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INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	CA-02	CIAE-00
	INL-00	DODE-00	EAP-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	JUSE-00	L-00	VCE-00	DGP-01
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ALL POSTS FOR PAO; USSOCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, KPAO
SUBJECT: WHA GUIDANCES, APRIL 5, 2001

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 2. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, APRIL 5 (COLOMBIA, CUBA, PERU)
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- END SUMMARY.

- 1. FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 4, 2001:

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STATEMENT BY RICHARD BOUCHER, SPOKESMAN

--JOINT STATEMENT OF THE US-MEXICO HIGH LEVEL WORKING GROUP
ON MIGRATION --

THE US-MEXICO HIGH LEVEL WORKING GROUP ON MIGRATION SIGNED A
JOINT STATEMENT ON APRIL 4 IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FOLLOWING IS
THE TEXT OF THAT STATEMENT.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE GOVERNMENTS OF MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES TODAY BEGAN
TALKS INTENDED TO ACHIEVE A FRAMEWORK FOR ORDERLY, LEGAL,
SAFE AND HUMANE MIGRATION AND FOR THE PROTECTION OF WORKER
RIGHTS. AS PRESIDENTS VICENTE FOX AND GEORGE W. BUSH
DIRECTED DURING THEIR RECENT MEETING IN GUANAJUATO, THE
TALKS ARE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARIES OF GOVERNMENT AND
FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MEXICO AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES.

BOTH GOVERNMENTS VIEW THIS PROCESS AS AN EXERCISE OF SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY, WITH A LONG TERM PERSPECTIVE, TO ENSURE THAT
MIGRATION OF MEXICANS TO THE UNITED STATES IS OF MUTUAL

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OPPORTUNITY AND BENEFIT. BOTH GOVERNMENTS ARE ALSO COMMITTED TO THE REGULATION AND SAFETY OF PERSONS AT OUR COMMON BORDER. IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT THE COMPONENTS OF THE AGENDA FORM A SINGLE UNDERTAKING, SEEKING AN IN-DEPTH SOLUTION ON MIGRATION.

THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS ESTABLISHED THE MECHANICS OF THE
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TALKS AND A TIMETABLE FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS THE PARAMETERS OF THIS BINATIONAL EFFORT. THE OFFICIALS OF BOTH COUNTRIES EXCHANGED POINTS OF VIEW CONCERNING SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG TERM OBJECTIVES, AS WELL AS AN INITIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF EACH COUNTRY.

THE AGENDA INCLUDES DISCUSSION OF BORDER SAFETY, THE H-2 VISA PROGRAM, IDEAS ON REGULARIZATION OF UNDOCUMENTED MEXICANS IN THE UNITED STATES, POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES FOR TEMPORARY WORKERS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON CIRCULARITY, WORKER RIGHTS AND LABOR DEMAND, COOPERATION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES, REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE SCHEDULING OF FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE HIGH LEVEL WORKING GROUP ON MIGRATION.

THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO URGE STRONGLY THAT ALL MEXICANS CURRENTLY IN THE UNITED STATES WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THE LEGAL IMMIGRATION AND FAMILY EQUITY (LIFE) ACT, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THOSE BENEFITS IN ALL CATEGORIES, INCLUDING 245(I) ADJUSTMENT, WHICH HAS AN APPLICATION DEADLINE OF APRIL 30, 2001.

THE OFFICIALS AGREED TO JOINTLY HOST SEVERAL MEETINGS ALONG THE BORDER TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING MECHANISMS AND DEVELOP NEW IDEAS FOR COOPERATION ON BORDER SAFETY. IN ADDITION, BOTH THE GOVERNMENTS HAVE AGREED TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE RESOURCES IN THIS AREA. PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO PROGRAMS AIMED AT COMBATING THE SMUGGLING OF PEOPLE AND PREVENTING THE DEATHS OF MIGRANTS AT THE BORDER.

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THE WORK INITIATED TODAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SEEKS TO DEAL WITH THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE MIGRATION PHENOMENON. THE WORKING GROUP WILL DELIVER A PRELIMINARY REPORT TO THE

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BINATIONAL COMMISSION MEETING TO BE HELD THIS SUMMER. MOREOVER, THE GROUP WILL ENDEAVOR TO PRODUCE ITS INITIAL RESULTS BY THE FALL OF THIS YEAR AND REPORT TO OUR TWO PRESIDENTS.

END TEXT.

2. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, APRIL 5, 2001:

--COLOMBIA: PARAMILITARY OFFER TO ARRANGE SURRENDER OF TOP NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS --

Q: COMMENT ON UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA (AUC) LEADER CARLOS CASTANO'S REPORTED OFFER IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST TO HELP ARRANGE THE SURRENDER OF AS MANY AS 20 OF COLOMBIA'S TOP DRUG TRAFFICKERS FOR TRIAL IN THE U.S.

*AUC
CASTANO*

A: WHILE WE WELCOME MR. CASTANO'S REPORTED ANTI-DRUG STATEMENTS, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH MR. CASTANO. WE HAVE NO INTENTIONS OF TALKING TO HIM OR SOLICITING THE HELP OF HIS UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA (AUC IN SPANISH) OR ANY OTHER ILLEGAL GROUP. IT IS AGAINST U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO MEET WITH PARAMILITARY LEADERS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

THERE IS COMPELLING EVIDENCE THAT ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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COLOMBIA - INCLUDING THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA (FARC) AND THE AUC - ARE HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE NARCOTICS INDUSTRY, AND DEPENDENT UPON NARCOTICS FINANCING TO SUSTAIN THEIR COMBAT OPERATIONS.

WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO BRING TO JUSTICE THOSE INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL AFFILIATION.

Q: (IF NEEDED) WHAT IS OUR POSITION ON CASTANO'S ORGANIZATION?

A: THE PARAMILITARY GROUP, UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA (AUC), IS AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS THREATS TO THE RULE OF LAW IN COLOMBIA. THIS ILLEGAL GROUP IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE MANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS CONFRONTING COLOMBIA.

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THIS GROUP IS A SIGNIFICANT PERPETRATOR OF SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN COLOMBIA. AND LIKE OTHER ILLEGAL ARMED GROUPS IN COLOMBIA, THE UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA (AUC) IS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE NARCOTICS TRADE, FROM WHICH IT DERIVES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF ITS INCOME.

Q: (IF NEEDED) IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING DESIGNATING THE AUC AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION?

A: WE DO NOT COMMENT ON WHAT GROUPS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE MAY BE CONSIDERING FOR DESIGNATION AS FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. THE UNITED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES OF COLOMBIA'S APPALLING HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IN COLOMBIA HAS LONG CONCERNED US. THIS YEAR'S HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON COLOMBIA REVIEWS IN
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SOME DETAIL RECENT PARAMILITARY HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS.

-- CUBA: MEDICAL STUDIES --

Q: ANY COMMENT ON THE STORY INDICATING THAT U.S. STUDENTS HAVE ARRIVED TO BEGIN STUDYING MEDICINE IN CUBA?

A: UNDER OUR CUBA PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE POLICY AMERICANS ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO CUBA FOR ACADEMIC REASONS AFTER OBTAINING A LICENSE FROM THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL. THIS WOULD INCLUDE THE STUDY OF MEDICINE. CUBAN STUDENTS ARE ALSO ALLOWED TO STUDY IN THE UNITED STATES. THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL WOULD HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION ON LICENSES FOR THESE AMERICANS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ANY GRADUATE OF A FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOL WHO WISHED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE U.S. MUST PASS THE U.S. MEDICAL LICENSING EXAMINATION (MLE). WE FIND IT CURIOUS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA HAS IN MANY INSTANCES TURNED DOWN OFFERS OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR CUBAN STUDENTS TO STUDY AT U.S. UNIVERSITIES, BUT NOW WISHES TO OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS TO U.S. STUDENTS TO STUDY IN CUBA.

-- PERU: ELECTIONS ON APRIL 8 --

KEY POINTS TO MAKE

- EXPECT THESE ELECTIONS WILL BE FREE AND FAIR.
- DO NOT FAVOR ANY CANDIDATE.
- GAVE \$7 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT ELECTORAL
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 AUTHORITIES, OBSERVERS, VOTER EDUCATION.
 -- NO U.S. GOVERNMENT OBSERVER MISSION. PRESIDENT CARTER
 AND ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) WILL BE AMONG
 THOSE PRESENT.
 -- DO NOT KNOW WHERE MONTESINOS IS BUT ARE CONFIDENT
 ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES WILL OVERSEE A TRANSPARENT PROCESS.

Q: COMMENT ON THIS SUNDAY'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN PERU,
 RECENT RISE OF ALAN GARCIA IN THE POLLS?

A: WE EXPECT THESE ELECTIONS WILL BE FREE AND FAIR. WE
 HAVE PROVIDED \$7 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT THE WORK
 OF ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES AND OBSERVER GROUPS, AND TO PROMOTE
 VOTER EDUCATION.

WE TAKE NO POSITION ON ANY OF THE CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT.
 WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH WHOMEVER THE PERUVIAN PEOPLE
 ELECT IN A DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

Q: WILL THE U.S. GOVERNMENT SEND AN OBSERVER MISSION?

A: WHILE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS NOT SENDING AN
 OBSERVER MISSION, WE ARE SUPPORTING HIGHLY RESPECTED
 PERUVIAN AND INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER GROUPS, SOME OF WHOM
 WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUR EMBASSY IN
 LIMA.

FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER WILL HEAD A MISSION FROM THE CARTER
 CENTER/NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTE. FORMER GUATEMALAN
 FOREIGN MINISTER EDUARDO STEIN WILL HEAD A MISSION FROM THE
 ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES.

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Q: WHERE IS MONTESINOS THESE DAYS? ARE YOU WORRIED HE WILL
 SOMEHOW TRY TO MANIPULATE THE ELECTION?

A: WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE MR. MONTESINOS IS CURRENTLY LOCATED.
 WE ARE CONFIDENT THE ELECTORAL AUTHORITIES WILL OVERSEE A
 TRANSPARENT PROCESS.

Q: (IF ASKED) WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO HELP FIND AND
 PROSECUTE MONTESINOS?

A: WE ARE COOPERATING FULLY WITH REQUESTS FROM THE PERUVIAN

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GOVERNMENT MADE IN CONNECTION WITH ITS EFFORTS TO LOCATE MONTESINOS AND INVESTIGATE HIS ALLEGED ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.

WE CANNOT DISCUSS THESE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES PUBLICLY BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT PERUVIAN AND U.S. AUTHORITIES ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT.

 3. CA PRESS GUIDANCE, APRIL 5, 2001:

-- PERU: STATUS OF LORI BERENSON CASE --

Q: COMMENT ON LORI BERENSON CIVILIAN TRIAL?

A. ORAL ARGUMENTS IN LORI BERENSON'S CIVILIAN TRIAL BEGAN MARCH 20 AND ARE CONTINUING.

EMBASSY OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO ATTEND THE TRIAL.

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WE HAVE LONG PRESSED FOR MS. BERENSON TO BE GRANTED A CIVILIAN TRIAL IN WHICH SHE WOULD BE ACCORDED FULL DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS UNDER PERUVIAN LAW.

WE CONTINUE TO URGE PERUVIAN OFFICIALS TO ENSURE THAT THESE CIVILIAN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS WILL PROVIDE SUCH PROTECTIONS.

INAPPROPRIATE FOR US TO COMMENT ON POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF ONGOING CIVILIAN JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS.

U.S. CONSULAR OFFICERS VISIT MS. BERENSON REGULARLY AS THEY DO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN FOREIGN PRISONS.

Q: RESPONSE TO BERENSONS' STATEMENT THAT YOUR OWN HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT NOTES THAT A FAIR TRIAL IS NOT POSSIBLE.

A. WE HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE OPENNESS AND FAIRNESS OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS IN PERU. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE JUDICIAL REFORM PROCESS UNDERWAY AND THE EFFORTS WE HAVE MADE TO EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERNS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF PERU WILL HELP ENSURE THAT MS. BERENSON'S TRIAL WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A TRANSPARENT MANNER AND WITH FULL DUE PROCESS.

POWELL

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