF)~~ FRANCE HAS ORDERED ONE COMPANY OF LEGIONNAIRES TO KIGALI TO DEFEND ITS EMBASSY AND FRENCH CITIZENS. THE BADLY NEEDED BELGIAN AMMUNITION HAS ALSO BEEN DELIVERED. THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING MUNITIONS FROM FRANCE FOR THE GAZELLE HELICOPTERS AND A KAMPALA CLAMPDOWN ON THE **RWANDA**-UGANDA BORDER, THUS ELIMINATING A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF REBEL ASSISTANCE FROM RWANDAN EXILES LIVING ON THE UGANDAN SIDE OF THE BORDER.

5. ~~(S/NF)~~ OTHER THAN THE TUTSIS JOINING THE FORCE, NO LOCAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE REBELS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. HOWEVER, A NATIONAL

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RESISTANCE ARMY MAJOR STUDYING IN THE US, WHO CLAIMS TO BE IN CONTACT WITH REBEL LEADER MAJ GEN RWIGYEMA, PLANS TO JOIN THE REBEL FORCES. HE ALLEGEDLY PLANS TO RETURN THROUGH NAIROBI WITHOUT UGANDAN GOVERNMENT APPROVAL OR KNOWLEDGE AND THEN TRAVEL OVERLAND LINK UP WITH HIS FELLOW TUTSIS.

6. ~~(S/NF)~~ COMMENT: THE AMMUNITION DELIVERY FROM THE BELGIANS AND THE PROMISE OF EARLY ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM VARIOUS SYMPATHETIC GOVERNMENTS, AS WELL AS THE RECENT BATTLE VICTORIES, SUGGEST THAT THE WORST MAY BE OVER FOR THE GOVERNMENT. RWIGYEMA, HOWEVER, HAS THE EXPERIENCE AND THE POTENTIAL TO CONDUCT A PROTRACTED GUERRILL CAMPAIGN IF HE CAN REGROUP HIS FORCES AND GAIN MORE SUPPORT FROM RWANDAN TUTSIS, ALTHOUGH THEY MAKE UP ONLY 9 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION. RWIGYEMA MIGHT TRY TO ESTABLISH AN AREA OF CONTROL F WHICH HE COULD BARGAIN FOR GREATER POLITICAL INFLUENCE FOR THE TUTSIS IF HE DECIDES THAT TAKING KIGALI IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.

ADMIN

PREP:

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~~DECL: OADR~~

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