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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

20546

Summary of Conclusions for
Meeting of the NSC Deputies Committee

DATE: May 28, 1998

LOCATION: Cordell Hull Conference Room

TIME: 2:00-3:30 P.M.



SUBJECT: Summary of Conclusions of NSC Deputies Committee
Meeting on Countering Genocide in the Great Lakes (U)

PARTICIPANTS:

Chair
Jim Steinberg

Chief of Staff
John Podesta

OVP
Leon Fuerth
Jim Babbitt

CIA
Roderick Isler

Withheld under statutory authority of the
Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50
U.S.C., section 403g)

State
Wendy Sherman
Susan Rice

AID
Richard McCall

Defense
Walter Slocombe
Vincent Kern

JCS
Joseph Ralston
George Casey

OMB
Phil DuSault

NSC
Joseph Wilson
John Prendergast
Richard Ragan

USUN
David Goldwyn

Len Hawley
Mary McCarthy

Summary of Conclusions

It was agreed that:

- In light of the continuing attacks on civilians by the forces that perpetrated the Rwandan genocide, and in response to the President's pledges to do everything possible to prevent a recurrence of genocide or mass killing in the Great Lakes, Deputies agreed to deepen our security engagement with the Government of Rwanda as an element of a broader genocide prevention strategy. (S)

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E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

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- A DOD assessment team with State Department participation will travel to Rwanda and complete within 90 days an assessment of the appropriate mix of additional military training activities and equipment aimed at contributing to Rwandan efforts to deter, contain or minimize the effect of the *genocidaires*. The DOD plan will also include specific cost estimates for proposed activities. (Action: DOD, State) (S)
- The parameters of the assessment will include lethal and non-lethal aid requirements. However, no commitment will be made to the GOR concerning lethal aid. State Department members of the team will seek agreement with the GOR on enhanced human rights safeguards necessary for the provision of lethal military assistance should Deputies authorize aid. Deputies will re-convene at the appropriate time to decide whether to provide lethal aid. (Action: State) (S)
- The issue of whether the United States should equip and train the Rwandan army to locate and suppress hate radio broadcasts will be integrated into the assessment team's mandate. If the assessment team recommends any lethal activity associated with countering hate radio, it will also be subject to Deputies decision. (S)
- DOD will produce within ninety days a plan to give neighboring countries the military capacity to respond to genocidal activity on a timeline much shorter than ACRI. DOD's plan will also address airlift and logistical gaps. (Action: DOD) (S)
- In tandem with the DOD planning process, NSC will convene an IWG to analyze contingencies and develop options for the provision of U.S. political support for building regional capacity to respond quickly to genocide or mass killing. The IWG should also develop a diplomatic strategy to maximize multilateral buy-in and African regional leadership to avoid a backlash from Africans and a perception that this might be a U.S.-led initiative. (Action: NSC) (S)
- The DOD plan and the results of the IWG process will be presented to Deputies for their consideration. (S)
- Any enhancement of our security relationship with the Government of Rwanda will require the development of a comprehensive public affairs and legislative strategy to explain our policy and actions. (S)

- Following the DOD assessment and cost estimates, OMB, State, and DOD will identify appropriate sources of funding required for any enhancement of our security assistance relationship. (Action: OMB, State, DOD) (S)