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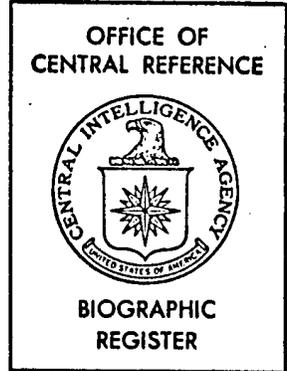
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BURUNDI

Leon NDENZAKO

Ambassador. to the United States

Son-in-law of Mwami (King) Mwambutsa IV and brother-in-law of former Prime Minister Andre Muhirwa, Leon Ndenzako was named Ambassador to the US in August 1963; he arrived in Washington in early October.



[Redacted]

[Redacted] A sociable, suave, able diplomat,

[Redacted] He has been a principal figure in Burundi politics in the past few years and is still felt by many to be a powerful force in the government.

[Redacted] he has also been an open supporter of the Mwami and has effectively worked for the maintenance of the monarchy.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Ndenzako, a Tutsi, was born about 1931. From 1950 to 1960 he was chief at Kabezi in Bubanza and in this position was well-liked and worked hard, [Redacted] He attended the Groupe Scolaire in Astrida from 1954 to 1955 and from 1957 to 1960 served as governor of Mushasha-Sud Province. In early 1960 Ndenzako went to Belgium as a trainee in the Foreign Ministry [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] In 1961 he served as the Mwami's private secretary, chief of protocol and as Grand Marshal of the Court, acting in the latter capacity until his appointment as Ambassador.

Ndenzako is married to Regina, the youngest daughter of the Mwami, and they have three children. He is also the younger half-brother of Michel Ndenzako, second vice president of the National Assembly.

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DATE: MAY 2005

3 October 1963

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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