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SOURCE: KODAKA.029025

DRAFTED BY: WHA/CCA:EDWARD H GOFF -- 12/28/01 202-647-9389

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/28/02

TAGS: CU, PINR, PTER

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE: USE OF GUANTANAMO FOR AL-QAIDA AND
 RELATED DETAINEES

Classified by Acting Assistant Secretary for WHA, Lino
 Gutierrez. Reason: 1.5(d)

1. (C) Department instructs USINT to advise orally the
 GOC of the following as soon as possible.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: WILLIAM E LANDFAIR
 DATE/CASE ID: 04 OCT 2004 200303827

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2. (C) Begin Suggested Talking Points.
I have been instructed to share the following information with you.

As a result of the continuing war on international terrorism, the United States and its allies have custody of a number of Al-Qaida and related detainees.

Detention is needed to prevent further acts of international terrorism.

The detention would be consistent with the standards of international law.

After reviewing a number of possible sites around the world, the US Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay was selected as the best alternative in this difficult circumstance.

We cannot say exactly how many detainees might be held on the base, but it is likely to run into the hundreds.

A relatively small first group is expected to arrive by mid-January.

The United States intends to hold the detainees in a safe and secure manner within the base.

In order to maintain security, over the next several months, forces at the base will be increased to appropriate levels.

Noting the Government of Cuba's repeated commitment to combat international terrorism, the Government of the United States looks forward to the support of the Government of Cuba in this additional step in the fight against international terrorism.

End Talking Points.

3. (C) If asked:
No decision has been made as to the venue for possible future tribunals.

4. (C) In response to other questions for which no answer is provided, please advise that you will pass them on to Washington.
POWELL

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