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Document Number: 2002STATE012588

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SOURCE: CBLEXCLS.000262

DRAFTED BY: WHA/PDA:LSHAMILTON -- 01/22/2002 647-4726

APPROVED BY: WHA/PDA:CVBARCLAY

PA: RBOUCHER (SUBS)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD

DATE/CASE ID: 02 NOV 2004 200303827

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ALL POSTS FOR PAO, USSOCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, KPAO
SUBJECT: WHA GUIDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2002

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS:

1. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, JAN 22 (COLOMBIA)
 2. INL PRESS GUIDANCE, JAN 22 (COLOMBIA)
 3. CA PRESS GUIDANCE, JAN 22 (PERU)
 4. S/WCI-L PRESS GUIDANCE, JAN 22 (DETAINEES/GUANTANAMO)
- END SUMMARY.

- 1. WHA GUIDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2002

-- COLOMBIA: REACTION TO GOC-FARC TIMETABLE --
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QUESTION: ANY COMMENT ON THE TIMETABLE AGREED TO ON JANUARY 20 BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA?

ANSWER: THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT PASTRANA'S CONTINUING PEACE EFFORTS IN COLOMBIA.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED IN FACILITATING THE TIMETABLE TALKS BY UN SPECIAL ENVOY JAMES LEMOYNE, BY THE GROUP OF FACILITATING COUNTRIES, AND BY THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO, ARCHBISHOP BENIAMINO STELLA.

WE AGAIN CALL UPON THE FARC TO FULFILL ITS COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA AND TO CEASE ITS ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS, INVOLVEMENT IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, AND ATTACKS ON INFRASTRUCTURE.

- 2. INL PRESS GUIDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2002

-- COLOMBIA: LOSS OF HELO/FOUR COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE --

Q: WHAT HAPPENED?

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A: ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, A U.S. HELICOPTER (UH-1N) BELONGING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S INL WING WAS SUPPORTING A ROUTINE ERADICATION MISSION IN THE COLOMBIAN DEPARTMENT OF
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CAQUETA. FOR REASONS THAT REMAIN UNCLEAR, THE AIRCRAFT LOST TRANSMISSION FLUID AND WAS REQUIRED TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING.

ALL CREW MEMBERS WERE SAFE/UNHARMED AND EVACUATED FROM THE AREA. THE CREW INCLUDED A DYNCORP CONTRACTOR (THE PILOT, U.S. CITIZEN) AND MEMBERS OF THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE.

UNFORTUNATELY, FOUR COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS WERE KILLED IN FIGHTING WHILE THEY WERE SECURING THE PERIMETER TO RESCUE THE CREW OF THE DOWNED HELICOPTER. THE STATE DEPARTMENT EXTENDS ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF THOSE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS.

THE COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES WERE UNABLE TO REMOVE THE DOWNED HELICOPTER TO A SAFER AREA. THE HELICOPTER WAS DESTROYED ON THE GROUND IN ORDER TO PREVENT IT FROM FALLING INTO THE HANDS OF THE GUERRILLAS.

IF ASKED: THE UH-1N WAS NOT/NOT ONE OF THE 33 UH-1N'S PROVIDED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA THROUGH PLAN COLOMBIA SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING. IT WAS ONE OF SEVERAL OPERATED IN COLOMBIA BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S INL AIR WING IN SUPPORT OF THE AERIAL ERADICATION PROGRAM.

IF ASKED: TWO COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE BLACK HAWK HELICOPTERS WERE HIT DURING THE RESCUE OPERATION. THOSE HELICOPTERS RETURNED TO BASE AND ARE BEING EXAMINED TO ASSESS THE DAMAGE.

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3. CA PRESS GUIDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2002

-- PERU: LORI BERENSON --

KEY POINTS:

LORI BERENSON'S APPEAL BEING HEARD BY PERUVIAN SUPREME COURT TODAY (TUESDAY, JANUARY 22).

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NOT GOING TO COMMENT ON APPEAL, WHICH IS PENDING JUDICIAL
MATTER IN PERU.

EMBASSY OFFICIALS ARE NOT ATTENDING TODAY'S HEARING, BECAUSE
SUPREME COURT RULES DECLARE APPEALS TO BE CLOSED.

4. S/WCI - L PRESS GUIDANCE, JANUARY 22, 2002

-- TREATMENT OF DETAINEES IN GUANTANAMO --

Q: REACTION TO BRITISH COMMENTS ON CONDITIONS?

A: THE INDIVIDUALS BEING DETAINED AT GUANTANAMO ARE BEING
TREATED HUMANELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS.

EACH DAY THE DETAINEES ARE GIVEN THREE MEALS THAT MEET MUSLIM
DIETARY REQUIREMENTS.

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THEY HAVE DAILY OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOWER, EXERCISE AND RECEIVE
MEDICAL ATTENTION.

IT IS OF COURSE THE CASE THAT THESE DETAINEES ARE VERY
DANGEROUS PEOPLE, AND ALL APPROPRIATE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS ARE
BEING TAKEN.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE
DETAINEES AND AL QAEDA, AND ARE COLLECTING ANY RELEVANT
INFORMATION CONCERNING CRIMES THEY MAY HAVE COMMITTED.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE RED CROSS WILL HAVE
ACCESS TO THE DETAINEES AT GUANTANAMO TODAY TO INSPECT THE
CONDITIONS THERE.

REFER YOU TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

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