

~~SECRET~~
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DTG

302343Z OCT 90

FROM

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

TO

TO DIA (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 303-2A

BODY

SUBJ: **RWANDA**: SITUATION UPDATE. (~~C/NF~~)

DOI: 30 OCT 90 (AS OF 1030 EST)

TEXT: 1. (~~C/NF~~) GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS HAVE CAPTURED GABIRO, AND BELGIAN PARATROOPS ARE SCHEDULED TO DEPART.

2. (~~C/NF~~) ACCORDING TO MILITARY SOURCES, FORCES OF THE RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT HAVE AGAIN BROKEN INTO SMALL UNITS AND MAY BE PLANNING TO REGROUP FOR A COUNTERATTACK AFTER LOSING GABIRO TO GOVERNMENT TROOPS. IN OTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE GOVERNMENT, THE MILITARY RECEIVED A LARGE RESUPPLY OF MUNITIONS FROM EGYPT ON 29 OCTOBER, AND A CONVOY OF 30 TO 50 CONTAINER AND GASOLINE TRUCKS REACHED KIGALI FROM BYUMBA LATE ON THE 26TH. BY CONTRAST, SOME REBEL COMBATANTS HAVE SURRENDERED TO GOVERNMENT TROOPS, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THEY HAD RUN OUT OF FOOD, WATER, AND AMMUNITION.

3. (~~C/NF~~) KIGALI IS TALKING OF THE FORMATION OF AN AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE TO POLICE ANY FUTURE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT. BRUSSELS HAS DECIDED TO WITHDRAW ITS PARATROOPERS FROM **RWANDA** BY 1 NOVEMBER, BUT HAS TOLD ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL THAT THEY RISK LOSING THEIR CONTRACTS WITH THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT IF THEY LEAVE.

4. (~~S/NF~~) COMMENT: THE LATEST COMBAT SUCCESSES AND AN IMPROVED MUNITIONS SUPPLY BODE WELL FOR THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS. THE PULLOUT OF THE BELGIAN PARATROOPS, HOWEVER, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE AT LEAST A PSYCHOLOGICAL SETBACK FOR KIGALI. REBEL FORCES WILL QUITE LIKELY TRY TO REGROUP, RESUPPLY, AND REGAIN THE OFFENSIVE IN THE NEAR TERM.

ADMIN

PREP:

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