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ORIGIN EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00	AIT-03	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DS-00
	EUR-01	OIGO-01	UTED-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	ADS-00
	NEA-01	NSAE-00	OIC-02	OIG-04	SA-01	DSCC-00	/015R

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SOURCE: WANGGATE.007079

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APPROVED BY: EAP/P: KRWALKIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FUKUOKA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL NAGOYA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL PUSAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL SAPPORO IMMEDIATE

NSC WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 RELEASE
 EXCISE
 DENY

IM/IPS/OR/IR
 DECLASSIFY
 DECLASSIFY
 IN PART

EO Citations

Date: 6/19/97

FOIA Exemptions: _____
 PA _____
 CLASSIFY as () S or () C Sec.
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C

TS authority to

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CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY
 USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
 CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS PRIORITY
 COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//CC/BJ/CJ/EJ/PAJ/SJS// PRIORITY
 SACINCUNC KS PRIORITY
 USCINCUNC SEOUL KS PRIORITY
 SECDEF WASHDC//USDP PRIORITY
 JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
 HQ USSPACECOM PETERSON AFB CO//POLAD// PRIORITY
 USMISSION USVIENNA PRIORITY

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USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR USIS/YAMAUCH MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL OPRC XE US

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 26 PRESS GUIDANCE FOR THE EAP REGION

ALL POSTS -- ALSO FOR USIS
 SECDEF -- ALSO FOR OASD/PA
 USCINCPAC FOR FPA TEARE
 USVIENNA FOR UNVIE
 PARIS FOR ZEYA

1. INDEX

- NORTH KOREA: NY TALKS (PARAS 2-3)
- SINGAPORE: PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (PARAS 2 AND 4)
- PERU: HOSTAGE UPDATE (PARAS 2 AND 5-8)

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 2. THERE WAS NO REGULAR PRESS BRIEFING THAT DAY. POSTS
 MAY DRAW FROM THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCES ON AN IF ASKED
 BASIS.

3. NORTH KOREA: NY TALKS

Q. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE U.S.-NORTH KOREAN TALKS IN

NEW YORK?

A. U.S. AND NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS MOST RECENTLY HELD A WORKING-LEVEL MEETING IN NEW YORK ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 23.

-- AS IN THE EARLIER TALKS, THE NORTH KOREAN SIDE INCLUDED MR. LI HYONG CHOL ("LEE HYOUNG CHUL"), THE DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS IN THE NORTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, WHO IS VISITING THE U.S.

-- THE TALKS CONTINUED TO BE SERIOUS AND USEFUL, BUT I DO NOT WANT TO CHARACTERIZE THEM BEYOND THAT.

Q. HOW LONG WILL MR. LI BE IN NEW YORK? WILL THERE BE ADDITIONAL SESSIONS?

A. MR. LI'S DEPARTURE DATE HAS NOT BEEN SET. THERE MAY BE AN ADDITIONAL SESSION OR SESSIONS IN NEW YORK. WE DON'T ANNOUNCE THEM IN ADVANCE.

Q. IS MR. LI COMING TO WASHINGTON?

A. WE HAVE NO PLANS FOR MEETINGS WITH MR. LI OUTSIDE
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NEW YORK.

4. SINGAPORE: PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Q. HAS THE RULING PARTY WON THE ELECTION EVEN BEFORE IT IS HELD? HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

A. DECEMBER 23 WAS THE NOMINATION DEADLINE FOR SINGAPORE'S JANUARY 2 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. OPPOSITION PARTIES NOMINATED CANDIDATES TO CONTEST ONLY 36 OF THE 83 OPEN SEATS.

-- THIS MEANS THAT THE RULING PEOPLE'S ACTION PARTY (PAP) WILL WIN AT LEAST 47 SEATS, A CLEAR MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT.

Q. IS THE GOVERNMENT THREATENING THOSE WHO VOTE FOR THE OPPOSITION? WHAT IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT REACTION TO THIS?

A. WE UNDERSTAND THAT RULING PARTY CANDIDATES, INCLUDING THE PRIME MINISTER, HAVE WARNED THAT CONSTITUENCIES THAT ELECT OPPOSITION CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE LOW PRIORITY IN EXTENSIVE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO UPGRADE PUBLIC HOUSING FACILITIES.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT VOTERS EVERYWHERE SHOULD BE ABLE TO VOTE WITHOUT FEAR OF REPERCUSSIONS FROM GOVERNMENT AS A RESULT OF THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AS CITIZENS.

ONLY IF ASKED:

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Q. IS THE U.S. CRITICIZING THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE IN ITS COMMENT ON THE ELECTIONS?

A. FRANKLY, I AM A LITTLE SURPRISED BY THIS BACK AND FORTH. WE SIMPLY NOTED FACTUALLY WHAT SOME LEADING SINGAPOREAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER GOH, HAVE SAID.

-- WE THEN STATED A GENERAL PRINCIPLE WITH WHICH WE BELIEVE FEW CAN DISAGREE.

5. PERU: HOSTAGE SITUATION UPDATE

Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE HOSTAGE SITUATION?

A. ACCORDING TO THE RED CROSS, TERRORISTS FROM THE TUPAC AMARU REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT CONTINUE TO HOLD 104 HOSTAGES INSIDE THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

-- ON DECEMBER 24, THE TERRORISTS DID RELEASE THE URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR. YESTERDAY, THEY RELEASED A

JAPANESE DIPLOMAT WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS.

-- AT APPROXIMATELY 2:00 A.M. THIS MORNING THE MEDIA REPORTED THAT AN EXPLOSION WAS HEARD FROM INSIDE THE RESIDENCE.

-- THE CAUSE OF THAT EXPLOSION IS STILL UNKNOWN.

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6. PERU: RELEASE OF URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR

Q. DOES THE U.S. BELIEVE THERE IS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR'S RELEASE AND A URUGUAYAN DECISION NOT TO EXTRADITE TO PERU TWO REPUTED MRTA TERRORISTS?

A. THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY HAS STATED THAT THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR JUDICIAL REVIEW PROCESS THAT LED TO THE DECISION NOT TO EXTRADITE TWO REPUTED MRTA TERRORISTS WANTED IN PERU AND THE RELEASE OF ITS AMBASSADOR.

-- WE DO NOT HAVE ANY EVIDENCE TO CONTRADICT THIS STATEMENT.

(IF PRESSED) U.S. POLICY IN THIS REGARD IS QUITE CLEAR. WE DO NOT MAKE CONCESSIONS TO TERRORISTS AND WE DO NOT ENCOURAGE OTHER NATIONS TO DO SO.

-- AS WE HAVE SAID FROM THE BEGINNING, THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESOLVING THE SITUATION. THE U.S. SUPPORTS ITS EFFORTS TO BRING IT TO A PEACEFUL CONCLUSION.

7. PERU: AMNESTY FOR HOSTAGE TAKERS?

Q. A JAPANESE DAILY QUOTED THE PRESIDENT OF PERU'S CONGRESS AS SAYING THEY MIGHT OFFER AN AMNESTY FOR THE HOSTAGE TAKERS? WHAT IS OUR REACTION TO THIS?

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A. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THERE IS NO LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL PENDING IN THE PERUVIAN CONGRESS TO OFFER AMNESTY TO THE TERRORISTS THAT ARE CURRENTLY HOLDING THE HOSTAGES AT THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

8. PERU: YELTSIN PROPOSAL

Q. WHAT IS OUR REACTION TO PRESIDENT YELTSIN'S PROPOSAL TO HAVE THE G-7 SEND AN ANTI-TERRORIST TEAM TO LIMA IF PERU ASKS?

A. THE U.S. HAS MADE A GENERAL OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU.

-- WE WOULD OF COURSE CONSIDER CAREFULLY ANY REQUEST MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU, WHETHER IT WOULD BE FOR DIRECT BILATERAL SUPPORT OR FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER NATIONS.

-- TO DATE, WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM PERU. I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE HOW WE WOULD RESPOND.

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