



U.S. DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

Press Statement

**Sean McCormack, Spokesman**

Washington, DC

April 23, 2008

## **Palipehutu-FNL Attacks in Burundi**

The United States is deeply concerned about recent attacks by Palipehutu-FNL forces against Burundian military positions in contravention of the September 7, 2006 cease-fire agreement. We commend the Government of Burundi for its measured response as it sought to safeguard its citizens. We regret the deaths resulting from the hostilities, and urge the Palipehutu-FNL to participate in the Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism established in the cease-fire agreement and to pursue genuine dialogue with the Government of Burundi to bring a lasting end to this conflict. The United States reiterates its continued support for the African Regional Initiative, South African facilitation, and other existing processes to help bring stability to Burundi and the region.

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