



DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)

FOIA/PA	Mandatory Review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Release	<input type="checkbox"/> Declassify
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Exemptions	
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United States Department of State

MAR 21 1997

Washington, D. C. 20520

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DENY

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
S/S

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DECL: OADR

TO: The Acting Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: AF - Prudence Bushnell, Acting

SUBJECT: Update on Rwanda

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR DZ Date: 10/26/95

SUMMARY

Following is the daily update on Rwanda.

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<input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info	
FOIA Exemptions	
PA Exemptions	

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations

TS authority to
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

DISCUSSION

Situation on the Ground

- o Embassy FSNs report that there is only sporadic gunfire in Kigali and that the fighting appears to be moving away from the center of town and toward the airport. Rwandan military officials say the fighting is continuing, but at a lessened rate. Reports indicate that killing of civilians continues.
- o Minister of Commerce Mugenzi and MRND Political Party leader Ngirumpatse in a press conference yesterday deplored the killings in Rwanda but insisted on linking them to RPF military actions. Ambassadors Rawson and Flaten spoke with Mugenzi this morning by phone and told him the government's statement was totally inadequate and wrongly equated the murder of civilians with combat between organized armies.
- o Burundi remains calm but tense. A 20-minute exchange of gunfire at 0300 in the suburbs outlying Bujumbura woke much of the capital. As part of the ongoing UN-sponsored negotiations to end the violence in suburban areas, militia leaders were expected to voluntarily turn over some weapons to the government this afternoon. OAU representatives and the diplomatic corps are expected to be on hand to witness this confidence-building event.

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Diplomatic Efforts

- o AF DAS Bushnell telephoned Rwandan Ministry of Defense Cabinet Director Col. Bagasora today to urge an end to the killings. Bagasora responded [with the party line:] that the RPF offensive is triggering the massacres and that a cease-fire is needed first. DAS Bushnell confronted him with eyewitness accounts of Rwandan army complicity in the killings, and said the world did not believe their party line. [This sobered him up, and he promised to pass the message to the military leadership to see if a compromise was possible, and to call back tomorrow with an answer.]
- o No talks on the Rwandan peace process are scheduled for this weekend in either Arusha or Dar es Salaam. The Rwandan government delegation in Dar es Salaam is scheduled to see President Mwinyi this afternoon.

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Humanitarian Issues

- o The Rwandan government issued passes to all international humanitarian relief organization personnel still in Kigali, allowing them to move freely about town. According to holders of these passes, they are being respected by both the government and RPF forces at road blocks throughout the city.

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