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DTG

021705Z APR 92

FROM

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

TO

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

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

CONTROLS

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SECTION 01 OF 04

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

BODY

SUBJ: DIA COMMONWEALTH INTSUM--MIDDLE EAST/AFRICA 149-92/2 APR 92

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

DIA (b)(3):10 USC 424

Non Responsive

RWANDA: REBEL ATTACKS. (U)

Non Responsive

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RWANDA: REBEL ATTACKS. (U)

AS OF 0500Z 1 APR 92

1. (S) RECENT SHELLING FROM UGANDA INDICATES THE RPF'S CONTINUED RESOLVE TO CHALLENGE THE GOVERNMENT.
2. (S) UGANDAN-SUPPORTED RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF) REBELS SHELLED A DISPLACED PERSONS CAMP AT RWEBARE SEVERAL TIMES FROM 24 TO 28 MARCH, KILLING ABOUT 20 PEOPLE AND FORCING 7,000 PERSONS TO FLEE SOUTH. THESE ATTACKS IN THE NORTHEASTERN SECTOR NEAR THE UGANDAN BORDER REFLECT A RECENT CHANGE IN TACTICS BY THE RPF, WHICH PREVIOUSLY HAD MOSTLY ATTACKED MILITARY TARGETS. THE RPF USED 120MM MORTARS AND BM-21 KATYUSHA 122MM ROCKETS TO SHELL THE CAMP.
3. (S) THE RWEBARE ATTACK IS THE SECOND SINCE DECEMBER, WHEN THE RPF INFILTRATED THE TOWN, KILLED 17 PEOPLE, BURNED HUTS AND LIVESTOCK, AND STOLE FOOD. THIS PATTERN OF ATTACKING CIVILIAN TARGETS HAS CONTINUED SINCE THEN. THE MOST NOTABLE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN THE NORTHWEST, WHERE TWO NUNS WERE KILLED IN EARLY MARCH.
4. (S) COMMENT: SOME OF THE RPF'S 3,000 SOLDIERS HAVE ESTABLISHED A FOOTHOLD IN THE NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF **RWANDA**. IN RECENT MONTHS, THE RPF MOUNTED OPERATIONS IN THE NORTHWESTERN REGION OF BUTARO, BUT IT WAS UNABLE TO HOLD THE TERRITORY AGAINST THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES' COUNTERATTACKS. RPF CIVILIAN ATTACKS APPEARED DESIGNED TO

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CREATE POPULAR UNREST IN THE BORDER AREAS, THEREBY PUTTING PRESSURE ON KIGALI TO MAKE ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS. THE RPF HAS DEMANDED POWER SHARING WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MILITARY, BUT IT HAS NOT RESPONDED TO OFFICIAL OFFERS OF POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.

5. ~~(S)~~ WITHOUT ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL PRESSURE TO STOP, UGANDA WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AID AND SANCTUARY TO THE RPF. SUCH SUPPORT IS LIKELY TO LEAD TO CONTINUED RPF INTRANSIGENCE, WHICH WILL THREATEN NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND DEMOCRATIC REFORMS IN **RWANDA**.

~~(DECL OADR)~~

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