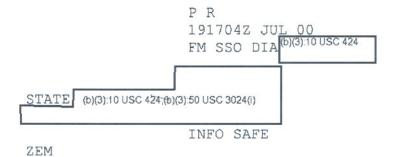
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(U) BURUNDI: STATUS OF PEACE ACCORD

AS OF 2200Z 16 JUL 00

- 1. TO SIGNING OF A PEACE ACCORD HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL AUGUST.
- 2. (A) PEACE TALKS FACILITATOR NELSON MANDELA HAD BEEN PUSHING FOR THE ACCORD TO BE SIGNED AT A 19-20 JULY REGIONAL HEADS-OF-STATE MEETING IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA. IN A MEETING ON THE 14TH, OTHER MEMBERS

OF THE FACILITATION TEAM DISSUADED MANDELA FROM THE PLAN. THEY CONVINCED HIM THAT KEY ISSUES, SUCH AS THE COMPOSITION OF THE ARMY AND TRANSITIONAL LEADERSHIP, REMAINED UNRESOLVED. FURTHERMORE, ONE KEY REBEL LEADER, JEAN BOSCO NDAYIKENGURUKIYE, IS NOT READY TO SIGN THE ACCORD. MANDELA INSISTED ON SETTING A FIRM DATE OF 28 AUGUST FOR

THE SIGNING BUT ADMITTED THE TIME IS NOT RIPE FOR ANOTHER OF HIS PLANS, TO MOVE THE TALKS FROM ARUSHA TO BURUNDI. THE HEADS-OF-STATE MEETING WILL BE USED TO PRESSURE THE BUJUMBURA REGIME AND THE REBELS

TO NARROW GAPS IN THE DRAFT ACCORD AND PERHAPS CONVINCE BOSCO TO

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