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TO ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE

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OFFICIAL INFORMAL SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, CA

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL - DAILY ACTIVITIES REPORT
FEBRUARY 1, 2002

FOR AMB, DCM, POL AND ECON FROM WHA/CAN DIRECTOR MASON

1. (U) DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT, FEBRUARY 1, 2002
2. (SBU) CONTINUED ATTACKS ON DEFENSE MINISTER EGGLETON

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THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS FOUND TODAY THAT DEFENSE MINISTER EGGLETON MISLED PARLIAMENT ABOUT WHEN HE LEARNED THAT CANADIAN SPECIAL FORCES HAS CAPTURED AL-QAIDA TERRORISTS AND TURNED THEM OVER TO THE U.S. A HOUSE COMMITTEE WILL INVESTIGATE WHETHER EGGLETON DELIBERATELY MISLED COMMONS AND WHETHER HE SHOULD BE CENSURED. WHILE LIBERAL CONTROL OF THE HOUSE MAKES EGGLETON'S CENSURE UNLIKELY, CALLS FOR HIS RESIGNATION CONTINUE TO BE HEARD FROM THE OPPOSITION.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: SHARON E AHMAD
DATE/CASE ID: 03 NOV 2004 200303827

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EGGLETON'S CONFLICTING STATEMENTS CAME AS HE ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN WHY HE HAD FAILED TO INFORM PM CHRETIEN THAT THE SPECIAL FORCES HAD TURNED OVER THE TERRORISTS TO U.S.

FORCES, AN OMISSION WHICH CAUSED CHRETIEN SIGNIFICANT EMBARRASSMENT IN COMMONS. EGGLETON IS LIKELY TO SURVIVE AS DEFENSE MINISTER, IF ONLY BECAUSE CHRETIEN HATES GIVING IN TO OPPOSITION CRITICS MORE THAN HE HATES BEING KEPT UNINFORMED BY HIS MINISTERS. (MCCULLA/OTTAWA E-MAIL/PRESS).

3. (SBU) OTTAWA GETTING RIGHT ANSWER ON DETAINEES

THE CANADIAN EMBASSY CONFIRMED TODAY THAT THE POINTS ON HANDLING AFGHANISTAN DETAINEES WHICH NSA RICE SENT POLICY ADVISER LAVERDURE YESTERDAY WILL GIVE THE GOC WHAT IT NEEDS TO DEFUZE THE ISSUE IN OTTAWA. A MINISTER WILL BE ABLE TO SAY IN PARLIAMENT THAT THE U.S. HAS PROCEDURES IN PLACE FOR VETTING DETAINEES THAT ACCORD WITH OTTAWA'S

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UNDERSTANDING OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS; IT IS THEREFORE LAWFUL FOR CANADIAN TROOPS IN AFGHANISTAN TO HAND PRISONERS OVER TO U.S. TROOPS. DEPLOYMENT OF THE CANADIAN BATTALION TO KANDAHAR IS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE. AN ALDAC CABLE TONIGHT WILL SEND OUT THESE SAME UNCLASSIFIED POINTS FOR USE BY ALL POSTS. (TULENKO/OTTAWA 294 AND 307)

4. (SBU) CANADIANS WANT STRICTER IMMIGRATION POLICIES

RECENT POLLS RESULTS SHOW THE CANADIAN PUBLIC WANTS STRICTER IMMIGRATION POLICIES. AN ASTOUNDING 83% ANSWERED YES WHEN ASKED "SHOULD CANADA BE STRICTER WHEN IT COMES TO IMMIGRATION?" THE POLL WAS CONDUCTED IN OCTOBER BY LEGER MARKETING FOR CANADIAN PRESS, A WIRE SERVICE ORGANIZATION. OTHER INTERESTING RESULTS:

* 83 PERCENT SAID "NO" WHEN ASKED IF CANADA SHOULD FORBID PEOPLE OF ARAB DESCENT FROM ENTERING THE COUNTRY;

* 87 PERCENT AGREE WITH THE IDEA OF REQUIRING ALL NON-CITIZEN PERMANENT RESIDENTS TO HAVE A PHOTO ID;

* 86.6 PERCENT OF CANADIANS FEEL SECURITY MEASURES AT CANADIAN BORDERS ARE BARELY OR NOT STRICT ENOUGH TO SECURE THEIR SAFETY.

U.S. AND CANADIAN BORDER OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN BUSY AS BEAVERS TRYING TO IMPLEMENT THE 30-POINT BORDER ACTION

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PLAN AGREED TO BY U.S. HOMELAND SECURITY DIRECTOR TOM
RIDGE AND CANADIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MANLEY LAST
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DECEMBER. THE PLAN ENHANCES SECURITY WHILE FACILITATING
TRADE ALONG THE BORDER. THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS
PROMISED TO BEGIN IN JUNE ISSUING NEW, MORE SECURE,
PERMANENT RESIDENT CARDS TO REPLACE THE PAPER DOCUMENTS
NOW BEING USED. (NORMAN/EMBASSY)
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