

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: Liberia Schedule for S/E Jackson. [Monrovia 000509] (5 pages)	02/10/1998	P1/b(1)
002. cable	re: Photos Prove. [Monrovia 002686] (2 pages)	07/23/1998	P1/b(1)
003. cable	re: Religious Leaders on First Year of Taylor Administration [Monrovia 002814] (4 pages)	08/03/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Liberia])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[02/10/1998-08/03/1998]

2014-0927-F

vz5249

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHNRA4309 0760810-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 170810Z MAR 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
OSRI: RUEHNR
DTG: 170810Z MAR 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4192
INFO: RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0153
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 7025
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 2824
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0417
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 5156
SUBJ: OPPOSITION RALLY LAYS OUT PROGRAM OF MASS
ACTION

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 NAIROBI 004309

LONDON FOR PFLAUMER, PARIS FOR MORAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, KDEM, PHUM, ASEC, CASC, KE
SUBJECT: OPPOSITION RALLY LAYS OUT PROGRAM OF MASS
ACTION

REF: NAIROBI 04230

1. SUMMARY. THE MARCH 14 "PEOPLE'S RALLY" SPONSORED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES AND NCEC TOOK PLACE PEACEFULLY, WITH SECURITY FORCES STAYING OUT OF SIGHT. SPEAKERS DEMANDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT REVISE THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW PROCESS AND RESCIND RECENT TAX INCREASES, OR FACE A SERIES OF ESCALATING NATIONAL STRIKES BEGINNING APRIL 3. SOME OF THE RALLY'S MORE EXCESSIVE RHETORIC, INCLUDING CALLS FOR KENYANS TO ARM THEMSELVES AND FOR MP'S TO RESIGN, ARE PROVIDING GRIST FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPAGANDA MILL, AS IT SEEKS TO DEPICT THE NCEC AS RADICAL AND IRRESPONSIBLE. END SUMMARY.

KAMUKUNJI PEACEFUL

2. OVER TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE TURNED OUT FOR THE "PEOPLE'S RALLY" AT KAMUKUNJI GROUND ON MARCH 14, SPONSORED BY SEVERAL OPPOSITION PARTIES AND THE PRO-REFORM NATIONAL CONVENTION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NCEC). LARGE NUMBERS OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND STREET

HAWKERS, GROUPS INVOLVED IN SOMETIMES VIOLENT PROTESTS IN RECENT WEEKS, ATTENDED. THE "TENT OF THE LIVING GOD," A KIKUYU TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, ALSO BROUGHT A LARGE DELEGATION. OPPOSITION LEADERS CHARITY NGILU, JAMES ORENGO, PAUL MUTE, AND KENNETH MATIBA ATTENDED AND SPOKE AT THE RALLY, BUT MWAI KIBAKI AND HIS DEMOCRATIC PARTY BROKE RANKS AND STAYED AWAY FROM THE MEETING. FORD-KENYA AND NDP, WHICH HAVE DRAWN INCREASINGLY CLOSE TO THE RULING KANU PARTY SINCE THE 1997 ELECTIONS, ALSO STAYED AWAY.

3. OPPOSITION AND NCEC LEADERS LINED UP AT THE PODIUM TO CASTIGATE THE GOK FOR CAUSING KENYA'S ETHNIC, CONSTITUTIONAL, AND ECONOMIC WOES. THEY ISSUED A LITANY OF DEMANDS, WHICH THEY COLLECTIVELY LABELED THE "KAMUKUNJI RESOLUTIONS." THESE INCLUDED: RESCINDING RECENT TAXES INCREASES, REPLACING THE CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMISSION WITH A FULL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, STOPPING ETHNIC CLASHES AND RETURNING THE DISPLACED TO THEIR HOMES, AND ALLOWING STREET HAWKERS TO OPERATE THEIR BUSINESSES WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.

4. OPPOSITION LEADERS URGED THE NCEC TO ORGANIZE MASS ACTION TO "PARALYZE EVERY FACET OF THE ECONOMY AND BRING THE GOVERNMENT TO ITS KNEES." THEY VOWED THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT FAILED TO RESPOND TO THEIR DEMANDS, THEY WOULD LAUNCH A SERIES OF NATIONWIDE STRIKES, BEGINNING APRIL 3, TO FORCE THE GOK TO CHANGE ITS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES. SUBSEQUENT STRIKES WOULD BE HELD ON MAY 4-5, FOR A FULL WEEK IN JUNE, THEN NON-STOP BEGINNING JULY 1 UNTIL ALL DEMANDS WERE MET.

5. THE RALLY WAS PEACEFUL AND LASTED FOR ABOUT FOUR HOURS. GOK SECURITY FORCES STAYED OUT OF SIGHT. RIOT POLICE AND GENERAL SERVICE UNIT (GSU) PARAMILITARY FORCES WERE REPORTEDLY DEPLOYED IN RESERVE AT NAIROBI STADIUM, A MILE FROM THE RALLY SITE.

RECKLESS RHETORIC WITH TRIBAL OVERTONES

6. IN CONTRAST TO THE STRONG BUT PEACEFUL STATEMENTS OF MOST SPEAKERS, SEVERAL MADE EXTREME STATEMENTS. ASILI SABA PARTY HEAD KENNETH MATIBA CALLED ON MP'S TO RESIGN THEIR PARLIAMENTARY SEATS "BECAUSE EVEN WITH YOUR TITLES, YOU CANNOT HELP US IN ANYTHING." THEN, IN HIS RAMBLING, NONSEQUITUR STYLE, HE URGED PEOPLE TO "GO HOME AND PLANT FOOD CROPS, DO NOT WASTE TIME AND DO NOT BE LAZY." LATER, MP STEVEN NDICHU (SDP, THIKA AREA, CENTRAL PROVINCE) CALLED ON KENYANS TO TAKE UP ARMS TO STOP GOVERNMENT "KILLINGS, CORRUPTION AND THEFT OF PUBLIC RESOURCES." "EVERY MAN IN KENYA," HE URGED, "SHOULD GET HIMSELF A GUN TO FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS."

7. FORD-KENYA MP JAMES ORENGO STATED THAT PRESIDENT MOI COULD EASILY BE OUSTED, BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN

DISCREDITED NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. S/E JESSE JACKSON'S RECENT AFRICA VISIT, HE CONTINUED, HAD LUMPED KENYA TOGETHER WITH CONGO AND LIBERIA, "COUNTRIES WITH THE GREATEST VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD." ON THE OTHER HAND, PRESIDENT CLINTON WAS VISITING THE NEW, PROUD AFRICA OF SOUTH AFRICA, BOTSWANA AND UGANDA. IN HIS CALL FOR NATIONAL STRIKES, SAFINA MP PAUL MUTE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 NAIROBI 004309

LONDON FOR PFLAUMER, PARIS FOR MORAN

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, KDEM, PHUM, ASEC, CASC, KE
SUBJECT: OPPOSITION RALLY LAYS OUT PROGRAM OF MASS ACTION

REF: NAIROBI 04230

WARNED SHOPOWNERS NOT TO OPEN THEIR STORES ON STRIKE DAYS.

COMMENT

8. REFLECTING THE MORE OPEN POLITICAL CLIMATE THAT PREVAILS IN KENYA SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE INTER-PARTIES PARLIAMENTARY GROUP (IPPG) REFORMS, THE GOK MADE NO MOVE TO INTERFERE WITH THE PROTEST RALLY. THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN KEEPING THE POTENTIALLY VOLATILE RALLY PEACEFUL. IT STANDS IN STARK CONTRAST TO THE GOK'S HEAVY-HANDED RESPONSE LAST SUMMER, WHEN SECURITY FORCES DISRUPTED MOST NCEC RALLIES, SETTING OFF VIOLENCE AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

9. THE PROMINENT ROLE OF KIKUYU LEADERS MATIBA, MUTE, NCEC'S KURIA, AND OTHERS, ALONG WITH THE EXTENDED PRAYER OF THE "TENT OF THE LIVING GOD," GAVE A DISTINCT KIKUYU CAST TO THE PROCEEDINGS. THE INFLAMMATORY RHETORIC OF SOME OF THE SPEAKERS SHOCKED EVEN MANY CRITICS OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND HAS GREATLY FACILITATED THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN DEPICTING THE NCEC AND ITS OPPOSITION SUPPORTERS AS RADICAL AND IRRESPONSIBLE.

BUSHNELL

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02
SSN: 4309
<^SSN>4309
TOR: 980317031228 M3200126
<^TOR>980317031229 M3200127

DIST:
SIT: BARKS-RUGGLES JORDAN PRENDERGAST SANDERS WILSON
SIT: NSC

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