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FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4341
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KIGALI 02761

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, MASS, AORC, OAU, RW
SUBJECT: THE MDR VS. THE MDR

REF: KIGALI 0749

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1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY: SWORN IN JULY 18, THE GOVERNMENT OF AGATHE UWILINGIYIMANA SURVIVED ITS FIRST CRISIS JULY 23 WHEN AGATHE WAS PRESSURED TO SIGN A LETTER OF RESIGNATION, THEN PUBLICLY WITHDREW IT WITHIN HOURS. THUS SHE BROKE FROM HER PARTY DURING ITS EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS AND ATTACHED HERSELF FIRMLY TO THE PARTY'S SUSPENDED PRESIDENT, FAUSTIN TWAGIRAMUNGU; THE PARTY CONGRESS THEN VOTED TO THROW THEM BOTH OUT, ALONG WITH THE THREE NEW MDR MINISTERS. THE PRIME MINISTER AND OTHERS PLAN TO CHALLENGE THEIR EXCLUSION IN THE COURTS, CLAIMING THE CONGRESS WAS ILLEGALLY CONVENED. THIS PARTY CRISIS SO FAR HAS CREATED NO SECURITY PROBLEMS, BUT COUPLED WITH THE RESIGNATION AND FLIGHT FROM THE COUNTRY OF DEFENSE MINISTER GASANA, IT CREATES SOME CHANCES FOR RENEWED INSECURITY. END

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Daris, Senior Reviewer

SUMMARY.

PRIME MINISTER RESIGNS AND RECANTS

3. AT 6:30 A.M. SATURDAY, JULY 24, KIGALI WAS TREATED TO RECORDED BROADCAST BY PRIME MINISTER AGATHE UWCLIGIYIMANA. IN CLEAR AND MEASURED TONES, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT SHE HAD BEEN FORCED BY THE MDR CONGRESS TO SIGN A LETTER OF RESIGNATION. THAT WAS AT 9 P.M. FRIDAY NIGHT. IN HER BROADCAST, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE RESIGNATION WAS NULL AND VOID, THAT SHE HAD BEEN FORCED TO SIGN IT BY THE PARTY CONGRESS, AND THAT SHE, AS A PATRIOT, CHOSE NOW TO CONTINUE TO EXERCISE HER RESPONSIBILITIES AS PRIME
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MINISTER.

4. SOURCES FROM WITHIN THE PARTY CONGRESS TOLD US THAT THE PRIME MINISTER SEEMED TO HAVE AGREED WITH THE CONGRESS THAT SHE SHOULD RESIGN. IN FACT, SHE REPORTEDLY ASKED FOR THE CONGRESS' JUDGMENT ON WHETHER SHE SHOULD RESIGN AND RECEIVED A RESOUNDING YES. THE SAME SOURCE REPORTS THAT THERE WAS DANCING IN THE CONGRESS HALLS ONCE SHE HAD SIGNED THE LETTER, BUT THAT ONLY AFTER 9 P.M., WHEN HER HUSBAND SHOWED UP, THERE SEEMED TO BE SOME PROBLEM. MEANTIME FRIDAY EVENING, THERE WERE RUMORS FLOATING THAT SHE HAD BEEN BEATEN, RAPED AND IN OTHER PHYSICAL WAYS FORCED TO SIGN THE RESIGNATION. SOME SPECULATED THAT SHE HAD RESIGNED BECAUSE THE CABINET HAD SELECTED TWANIRAMUNGU TO BE THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE NEXT TRANSITION GOVERNMENT INSTEAD OF HER. WHATEVER THE MOTIVATIONS AND WHATEVER THE ACTUAL FACTS OF THE CONGRESS, THIS REMARKABLE WOMAN HAS DECIDED TO STICK IT OUT AT LEAST FOR NOW AND SUPPORT THE TWAGIRAMUNGU FACTION OF HER PARTY.

THB MRND "PARTY CONGRESS"

5. DENIED APPROVAL FOR A PUBLIC PARTY CONGRESS BY THE PREFECT OF KIGALI (REFTEL), THE MDR SHIFTED ITS VENUE TO THE IWACU COOPERATIVE TRAINING CENTER AND WAS GRANTED PROTECTION BY THE ENDERMARIE FOR A CONGRESS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS. CLEARLY THIS WAS FACILITATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE IWACU WHO
(#)

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(#)

6. (#)

(#) AND NINETY-
EIGHT MEMBERS

WERE PRSSENT, ACCORDING TO THE PARTY COMMUNIQUE. THE
COMMUNIQUE GOES TO GREAT LENGTHS TO ESTABLISH THE
LEGITIMACY OF THE CONGRESS, BIT ACCRDING TO MANY
SOURCES, IT WAS NOT A LEGITIMATE CONGRESS SINCE THE
PRESIDENT OF THE PARTY WAS NOT A PARTICIPANT IN
CALLING THE COCGRESS. THIS WILL PROBABLY FIND ITS
WAY INTO THE COURTS.

NOTE BY DO/CC: (#): OMISSIONS IN PARA 5 AND 6. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 KIGALI 02761

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7. AFZER THE TEUOW OF THE RESIGNATION AND
RENHWTI OF MN TPEIIO IN UTER, THE PARTY SPENT
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SATURDAY, JULY 24, PREPARING A COMMUNIQUE OF SEVEN
PAGES EXPLAINING WHAT IT HAD DONE AND WHY. IT
ACCUSED TWAGIRAMUNGU,
(#)
THREE MINISTERS WHO ACCEPTED POSITIONS IN THA CURCEMHD
(#) OF.,

; . OHEEPARTY REJECTS THE PROTOCOL OF JULY 16 BY
WHICH THE TRANSITION GOVERNMENT EXTENDD ITS
(#) CONFIRMS THE SUSPENSION OF TWGIRAMUNGU
AS PRESIDENT AND (#)
(#)
TAKEN BY TWAGIRAMUNGU SINCE JULY 17. IT THEN GOES ON
TO FIRE TWAGIRAMUNGU FRGM HKSNCMF UQTD IDEMO
AND OO EXCLUDE HIM FROM THE MDR PARTY AMD TO GIVE ITS
AUTHORITY TO THE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, FORMER PRIME
MINISTER DISMAS NSENGIYAREMYE.

9. THE PARTY DECIDED TO EXCLUDE PRIME MINISTER
UWLINGIYIMANA FROM THE MDR ALSO. FOREIGN MINISTER
GASANA, INFORMATION MINISTER UCOGOZA, AND MINISTER
OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION MBONIMPA WERE ALSO
HROWN OUT OITH PJTY.8THEIPARTY THEN CALLED ON
THE PRESIDENT OF RWANDA TO CALL TOGETHER THE PARTIES
TO CHOOSE A NEW PRIME MINISTER IN RESPONSE TO THE
RESIGNATION OF PRIME MINISTER AGATHE.

10. BUT THE PARTY ALSO REAFFIRMED ITS ATTACHMENT TO
PEACE AND DEMOCRACY, CALLED ON THE PRESIDENT TO
EXPEDITE THE SIGNATURE OF THE PEACE ACCORD, AND
THANKED PRESIDENT MWINYI OF TANZANIA FOR HIS
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FACILITATION OF THE PEACE PROCESS.

11. THE PARTY CONGRESS AFFIRMED THAT THE MDR WILL
PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW TRANSITION GOVERNMENT
ACCORDING TO THE PROTOCOLS SIGNED IN ARUSHA ON

OCTOBER 30, 1992 AND JANUARY 9, 1993. IT ALSO REAFFIRMED ITS SUPPORT FOR JEAN KAMBANDA AS THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER.

SECURITY IMPLICATIONS

12. THE MDR WAS REFUSED THE RIGHT TO HOLD ITS PARTY CONGRESS BUT DID IT ANYWAY, AND THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS. AMID ALL THIS TURMOIL, THIS HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MORE QUIET AND CALM WEEKENDS WE HAVE SEEN IN KIGALI FOR A LONG TIME.

13. ONE EXPLANATION FOR THE LACK OF PROBLEMS IS THAT THE YOUTH OF THE MDR SEEM TO BE LARGELY LOYAL TO TWAGIRAMUNGU. SINCE TWAGIRAMUNGU IS NOW IN THE CAT BIRD'S SEAT WITH THE SUPPORT OF ALL THE PARTIES PLUS THE RPF, THERE IS NO REASON FOR HIS YOUTH TO BE OUT OF CONTROL.

14. THE LONG-TERM SECURITY QUESTION WILL REST ON WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE RPF ARRIVES IN KIGALI, AND HOW THE FANATICS WITHIN THE MDR AND THE MILITARY REACT TO THIS EVENT.

15. RELATED TO THE SECURITY CONCERNS CREATED BY THE MDR CRISIS IS THE RESIGNATION OF DEFENSE MINISTER
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JAMES GASANA. GASANA WAS PROBABLY THE MOST RESPECTED MRND MEMBER OF THE CABINET, RESPECTED BY OPPOSITION POLITICIANS AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF HIS OWN PARTY. HE SOUGHT TO CARRY OUT HIS OBLIGATIONS AS THEY WERE SPELLED OUT INFORMAL GOVERNMENT (#)

(#)
DBUBL OHINKN SOME OF THE PRESIDENT-U ENTOURAGE AND SOME OF THE MILITARY TO THE EXTENT THAT HE WAS THREATENED BY A MILITARY GROUP WHICH CALLS ITSELF AMASUSU. HE IDENTIFIED THIS GROUP IN HIS LETTER OF RESIGNATION TO THE PRESIDENT. HE THEN LEFT THE COUNTRY WITH HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN, AND IS CURRENTLY "VACATIONING" IN SWITZERLAND. THERE MAY BE MORE THAN APPEARS ON THE SURFACE, BUT NOT THIS MOMENT, IN THE CONTEXT OF OTHER POLITICAL

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UNCERTAINTIES, IT IS AN ALARMING EVENT TO MOST
RWANDANS. EVEN MRND MINISTER CASIMIR BIZIMUNGU
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COMMENTED PRIVATELY THAT IF GASANA CANNOT PROTECT
HIMSELF, WE ARE ALL THREATENED. FLATEN

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