

CONFIDENTIAL

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032312Z JUN 91

FROM

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

TO

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

CONTROLS

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/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

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

SERIAL: 154-RN

SUBJ: REGIONAL NOTES 3 JUN 91. (U)

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5. (c) **RWANDA:** THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE SENT ITS PROPOSED CONSTITUTION WITH AMENDMENTS TO THE PRESIDENT ON 30 MAY AND IS NOW BEGINNING WORK ON THE POLITICAL PARTIES LAW. PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA IS LIKELY TO SIGN THE CONSTITUTION WHICH PROVIDES FOR GREATER DEMOCRACY AT THE LOWER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, BUT MAINTAINS A STRONG PRESIDENCY. HOWEVER, WHEN THE POLITICAL PARTIES LAW COMES BEFORE HIM, HE WILL MOST LIKELY NOT APPROVE ANYTHING THAT THREATENS TO WEAKEN HIS OR HIS PARTY'S HOLD ON POWER BY STRENGTHENING ANOTHER PARTY'S CHANCES OF WINNING AN ELECTION. BY SUCH MANEUVERING, HABYARIMANA MAY HOPE TO APPEASE INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE FOR A MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRACY AND STILL HAVE PROPAGANDA FOR USE AGAINST REBELS IN THE NORTH.

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