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PAGE 01 STATE 143697 280523Z
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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY
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PAGE 02 STATE 143697 280523Z

FOR AMBASSADOR, DCMS, PRINCIPAL OFFICERS ONLY FROM AF

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, US, XA
SUBJECT: AFRICA BUREAU FRIDAY REPORT, 05/27/94

USUN FOR SHESTACK, LONDON FOR MCKINLEY, PARIS FOR PERLOW,
LISBON FOR DAVIS

1. (LOU) "FRIDAY REPORT", PREPARED FOR A/S WEEKLY

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Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1994STATE143697

Page: 2
Channel: n/a

MEETING, FOLLOWS. SOME OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REPORT IS SENSITIVE DEALING WITH INTERAGENCY MATTERS CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION OR REVIE. DISTRIBUTION SHOULD THEREFORE BE CONFINED TO STATE PERSONNEL.

2. (U) BEGIN TEXT: FRIDAY REPORT 5/27/94

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PARAGRAPH
AF	3
AF/C	4
AF/E	5
AF/EFS	6
AF/EX	7
AF/RA	8
AF/S	9
AF/W	10
THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS	11
CALENDAR	12

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 143697 280523Z

3. (U) AF

THIS WEEK IN AF

A/S MOOSE BEGAN THE WEEK RECEIVING SENEGAL'S PRESIDENT DIOUF, WHO ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON SUNDAY ON A WORKING VISIT. MR. MOOSE ACCOMPANIED HIM TO HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON, AND ATTENDED VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S LUNCH IN DIOUF'S HONOR.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY SPENT TIME WITH AMBASSADOR MELISSA WELLS THIS WEEK AS SHE PREPARES TO ASSUME HER NEW DUTIES AS THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON SUDAN.

ON WEDNESDAY, MR. MOOSE MET WITH VISITING GABONESE FOREIGN MINISTER JEAN PING AND ON THURSDAY WITH UK MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT BARONESS LYNDA CHALKER.

A/S MOOSE IS ATTENDING THE EU TROIKA CONSULTATIONS IN BRUSSELS MAY 26-28 AND WILL RETURN TO THE OFFICE MAY 31.

4. (C) AF/C

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 2

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1994STATE143697

Page: 3
Channel: n/a

KEY PERSONNEL

AF/C DIRECTOR ARLENE RENDER IS OFF FOR SOME WELL-EARNED MOTHERING IN OHIO UNTIL JUNE 2; REED IS MINDING THE STORE. DAVID RAWSON TRAVELED WITH AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE FERRARO TO THE UNHRC SPECIAL SESSION ON RWANDA IN GENEVA.

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PAGE 04 STATE 143697 280523Z
LAURA LANE FROM EMBASSY KIGALI, WHO HAS BEEN OF INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE TO THE AF/C RWANDA TEAM, WILL BE MOVING TO THE OPS CENTER JUNE 1.

ZAIRE

-- TROIKA TALKS...BOUTROS BALKS:
MUCH TO OUR SURPRISE, UNSYG BOUTROS-GHALI REJECTED THE MAY 23 TROIKA DEMARCHE ON ZAIRE. THE SYG TOLD THE THREE PERMREPS THAT HE DID NOT "WISH TO EGAGE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE UN" IN A MISSION TO ZAIRE, SINCE BOTH MOBUTU AND TSHISEKEDI HAD REFUSED TO MEET WITH LAKHDAR BRAHIMI THE UNSYG'S SPECIAL REFRESENTATIVE, WHO HAD PLANNED TO ARRIVE IN ZAIRE MAY 31.

-- TRILATERAL TO-ING AND FRO-ING:
WITH THE REJECTION AT THE UN, THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE BRAHIMI MISSION, AND THE RELUCTANCE OF MONSENGWO TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE, THE FRENCH EXPRESSED INITIAL RELUCTANCE TO PROCEED WITH THE PARALLEL DEMARCES TO MOBUTU AND THE OPPOSITION, AND FLOATED THE IDEA OF SIMULTANEOUS PRESS TATEMENTS IN PARIS, WASHINGTON AND BRUSSELS. AS OF MAY 26, THE GOF HAD BACKED OFF THE PRESS STATEMENT TRIAL BALLOON, AND SEEMS NOW TO BE WILLING TO ENTERTAIN THE NOTION OF PARALLEL DEMARCHES -- ALBEIT WITH A TOUGHENED MESSAGE FOR TSHISEKEDI, AND AN ASSURANCE FROM THE U.S. THAT THE BELGIANS WILL SPEAK TO THE OPPOSITION LEADER FROM THE SAME SCRIPT. WE ARE COORDINATIG DEMARCHE LANGUAGE WITH PARIS AND BRUSSELS, AND HOPE TO GET AN INSTRUCTION TO THE FIELD NEXT WEEK...UNLESS THE FRENCH CHANGE THEIR MINDS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 143697 280523Z
AGAIN.

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 3

UNCLASSIFIED

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1994STATE143697

Page: 4
Channel: n/a

-- FORMER PERMREP TO REQUEST ASYLUM:
USUN REPORTS THAT ADEITO BAGBENI, ZAIRE'S FORMER PERMREP TO THE UN, WILL SOON REQUEST POLITICAL ASYLUM IN THE UNITED STATES. BAGBENI WAS "DE-RECOGNIZED" LATE LAST YEAR AS PERMREP, BUT CONTINUES TO BEAR A LETTER FROM MOBUTU AS "AMBASSADOR" AND "PLENIPOTENTIARY. E HAS ALSO BEEN IMPLICATED BY HIS SUCCESSOR IN A SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS BREAK-INS AT THE ZAIRE MISSION TO THE UN. IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHAT THREAT BAGBENI MIGHT BE UNDER SHOULD HE RETURN TO ZAIRE, BUT HE IS CLEARLY CONSIDERING A NUMBER OF OPTIONS: HE IS AN ANNOUNCED CANDIDATE FOR THE VACANT POST OF PRIME MINISTER.

CAMEROON

-- AMBAZONIA SEEKS STANDING IN ICJ HEARING OF BAKASSI (NO KIDDING):
THE "REPUBLIC OF AMBAZONIA" IS ATTEMPTING TO FILE AN INTERPLEADER WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ON THE BAKASSI DISPUTE, INSISTING ANY ICJ RULING MUST RESOLVE THE "AMBAZONIAN" INTEREST IN THE REGION AS PART OF THE CURRENT HEARING. THE AMBAZONIAN CLAIM TO INDEPENDENCE FOR THE AREA INCLUDING BAKASSI STEMS FROM THE SEPARATE UN TRUST TERRITORY FOR SOUTHERN CAMEROON. THE AMBAZONIANS ARE SEEKING PRO BONO LEGAL HELP IN THE U S.

-- BRITISH VIEWS:
BARONESS LYNDA CHALKER, BRITISH MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, TOLD A/S MOOSE MAY 26 THE BRITISH ARE MORE
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PAGE 06 STATE 143697 280523Z

SYMPATHETIC TO CAMEROON ON THE BAKASSI DISPUTE. THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS BEEN MORE BLUNT, BRINGING MAPS AND OTHER INFORMATION TO THE DEPARTMENT TO SUPPORT THEIR CONTENTION THAT BAKASSI BELONGS TO CAMEROON.

CONGO

-- PEACEFULLY PUTTERING ALONG:
LISSOUBA RETURNED TO BRAZZAVILLE MAY 26 AFTER WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A SUCCESSFUL TRIP TO ASIA. THE PRC HAS GRANTED CONGO A LOAN OF 9 BILLION CFA FRANCS, AND AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO RESCHEDULE CONGO'S DEBTS, ACCORDING TO FBIS. ALL REMAINS PEACEFUL IN CONGO AS THE ASSEMBLY PREPARES TO ADDRESS PRIVATIZATION MATTERS AND THE GOTC

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 4

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Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL
 Current Handling: n/a
 Document Number: 1994STATE143697

Page: 5
 Channel: n/a

MULLS OVER A DRAFT HYDROCARBON LAW.

GABON

-- FORMIN PING DELEGATION RECEIVES CLEAR GUIDANCE:
 VISITING FORMIN JEAN PING AND ENTOURAGE RECEIVED A CLEAR
 MESSAGE FROM ALL DEPARTMENT AND NSC INTERLOCUTORS THAT
 GABON MUST MAKE TANGIBLE PROGRESS IN THE AREA OF HUMAN
 RIGHTS IN ORDER TO RESTORE FRAYED BILATERAL RELATION .
 AAI GAVE A COPY OF THEIR FINAL REPORT ON LAST DECEMBER'S
 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION TO PING ON MONDAY, MAY 23. THE
 SOUND AND ANNEXED VERSION IS DUE TO AAI FROM THE PRINTER
 AT THE END OF THIS WEEK.

CHAD

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PAGE 07 STATE 143697 280523Z

-- ALL'S QUIET IN THE AOZOU AS CHAD PREPARES TO ASSUME
 CONTROL:

AS THE MAY 30 DEADLINE FOR LIBYA TO COMPLETE ITS
 WITHDRAWAL FROM THE AOZOU STRIP APPROACHES, THE GOC AND
 NASOG REPORT THAT LIBYAN WITHDRAWAL IS ALMOST COMPLETE.
 THE CHADIAN GOVERNMENT IS SCRAMBLING TO ARRANGE A
 DELEGATION TO THE SCHEDULED MAY 30 WITHDRAWAL CEREMONY.
 FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY, PRESIDENT DEBY WILL MAKE AN
 OFFICIAL VISIT TO LIBYA, AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY EXPECT A
 SUBSTANTIAL GIFT FOR HIS CASH-STARVED TREASURY. IT
 REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER LIBYAS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE
 AOZOU IS PERMANENT, OR JUST A SMOKE SCREEN TO HIDE FURTHER
 MEDDLING IN CHAD.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

-- NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL NAMED IN HEALTH MINISTRY:
 LUCIENNE GABA, THE DIRECTOR OF THE BANGUI PEDIATRIC

COMPLEX, WAS NAMED THE FIRST WOMAN DIRECTOR GENERAL THIS
 WEEK. GABA, WHO IS NOT A PHYSICIAN BUT HAS CONSIDERABLE
 EXPERIENCE IN THE HEALTH FIELD, WAS CONSIDERED EFFECTIVE
 IN HER TENURE AT THE PEDIATRIC COMPLEX, WHERE SHE WAS ABLE
 TO MAINTAIN A REASONABLE LEVEL OF CARE DESPITE AN ALMOST
 TOTAL LACK OF RESOURCES. HER PORTFOLIO WILL INCLUDE THE
 ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL DEPARTMENTS IN THE MINISTRY
 AS WELL AS THE COORDINATION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. THE
 FATASSE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE RESTORATION OF ADEQUATE HEALTH

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL

Page: 5