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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARTO 06002

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/22/12

TAGS: OVIP, PREL

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MARCH 22 MEETING WITH SWISS
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS JOSEPH DEISS

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DEBORAH GRAZE; REASON 1.5 (B) AND (D).

2. (U) MARCH 22, 2002, 11:40 MONTERREY, MEXICO

3. (U) PARTICIPANTS:

U.S.:

THE SECRETARY
RICHARD BOUCHER, A/S FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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JOHN NEGROPONTE, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N.
ALAN LARSON, U/S FOR ECONOMIC, BUSINESS AND
AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS
VICE ADMIRAL WALTER DORAN, JCS
CRAIG KELLY, S STAFF
SHARON WEBER, (NOTETAKER) AMCONGEN MONTERREY

SWITZERLAND:

JOSEPH DEISS, FEDERAL COUNCILOR AND MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DR. MARCUS KAISER, SWISS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO
BERNARDINO REGAZZONI, DIPLOMATIC COUNSELOR TO THE

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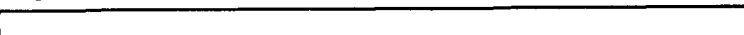
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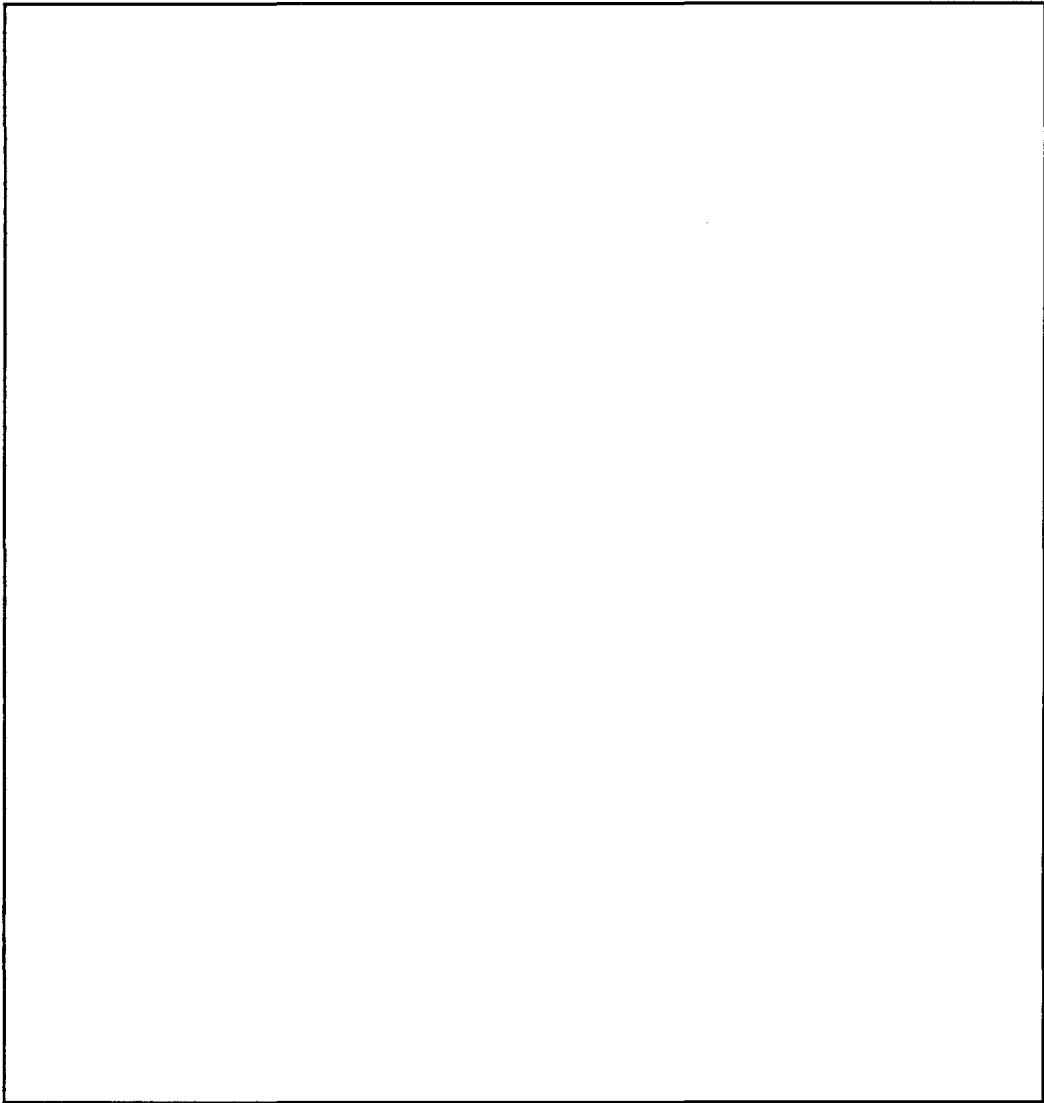
MINISTER

MURIEL BERSSET KOHEN, DIPLOMATIC PRESS SECRETARY
SIMON GEISSBUHLER, NOTETAKER

4. (C) SUMMARY: ON MARCH 22, THE SECRETARY MET
WITH SWISS FOREIGN MINISTER JOSEPH DEISS AT DEISS'
REQUEST. 

B1


THE SECRETARY DESCRIBED HOW THE GENEVA CONVENTION IS
BEING APPLIED TO DETAINEES CAPTURED IN AFGHANISTAN.
FOREIGN MINISTER DEISS CONCLUDED BY EXTENDING AN
INVITATION TO THE SECRETARY TO VISIT SWITZERLAND.
END SUMMARY.



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GENEVA CONVENTION AND DETAINEES

7. (C) DEISS NOTED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT ARTICLES IN THE U.S. MEDIA CRITICIZING THE GENEVA CONVENTION AND THE NEED FOR THE CONVENTION TO BE REVIEWED. HE SAID THAT THE EXISTING PRINCIPLES OF THE CONVENTION REMAIN VALID. THE SECRETARY REVIEWED U.S. THINKING ON THE GENEVA CONVENTION, AL QAIDA AND THE TALIBAN. HE AGREED THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONVENTION REMAIN VALID, BUT ADDED THAT THE NATURE OF WARFARE HAD CHANGED. DEISS ENDED THE MEETING BY INVITING THE SECRETARY TO VISIT SWITZERLAND.

COLIN POWELL

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