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NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(PUBLIC AFFAIRS)

WASHINGTON D.C. 20301

PLEASE NOTE DATE

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 11, 1994

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DOD POLICY ON THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE PROCESS

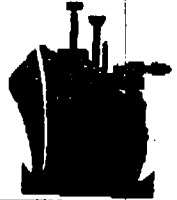
Secretary of Defense William J. Perry and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Shalikashvili jointly issued the following statement on 1995 base closures:

"We will conduct the 1995 round of base closures. The prudent management of our resources demands it. As in the past, the number and types of facilities recommended for closure will depend on our force structure needs. We shall also consider the cumulative economic impact on communities as well as our capacity to responsibly manage re-use of closed facilities. We must proceed to close bases in order to save money, managing the process in a way that recognizes that base closing costs money before it saves money. Too much, too soon jeopardizes our current program; too little, too late jeopardizes our future program. These are the considerations that will determine the size and shape of the closings we will recommend to the Base Closure and Realignment Commission for 1995. If closures beyond the amount we can responsibly accomplish in 1995 are required or force structure requirements change, we will seek authority for future BRAC rounds."

-END-

Press Release

The U.S. Navy's
Military
Sealift
Command



*We will explain
this on the
conference call
Kathleen
deLaski*

11 May 1994
For additional
information contact:
Marge Holts (202) 433-0330

Solicitation for passenger vessel issued

Military Sealift Command issued a request for proposals for the charter of a passenger vessel for use as a personnel processing center for Haitian refugees. The RFP closes at 1100 hrs EDT on May 12, 1994. The following are general requirements for such a vessel:

- Capacity to carry, berth and feed minimum of 700 passengers a day.
- Date ship must be available: May 20 to May 30, 1994
- Place/range of delivery of ship: Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Jamaica or Dominican Republic. Port is government option.
- Charter period: 6 months with charterer's option to cancel anytime after 30 days with 10 days prior notice.
- Preference given to U.S. flag vessels.
- Vessel must comply with Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) requirements.

Ship owners and brokers were notified of this RFP via electronic mail and TELEX at 0650 EDT on May 11, 1994. Proposals must be received NLT 1100 EDT May 12, 1994.

-URN-

5/11/94

DOLE

- Doole introduced bill several weeks ago
- has many Dem co-sponsors
- expect vote tomorrow
- Doole amend: defensive weapons
- Mitchell amend: require consult. w/allies
- cont to support multi-lat lift of embargo - don't believe we should do it unilaterally
- support Mitchell substitute, which requires consultation
- Questions about Pres. ~~abd~~ ability to conduct for pol

5/11/94

TODAY SHOW...

Today Lake w/ Katie Couric

I HAITI

Emile Jonasson (sp)

TL - doesn't change it

- determined effort @ polit sol, cond.
for Arist return, democ

- didn't work b/c mil refused to let it
- UN

- military - other means to prevent restoration
of democracy

- locks Haitians into future that
will

- unconst. + illegal

- should be working to

600 troops?

- not acc

- under GOV's - Paris for UN mission
to retrain mil to serve people -
not oppress them. Help create
cond for econ growth, etc

- only after milit regime ousted

- Pres has not made decision re: use of force
- preferable to find peaceful solution... that's we've pursued our chosen course
- H.R. monitors, human assist

- some of same (sanctions) arguments were made about S. Africa. deKlerk said sanctions helped move process along

Haiti's mil. not partic. formidable force / UN training mission are diff

Harlan Cty - trainers going in @ invit of Haitian military had agreed to create a "permissive" environ

* DOLE

- never should have been arms embargo against Bosnia - it is wrong.
- ~~the~~ lifting has been preferred option; could go back to it
- unilat. lifting could disrupt peace process

* FRENCH -

- Dupre about to arrive.
- Unprofor performed useful mission; kept people alive bravely. Need to work thru diplo efforts vigorously

Haiti

- looks as though they intend to go ahead
- cynical, bogus, unconst. illegal
- 3 grounds
 - 1) office not vacant
 - 2) 149 not invoked by int'l. recog
Haitian Senate - illegal bi-election 1/18/93
 - 3) lower house not met at all
to invoke article
- if they go forward w/ this - ^{propose} people taking part
be on sanctions list (assets + visas)
- Swing: issued statement
- sent note to gonassant



George
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ARA PRESS GUIDANCE
May 11, 1994

HAITI: INSTALLATION OF A NEW PRESIDENT

Q: Reports coming out of Port au Prince say that the Supreme Court President is going to be installed as temporary President under Article 149 of the Constitution. What's going on?

A: -- ON MAY 9 THE LEADER OF THE ILLEGAL "JANAURY 18" SENATE FACTION, BERNARD SANSARICQ, ANNOUNCED THAT SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT EMILE JONASSAINT WOULD BE SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT OSTENSIBLY UNDER ARTICLE 149 OF THE HAITIAN CONSTITUTION. THE BOGUS SWEARING IN IS/WAS SCHEDULED FOR NOON TODAY, MAY 11.

- ① No vacancy
- ② illegal Senate
- ③ lower house has not met to invoke article

-- THIS ANNOUNCEMENT BY SANSARICQ HAS NO LEGAL BASIS.

ONLY THE ILLEGAL SENATE FACTION HAS VOTED IN FAVOR OF ARTICLE 149. (THIS VOTE TOOK PLACE ON APRIL 10)

NEITHER THE LEGALLY CONSTITUTED SENATE NOR THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES HAS VOTED FOR THIS MEASURE..

-- THIS IS A BLATANT ATTEMPT BY AN ILLEGAL FACTION OF THE SENATE TO INSTALL A BOGUS DE FACTO GOVERNMENT WITH THE COMPLICITY OF THE HAITIAN MILITARY.

(MORE)

OPTIONAL FORM 35 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL		# of pages 3
To Colin Mitchell	From Josie Shumake	
Dept/Agency WH/PA	Phone #	
Fax #	Fax #	

NSN 7540-01-317-7308 5055-101 GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

~~the~~ cynical, unconstitutional, illegal

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-- ANY ATTEMPT TO PROCLAIM OR INSTALL A NEW PRESIDENT OR GOVERNMENT BY THESE UNCONSTITUTIONAL MEANS WILL NOT PREVENT OR DELAY THE APPLICATION OF THE NEW SANCTIONS AGAINST HAITI RECENTLY VOTED BY THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL. IT WILL NOT DIVERT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FROM PURSUING THE RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN HAITI AND THE RETURN TO HAITI OF PRESIDENT ARISTIDE.

We'll propose
-- AS CALLED FOR UNDER THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, THOSE PERSONS TAKING PART IN SUCH AN ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE THEIR PERSONAL ASSETS IN THE U.S. FROZEN, AND THEY WILL BE DENIED ENTRY TO ALL U.N. MEMBER COUNTRIES.

-- THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WHO HAVE USURPED POWER FROM THE PEOPLE MUST YIELD TO CIVILIAN AUTHORITY. THE HAITIAN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT THE HAITIAN MILITARY LEADERSHIP IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS AGAINST THEIR COUNTRY. UNTIL THOSE IN THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TERMINATION OF DEMOCRATIC RULE IN HAITI HAVE RELINQUISHED POWER, THE SANCTIONS WILL REMAIN IN PLACE.

BACKGROUND FOR BRIEFER:

Q: What is Article 149?

A: -- ARTICLE 149 PROVIDES FOR THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT TO ASSUME THE PRESIDENCY SHOULD THAT OFFICE BECOME VACANT FOR ANY REASON. UNDER THIS ARTICLE, NEW PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS MUST BE HELD AT LEAST 45 DAYS, OR AT MOST 90 DAYS AFTER THE SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT ASSUMES THE PRESIDENCY. THIS PROVISION WOULD REPLACE ARISTIDE BY HOLDING NEW ELECTIONS.

Q: Who are the "January 18" Senators?

A: -- THE "JANUARY 18" SENATORS ARE A GROUP OF SENATORS ELECTED IN JANUARY 1993 UNDER THE DE FACTO GOVERNMENT OF MARC BAZIN. THESE ELECTIONS WERE NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

Drafted: ARA/HWG: NJackson

SEARAP 7922

**Cleared: ARA/HWG: RBrown
ARA/PPCP: JShumake
ARA: AFWatson
P: EBrimmer
IO/UNP: WMoIlhenny
PA: MMcCurry**

— mil. sea lift command
issued RFP for lease
of passenger ship by tomorrow
— part of co
— Guant. Jamaica DR
to be delivered

**U. S. Embassy Statement Regarding a Report
that a "new President" will take Office in Haiti**

May 10, 1994

The Embassy monitored a radio broadcast today in which it was reported that Senator Bernard Sansarig had announced that a new president, Judge Emile Jonassaint, "could take the oath of office tomorrow." It is plain that such a step would be utterly without foundation in Haitian law and would not be recognized by the United States or the international community.

Any attempt to proclaim a new president or government by these unconstitutional means will not prevent or delay the application of the new sanctions against Haiti recently voted by the U.N. Security Council, nor will it divert the United States and other countries from pursuing the restoration of democracy in Haiti and the return to Haiti of President Aristide. The economic result of such attempts can only bring more suffering to the country and the Haitian people. It should be noted that those persons taking part in such an illegal government would be placed on the Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list and would also be denied entry to the United States.

Haiti

Background

The UNSC voted unanimously Friday on resolution calling for comprehensive trade sanctions against the Haitian military junta. The President announced on Sunday that he was naming former Congressman William Gray as his new Adviser on Haiti and changes to the migrant processing policy. Beginning in a few weeks, the US will be able to process boat migrants aboard ship or in a third country. TransAfrica director Randall Robinson announced that he would end his 26 day hunger fast in opposition to the our direct return policy. Aristide called the change in policy a "step in the right direction."

Q: What can you tell us about Secretary's Christopher's remarks about a UN peacekeeping force in Haiti?

A: -- I don't want to interpret the semantics of Secretary Christopher's words.

-- We are in the very really stages of consultation with our allies and at the UN. The President said on Sunday that the US will work with the United Nations to examine the changes in the proposed UN military and police mission in Haiti and that we want to ensure that once Haiti's military leaders have left this mission can do its job effectively and safely.

-- We will, of course, consult with Congress on US participation in any such UN mission.

Q: The LA Times reported that the Administration has plans to send 600 "armed and protected" troops to Haiti. Is this true?

A: -- There is no basis to this particular story. As I have said before, the President has not ruled out the use of force as an option, but we have not yet reached that fork in the road. In a word, no decisions have been made.

-- The President has made clear, however, that as part of our diplomatic efforts, we will work with the United Nations to examine the changes in the proposed UN military and police mission in Haiti. We want to ensure that once Haiti's military leaders have left, this mission can do its job effectively and safely.

-- We have talked in terms of a reconfigured UN mission in Haiti but the dimensions and form that would take depends on circumstances, and on the results of consultations with the United Nations itself.

Q: Why did you change your policy of direct return of Haitian Migrants?

A: -- In recent months the human rights and humanitarian situation in Haiti has deteriorated markedly.

-- As we have worked to restore democracy and return President Aristide to Haiti, violence against the Haitian people by the military has increased.

-- Under these circumstances, the President decided we should adjust our migrant processing procedures to insure that every person with a claim to refugee status could be screened in the greatest possible safety.

-- In-country processing will continue. In light of the situation in Haiti, we believe that processing interdicted boat migrants prior to returning them is the right thing to do.

Q: Is this change a result of Randall Robinson's hunger fast?

A: -- This change is a result of what is happening in Haiti. The President admires Randall Robinson's commitment to solving the problems of Haiti and we share the goal of restoring democracy to Haiti.

-- The President's concern about this has been increasing over several weeks. He sent staff down to Haiti to look at the situation first hand. Their conclusion, as well as that of the INS, is that changes needed to be made.

Q: Aren't you admitting that your policy of direct return was wrong?

A: -- The circumstances in Haiti have changed over the past 14 months. The violence has increased and the military has failed to live up to its obligations.

Q: Aren't you inviting a new wave of Haitian boats migrants?

A: -- No. We will continue to return all migrants not found to be political refugees. The only difference is that migrants interdicted at sea will be screened and bona fide political asylum-seekers will not be returned to Haiti. All others will be returned. There will be no advantage for any Haitian to take to the sea.

Q: How are you going to force the Haitian military to resign? Nobody believes that sanctions alone will solve the Haitian crisis.

A: -- The President is determined that the Haitian military leadership must go. He is committed to making the new sanctions and complementary measures work.

Q: What do the UN sanctions involve?

A: -- The UN has voted on tough, comprehensive economic and trade sanctions against Haiti.

-- The resolution calls for an immediate freeze on the assets of the military, the police, those who participated in the coup and their associates.

-- It also imposes an immediate ban on non-scheduled flights to and from Haiti.

-- Within two weeks the world community will bring into force comprehensive sanctions against Haiti, excluding only the most essential humanitarian supplies.

MAY 20

Q: Why are you waiting two weeks before putting the rest of the sanctions in place?

A: -- The UN provided up to two weeks for nations to implement those sanctions in their national laws and regulations.

-- IF RAISED: This is not a political provision or a "trigger" mechanism.

-- The President signed Saturday an Executive Order regarding the asset freeze and flight ban and a Proclamation to bring the UN's visa ban into effect. Within the next several days he will sign another order on the comprehensive trade sanctions.

Q: Doesn't this represent a reversal rather than a modification?

A: -- The goal of our refugee policy has always been to provide adequate opportunities for Haitians who fear persecution to leave Haiti.

-- However, the President has been increasingly concerned by the deteriorating human rights situation in Haiti and, for this reason, believe we ought to make efforts to provide asylum-seekers the chance to make claims to refugee status prior to return.

-- When he first announced our migration policy in January 1993, the President indicated that it was a policy for the time-being and would be under continual review to ensure that our policy was fair, responsible and humane.

-- This modification is consistent with these goals.

Q: If it was not appropriate to change policy last year, then why is it appropriate now?

A: -- The modification we are announcing is necessary in view of the deteriorating human rights situation.

-- Our goals have always been to discourage unsafe boat departures while providing access to in-country procedures. These changes advance those objectives under these worsening conditions.

Q: Then how do you propose to deter departure in unseaworthy vessels?

A: -- First, the policy of interdiction of all boat migrants will continue. All those without valid refugee claims will be returned. We will work hard to publicize that message in Haiti through all available media avenues.

-- Second, no Haitians will be permitted U.S. entry prior to a determination that they are bona fide refugees. We will seek to do processing either in third countries or on ships adequate to the task.

-- Third, the Coast Guard and Navy will deploy adequate resources to deal effectively with any surge in boat departures.

-- Fourth, we will not implement this modification of policy until all the arrangements are in place.

Q: Will you continue your in-country processing program?

A: -- Yes, as this has proven to be an extremely valuable vehicle for Haitians who need to flee.

-- We have greatly enhanced the in-country processing system. It now is providing processing to 10 times the number of people than when I took office.

- o In addition to our processing center in Port-au-Prince, we've opened two additional processing centers in provincial cities in Haiti to expand access to the program.

- o We have also substantially increased staffing at the processing centers, as well as efforts we work with non-governmental organizations in identifying applicants who should be considered.

- o Moreover, we can and do expedite processing high priority cases to ensure they are brought quickly to the United States.

- o These efforts have paid off.

- o In the first year of my Administration, we admitted about 1700 refugees through our in-country program.

- o This represents a ten-fold increase from the last year of the previous Administration.

Q: What about the impact of entry of Haitians on Florida?

A: -- The President instructed the Departments of State, Justice and Health and Human Services to work with affected localities and to make efforts to ensure geographical distribution of the resettled population.

Q: Have you lined up third countries which will host processing or accept qualified refugees?

A: -- We will be consulting with governments throughout the region to seek their cooperation in offering refuge to qualified Haitians and for processing.

-- However, our new policy is not dependent upon third country participation.

Rwanda

Background

The situation in Rwanda continues to deteriorate with reports of more than 100,000 deaths in largely communal violence. The rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) continues to make gains in fighting and has taken over parts of Kigali. There are mass flows of refugees toward Zaire, Uganda and Tanzania. The UN has drawn down its force (UNAMIR) to 270 soldiers; we and others have insisted this drawdown not threaten lives of Rwandans under their protection.

Peace talks in Arusha and elsewhere have not gotten off the ground and RPF and government forces refuse to meet. Our ambassadors in Tanzania and Uganda are deeply involved. On May 5, Ass't Sec Shattuck met with OAU SYG Salim Salim.

We announced \$15 million in new humanitarian assistance funds for Burundi and Rwanda to support humanitarian assistance programs.

Vice President Gore met May 10 with UN SYG Boutros-Ghali, OAU SYG Salim Salim and Tanzanian President Mwinyi. The leaders discussed a range of options by which regional and international organizations can respond to the crisis in Rwanda. In Rwanda, the UNAMIR force commander continues to meet with leaders of the military and the RPF in an attempt to negotiate a cease-fire and renew political discussions.

-- African force to create safe areas for refugees discussed

Points

- The blood-letting in Rwanda since the plane crash four weeks ago has been tragic and almost inconceivable. While our capacity to end the killing is painfully limited, we are taking a series of measures.
- We are continuing to work with the regional leaders, especially President Mwinyi of Tanzania and Museveni of Uganda, to shore up their efforts at resolving the crisis. New talks are scheduled for Tuesday in Arusha.
- Assistant Secretary of State John Shattuck and Ambassador Rawson visited the region (Uganda, Burundi and Tanzania) to shore up the regional leaders' efforts to achieve peace and protect refugees in Rwanda. The UN Commission for Human Rights sent a team to the region to investigate the current abuses.
- A team from our embassy in Tanzania travelled to the border with Rwanda to assess the situation and made recommendations for new assistance.
- The Defense Department began airlifting approximately 478,000 lbs of humanitarian relief supplies for Rwandan refugees using air force transport from McGuire AFB, NJ.
- 100,000 blankets and 10,000 rolls of plastic sheeting will be flown from Incirlik AFB, Turkey to Mwanza in Tanzania. UNHCR will distribute the supplies to the refugees. Last week, the US contributed \$15 million to UNHCR, the World

Food Program, and the International Federation of Red Cross to support their assistance for the refugees.

- In March, USG contributed \$35 million to the ICRC for its emergency programs in Africa, much of which will be used to help Rwandans.
- Other US assistance is being provided by USAID's office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, Food for Peace, and by the US Department of Agriculture.

BOSNIA

Background

The Dole Amendment could hit the Senate floor today. It would require the President to lift the arms embargo to the Bosnian Muslims. Even if it passes the Senate today -- which is unlikely -- the bill still would need to pass the House as well. Even though the President has been supportive in principle of lifting the embargo, we nevertheless have been opposed to the bill.

Q: Will the Dole Amendment require the President to lift the arms embargo against the Bosnian muslims?

A: -- It is not appropriate to respond until and if the amendment is passed in the House. As you know, the specifics of the legislation will likely be changed in conference, and it would be unwise to comment on language we have not yet seen.