NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

14-Jun-1994 11:50 EDT

-CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE BELOW

FROM:

Donald K. Steinberg

(STEINBERG)

SUBJECT:

Points for POTUS with Members

Jeremy:

Attached is a page of talking points on Rwanda. We need to get a decision from Tony on the bracketted language -- not only for the meeting with the Members, but for public as well. I think it would do the President well to stand up himself and say that genocide has occurred in Rwanda. Period. He is in the unique position to break through the goobledy-gook that the rest of us are required to say. If he does it, it will make it seem like he himself is frustrated over the bureaucracy's inability to call a spade a spade -- that would be a good thing...We have addressed below the question of what obligation that entails, or if he thinks we are responding adequately.

Don





Rwanda

- -- I've been deeply concerned over the continuing tragedy in Rwanda. We have are providing \$68 million in humanitarian assistance for Rwandan refugees, including food, medicine, blankets and other supplies. Our military is flying in three planeloads a day of food into Burundi.
 - o This is by far the lion's share of the humanitarian relief effort. Our efforts have helped to save lives throughout the neighboring countries.
 - o We've also sent disaster relief teams into Rwanda to assist the distribution of humanitarian relief there.
- -- We share the frustration over the slowness in drawing together an international peacekeeping force. That is why we've been so involved in the process of getting peacekeepers into Rwanda. The Vice President's meeting with UN Secretary General Boutros Ghali, OAU Secretary General Salim Salim and Tanzanian President Mwinyi in South Africa on May 10 helped drive this process, leading to a UNSC Resolution less than a week later to authorize 5500 troops.
 - We've helped the UN planning process and mobilized to provide equipment, airlift, training and financial support for the operation.
 - o We've contacted numerous African countries to get their support for the mission. We're helping the UN peacekeeping secretariat coordinate the dozen or so country forces that have to be merged into this mission.
 - o We previously sent military equipment in Europe to assist its quick delivery. For example, we have 50 armored personnel carriers for this mission in Germany about to be shipped to Kampala, where they will be used for the training of Ghanaian troops and driven to Kigali.
- -- We have every reason to believe that [acts of genocide have] [genocide has] occurred in Rwanda, as defined under the 1948 convention. That's why we've supported so strongly the introduction of 5500 UN peacekeepers into Rwanda and why we have urged the U.N. Human Rights Commission to send a special rapporteur to Rwanda to investigate these acts of genocide and ensure that those responsible for acts of genocide be held accountable for their deeds.
 - o (if asked) The Genocide Convention does not impose a



responsibility on the part of any government to take any specific action. We believe that creation of the peacekeeping force, the appointment of a special rapporteur and our massive humanitarian assistance effort is an appropriate response.

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