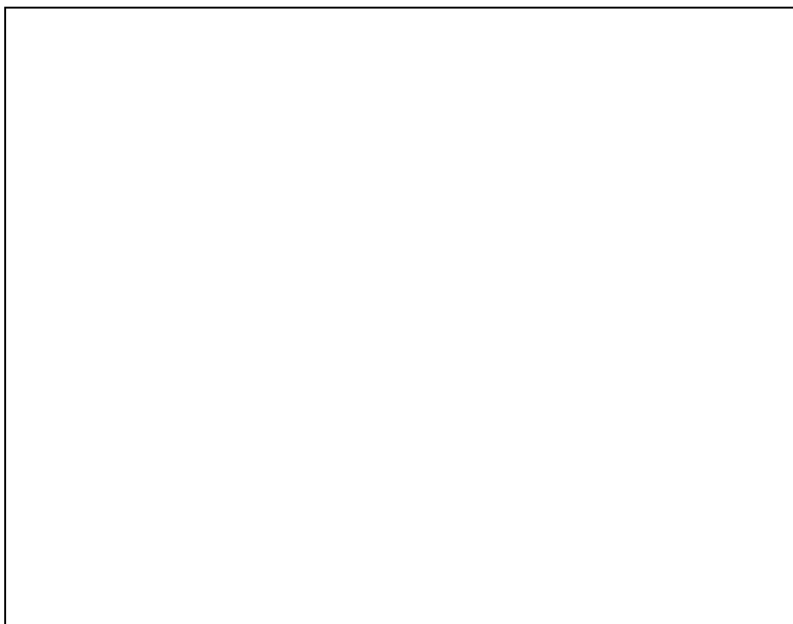


(b) (1)
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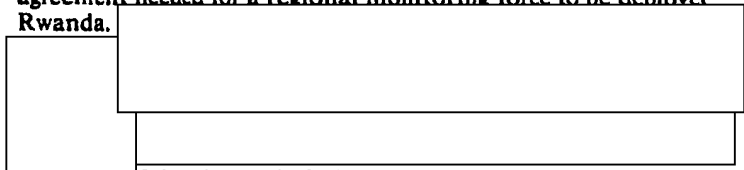
APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JUL 2002

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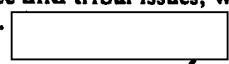


RWANDA: Regime Caught Between Military, Rebels

Military dissatisfaction with political and economic reforms, as well as frustration over continuing attacks by ethnic Tutsi rebels is fueling coup rumors. [Redacted] hardliners in the Hutu-dominated military, already upset by austerity measures, have rejected President Habyarimana's plans to create a multiparty political system and to remove references to tribal affiliation from national identity cards. A regional summit last week attended by Zaire, Rwanda, Uganda, and Burundi failed to produce the ceasefire agreement needed for a regional monitoring force to be deployed in Rwanda.



[Redacted] Habyarimana is facing the competing demands of military hardliners and the rebels while trying not to hamper any regional solution to the Tutsi refugee problem. He probably had hoped his reforms would preempt rebel demands and satisfy Western patrons such as France and Belgium; instead they are eroding his domestic support, especially in the military, and the rebels are continuing guerrilla attacks. Any hardline successor to Habyarimana probably would take a tough stance on refugee and tribal issues, which would inflame ethnic and regional tension.



~~Top Secret~~

[Redacted]