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

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID#

PAGE

562510 COVH

DATE RECEIVED: 06/30/2003

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOE BIDEN

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO FULLY SUPPORT THE INTERIM EMERGENCY MULTNATIONAL

FORCE AUTHORIZED BY THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1484

	AC	DISPOSITION				
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	DAVID HOBBS	ORG	2003/06/30		_	
DOS ACTIO	N COMMENTS	CAR O	307,11	3	4	03,08,01
ACTIO	N COMMENTS: H	ase les	pond for	27/28	7/03	
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COMMENTS:						
ADDITIONAL CORRESP	ONDENTS: 0	MEDIA: LET		OIVIDUAL CO	DES:	

ACTION CODES:

A - APPROPRIATE ACTION

C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION

D - DRAFT RESPONSE

F - FURNISH FACT SHEET

I - INFO COPY/NO ACT NECCESSARY

R - DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY

S - FOR SIGNATURE

X - INTERIM REPLY

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - ANSWERED

B - NON-SPEC-REFERRAL

C - COMPLETED

S - SUSPENDED

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE: TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER

CODE = A

COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE WASHINGTON

August 1, 2003

Dear Senator Biden:

President Bush has asked that I reply to your letter expressing concern over the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in particular, support to the European Union-led Interim Emergency Multinational Force (IEMF). I apologize for the delay in responding to your letter.

We strongly supported the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1484 on May 30, authorizing the rapid deployment of an EU-led IEMF to the Ituri region to assist in the stabilization of the area until a reinforced United Nations presence can be established there. In discussions regarding the deployment with the Government of France, the lead nation in the IEMF, we were told that European Union member states would be providing adequate financial and material resources for the mission. NATO and the EU later clarified these arrangements through consultations under the "Berlin Plus" framework for NATO-EU security cooperation. We did provide, at their request and in collaboration with EU member states, diplomatic and political support for the deployment.

Further, we have worked to ensure that the follow-on United Nations force possesses the appropriate mandate and has at its disposal the necessary equipment and field forces to carry out its duties. While at present these details have not yet been fully finalized, we are encouraged by progress to date.

The inauguration of the Government of National Unity in Kinshasa on July 17 was a significant step toward bringing a peaceful resolution to the fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ultimately, the

The Honorable

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.,

United States Senate.

resolution of violence in the Ituri region, as with elsewhere in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, is dependent upon the political will of the Congolese parties.

I look forward to your support as we continue to work closely with all Congolese parties to ensure a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the establishment of the authority of the Transitional Government of National Unity.

I hope this information will be helpful to you. If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sinceredly,

Colin L. Powell

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE REFERRAL

July 11, 2003

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED: DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

REMARKS: PLEASE RESPOND BY JUL 28 03



DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 562510

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JUN 06, 2003

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: THE HONORABLE JOE BIDEN

UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO FULLY SUPPORT THE INTERIM EMERGENCY

MULTNATIONAL FORCE AUTHORIZED BY THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

1484

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNES AT 456-2590.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: RECORDS MANAGEMENT, ROOM 72, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

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5625107-14-0:

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

June 6, 2003

The President The White House Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

I write to urge you to take all appropriate actions to fully support the Interim Emergency Multinational Force authorized by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1484.

As you know, an estimated 5000 men, women and children have been killed in the Ituri region of eastern Democratic Republic of Congo as the result of conflict between the Hema and Lendu ethnic groups. The latest wave of violence has resulted in over four hundred dead, including two United Nations peacekeepers and two Red Cross workers. In a chilling parallel to actions taken by the Hutu during the Rwandan genocide, Hema militia have used Candip radio to broadcast messages threatening people who have sought sanctuary with the United Nations forces in Bunia.

UN officials have warned that the ethnic killings, though smaller in scale, are reminiscent of those under taken in Rwanda in 1994, and that they could constitute genocide.

The United States played an active and essential role in facilitating the passage of Resolution 1484 by securing the agreement of Uganda and Rwanda to support the deployment of a French-led interim force. I applaud those actions. We must follow them by offering robust financial and in-kind contributions to the European Union as they undertake this critical mission.

The situation in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo is grave. It is essential that we take proactive steps to ensure that the emergency force is able successfully to fulfill its mandate and that any follow-on force has the ability to protect UN personnel, humanitarian workers and innocent civilians from attack.

I know that you share my concern. None of us wants to see a repeat of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

I look forward to working closely with you on this effort.

Sincerely, Silen

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Ranking Minority Member

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JUL 0 1 2006
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Faxed to EW

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