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

DTG

271705Z SEP 91

FROM

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

TO

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

CONTROLS

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

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SECTION 01 OF 04

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

BODY

SUBJ: DIA COMMONWEALTH INTSUM--MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA 655-91/27 SEP 91

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(U) THE ITEMS CONTAINED IN THIS INTSUM HAVE BEEN AUTHORIZED BY

DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

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Non Responsive

RWANDA: FAILED SUMMIT. (U)

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/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 004 *****/

AS OF 1835Z 26 SEP 91

1. (C) PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA AND FOREIGN MINISTER BIZIMUNGU HAVE PRIVATELY PRONOUNCED THE RECENT TALKS WITH THE RWANDAN REBELS A FAILURE.
2. (C) THE SUMMIT MEMBERS, WHO MET IN GBADOLITE, ZAIRE, FROM 17 THROUGH 20 SEPTEMBER, FORMALLY APPROVED THE REORGANIZATION OF THE MILITARY CEASE-FIRE OBSERVER GROUP, BUT THEY APPARENTLY ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING ELSE. THE REBEL DELEGATION LEADER FIXATED ON HOW TO GET RID OF HABYARIMANA AND PROBABLY DID NOT ADDRESS EITHER REBEL DEMANDS OR REFUGEE INTERESTS. THE RWANDAN DELEGATION REPORTED THAT THE REBEL REPRESENTATIVES' BEHAVIOR HAD EXASPERATED THE MEDIATOR, ZAIRE'S FOREIGN MINISTER; HE BROKE OFF THE TALKS AND TOLD THE REBELS TO BRING REALISTIC NEGOTIATING POINTS TO THE NEXT SESSION.
3. (C) NO DATE WAS SET FOR THE SECOND ROUND, BUT THE FORMAT WILL STAY THE SAME. HABYARIMANA HOPES THAT DISCUSSIONS WILL RESUME WITHIN A WEEK. HE ALSO HOPES THAT THE RECONSTITUTED CEASE-FIRE OBSERVER GROUP, WHICH IS TO CONSIST OF 15 NIGERIANS AND 15 ZAIRIANS, WILL BE IN PLACE WITHIN 3 WEEKS. THE MOST PROMISING DEVELOPMENT IS THAT BIZIMUNGU HAS AGREED TO MEET WITH PAUL KAGAME, WHO MAY WIELD THE MOST POWER IN THE REBEL ORGANIZATION.
4. (C) COMMENT: THE CONFLICT IS NEARING ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY, AND THE GBADOLITE SUMMIT HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT THE PEACE PROCESS IS ADVANCING AT A SNAIL'S PACE. PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS IN THE NEAR TERM ARE NOW SEVERELY THREATENED BY ZAIRE'S DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THE CRISIS IN THAT COUNTRY WILL DELAY IF NOT PRECLUDE KINSHASA'S MEDIATING THE RWANDAN CONFLICT AND PROVIDING HALF OF THE CEASE-FIRE OBSERVER TEAM. ACTIVITY ON THE RWANDAN-UGANDAN BORDER, WHETHER BY ONE OF THE NATIONAL ARMIES OR BY THE RWANDAN REBELS, COULD ESCAPE WESTERN OR REGIONAL ATTENTION JUST NOW. SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY MIGHT INSPIRE A STRIKE, A REPRISAL, OR A REBEL LAND GRAB BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS CAN RESUME OR CEASE-FIRE OBSERVERS CAN BE DEPLOYED.

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