

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                       | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. cable               | re: Vietnamese Ambassador and EAP A/S Roth on Next Steps. (4 pages) | 04/07/1998 | P1/b(1)     |
| 002. cable               | re: Spanish Response on International Criminal Court. (4 pages)     | 04/08/1998 | P1/b(1)     |
| 003. cable               | re: Panama: Waiting for Next MCC Shoe to Drop. (4 pages)            | 04/09/1998 | P1/b(1)     |
| 004. cable               | re: OECD: U/S Eizenstat's Bilateral Meeting with. (7 pages)         | 04/22/1998 | P1/b(1)     |
| 005. cable               | re: May 2-4 Visit to London: Scenesetter. (3 pages)                 | 04/30/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
 NSC Cables  
 Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
 OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

2006-1363-F

vz5589

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
 P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
 P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]  
 P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]  
 P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]  
 P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]  
 b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]  
 b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]  
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 b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]  
 b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]  
 b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]  
 b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

# Cable

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**PREC:** ROUTINE  
**CLASS:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**LINE1:** RAAUZYUW RUEHSJA0986 0931735-UUUU--RHEHAAX.  
**LINE2:** ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
**LINE3:** R 031735Z APR 98  
**LINE4:** FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
**OSRI:** RUEHSJ  
**DTG:** 031735Z APR 98  
**ORIG:** AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
**TO:** RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 4672  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2337  
**INFO:** ////  
**SUBJ:** DALTON CASE PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUES  
POSITIVE TURN

**TEXT:**

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 000986

USIA

STATE FOR ARA/CEN, ARA/PA, CA/OCS  
USIA FOR ARE.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: CASC, CVIS, CS, KIDE, EINV  
SUBJECT: DALTON CASE PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUES  
POSITIVE TURN

REF: (A) SAN JOSE 665, (B) SAN JOSE 690

1. SUMMARY: LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE OF THE MAX DALTON CASE HAS CONTINUED TO IMPROVE IN RECENT DAYS, FOLLOWING THE CHANGE IN TONE LAST MONTH OF LEADING DAILY "LA NACION" (REF B). TWO MORE PAPERS HAVE DONE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS ON SQUATTERS, AND SEVERAL POSITIVE EDITORIALS HAVE APPEARED. POSITIVE COVERAGE BY "LA NACION" OF PRESIDENT-ELECT RODRIGUEZ' RECENT TRIP TO THE U.S. HIGHLIGHTED HIS STATED INTENTION TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF THE DALTON CASE AND LAND DISPUTES. END SUMMARY.

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MORE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING ON THE SQUATTER PROBLEM  
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2. AFTER EMBOFFS MET WITH SENIOR STAFF OF LEADING DAILY "LA NACION" TO EXPLAIN THE USG POSITION (REF A), THAT PAPER'S NEGATIVE COVERAGE OF THE DALTON CASE CEASED, AND THEY CARRIED A TWO-PAGE COLOR FEATURE ON THE WIDESPREAD PROBLEM OF SQUATTERS IN COSTA RICA. SOME DAYS LATER, THE DAILY PAPER "LA PRENSA LIBRE" AND THE WEEKLY "TIEMPOS DEL MUNDO" CARRIED SIMILAR

INVESTIGATIVE FEATURES ON THE PROBLEM OF SQUATTERS  
WHO INVADE PROPERTIES FOR SPECULATION AND PROFIT.

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MORE POSITIVE EDITORIALS  
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3. POSITIVE EDITORIALS APPEARED IN THE DAILY "LA PRENSA LIBRE" AND "BUSINES COSTA RICA," THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE LOCAL AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. THE "LA PRENSA LIBRE" PIECE PRAISED THE USG, AND IN PARTICULAR, SENATOR HELMS, FOR STANDING UP FOR THE RIGHTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. IT ALSO CRITICIZED THE GOCR FOR ITS HANDLING OF THE DALTON MATTER, SAYING THAT "THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENED IN PAVONES LIES WITH THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT'S INABILITY TO CONFRONT, DEFINE AND CORRECT A PROBLEM THAT THEY KNEW EXISTED, BUT DIDN'T ADDRESS." THE "BUSINESS COSTA RICA" EDITORIAL WAS WRITTEN BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMCHAM, WHO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ON AMBASSADOR DODD'S FEBRUARY 19 SPEECH, BEFORE WHICH HE HAD SUPPOSEDLY "THREATENED" COSTA RICA WITH SANCTIONS OVER THE DALTON CASE. THIS EDITORIAL WAS SIGNIFICANT, BECAUSE "BUSINESS COSTA RICA" REACHES A VERY INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF U.S. AND COSTA RICAN BUSINESS PEOPLE.

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RODRIGUEZ VISIT TO U.S. SETS NEW TONE  
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4. LEADING DAILY "LA NACION" SENT A CORRESPONDENT TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT-ELECT RODRIGUEZ ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE U.S., AND SHE FILED DAILY ACCOUNTS OF HIS MEETINGS WITH PRESENT CLINTON, SENATOR HELMS, THE DALTON FAMILY, AND MANY OTHERS. IN EVERY MEETING WITH USG OFFICIALS, RODRIGUEZ WAS REPORTED TO HAVE ASKED FOR THE LIFTING OF THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PAVONES. AT THE SAME TIME, ALMOST EVERY ARTICLE CONVEYED THE PRESIDENT-ELECT'S WILLINGNESS TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS OF THE DALTON CASE AND LAND TENURE ISSUES. THE OVERALL EFFECT OF THE COVERAGE SET A NEW POSITIVE TONE. IN ADDITION, RODRIGUEZ ADVISOR JAIME DAREMBLUM, WHO IS RUMORED TO BE THE NEXT COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON, WROTE AN UPBEAT OP-ED PIECE IN "LA NACION" ENTITLED "NEW AGENDA IN THE U.S." THAT CARRIED A SIMILAR POSITIVE MESSAGE.

MCELHINEY

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0986

TOR: 980403145630 M3230020

DIST:

SIT: BAKER DELAURENTIS DEROSA DESOUZA DOBBINS HIGHSMITH HOFMANN LAWSON  
ORFINI PICCONE  
SIT: NSC

# Cable

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**PREC:** ROUTINE

**CLASS:** UNCLASSIFIED

**LINE1:** RAAUZYUW RUEHNEA2840 0970508-UUUU--RHEHAAX.

**LINE2:** ZNR UUUUU ZZH

**LINE3:** R 070508Z APR 98

**LINE4:** FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

**OSRI:** RUEHNE

**DTG:** 070508Z APR 98

**ORIG:** AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

**TO:** RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2968

**INFO:** RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 1059

RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 1531

RUSBAY/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 1220

RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 0710

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 0666

**SUBJ:** AMBASSADOR CELESTE'S CALL ON NEW INDIAN MINISTER OF  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

**TEXT:**

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 NEW DELHI 002840

FOR SA/INS AND OES

DEPARTMENT PASS EPA AND WHITE HOUSE FOR GLOBE PROGRAM

USIA FOR NEA AND EN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SENV, IN

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR CELESTE'S CALL ON NEW INDIAN MINISTER OF  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

REF: A) STATE 57753, B) NEW DELHI 2274

1. SUMMARY. THE PRIORITIES OF SURESH PRABHU, MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS, ARE TO CHANGE INDIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THROUGH EDUCATION; IMPLEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS ON THE BOOKS; STRENGTHEN POLLUTION MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES, WITH THE HELP OF THE EPA, IF POSSIBLE; SET UP A TECHNOLOGY BANK; AND CREATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL FUND. (!THE MINISTER WAS RECEPTIVE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S ASSURANCES THAT THE UNITED STATES WANTED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH INDIA ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND EXPRESSED INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE GLOBE PROGRAM. THE AMBASSADOR URGED INDIA TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THE MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CSD) MEETING AT THE UN ATQ THE MONTH AND WANTED TO MEET WITH TOP US ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON APRIL 3, AMBASSADOR CELESTE PAID A COURTESY CALL ON SURESH PRABHU, THE NEWLY APPOINTED UNION MINISTER FOR

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (MOEF) (SEE REF B FOR BIO). JOINT SECRETARY NIRMAL ANDREWS AND THE MINISTER'S PRIVATE SECRETARY ANAND KULKARNI WERE PRESENT. ECON COUNSELOR AND THE USAID DIRECTOR ACCOMPANIED

#### THE MINISTER'S PRIORITIES

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3. THE AMBASSADOR UNDERScoreD THE U.S. INTEREST IN WORKING WITH THE MINISTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND ASKED THE MINISTER WHAT HIS PRIORITIES WERE. PRABHU SAID THAT OVER THE LONG TERM HE ANTICIPATED TO CHANGE INDIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THROUGH EDUCATION; HE PLANNED TO WORK WITH UNIVERSITIES TO DEVELOP DOCTORAL AND POST-DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS. HE ALSO PLANNED TO IMPLEMENT THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS ON THE BOOKS. INDIA LACKED THE NECESSARY POLLUTION MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES, HOWEVER. HE HOPED THEY COULD LEARN FROM THE EPA SO THAT THEY COULD SET UP CLEAR, SCIENTIFIC PROCEDURES. POLLUTION CONTROL WAS ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT WITH A GROWING POPULATION. SOLUTIONS NEEDED TO BE TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN AND HE WANTED THE MINISTRY TO SET UP A TECHNOLOGY BANK. REFORESTATION WAS ALSO A PRIORITY; HE HOPED TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL FUND, FINANCED FROM POLLUTION PENALTIES, VOLUNTARY DONATIONS, AND POSSIBLY AN ENVIRONMENTAL TAX ON INDUSTRY.

#### U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN INDIA

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4. RECALLING THE 1995 INDO-U.S. INITIATIVE ON THE COMMON AGENDA FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (CAE), THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE MINISTER WOULD MEET WITH SENIOR U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY MAKERS AT STATE/OPS, EPA AND AID TO ADVANCE THE DIALOGUE AND IDENTIFY WHERE THE UNITED STATES HAD RELEVANT EXPERIENCES TO SHARE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD. IN CONNECTION WITH THE MINISTER'S PRIORITIES, THE AMBASSADOR DESCRIBED VICE PRESIDENT GORE'S GLOBE PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE USIS-MANAGED ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP FUND WHICH IS INTENDED TO PROMOTE INDO-AMERICAN EXCHANGES ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. THE MINISTER EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE GLOBE PROGRAM AND THE AMBASSADOR PROMISED TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION. THE AMBASSADOR UNDERScoreD THAT AID AND FCS WERE ACTIVE IN WORKING WITH INDUSTRY AND INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT IN AND USE OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGY AND THAT THE U.S. AND INDIA NEEDED TO CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR AREAS WHERE WE CAN HAVE A PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

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5. PICKING UP ON THE AMBASSADOR'S OBSERVATION THAT AMERICAN COMPANIES OPERATING IN INDIA WERE COMMITTED TO ACTING AS GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENS, THE USAID DIRECTOR NOTED THAT THE CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE CONTEXT PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR CORPORATE INVESTMENT IN ENVIRONMENTALLY POSITIVE ENDEAVORS, SUCH AS REFORESTATION (CARBON SINKS). JOINT SECRETARY NIRMAL ANDREWS OBSERVED THAT HE HAD JUST BEEN TALKING TO THE AID DIRECTOR ABOUT HIS PREPARATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING U.N. COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MEETING IN NEW YORK AND THOUGHT INDIA SHOULD TELL THE DELEGATES ALL THAT IT IS DOING TO TACKLE ITS ENVIRONMENTAL

PROBLEMS. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE PRODUCTIVE TO TALK ABOUT REAL, PRACTICAL ACTIONS AND GET AWAY FROM STERILE NORTH-SOUTH DEBATES.

6. THE AMBASSADOR THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE AN EXTREMELY POSITIVE STEP FORWARD, NOTING THAT WE ALL FACED SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 NEW DELHI 002840

FOR SA/INS AND OES  
DEPARTMENT PASS EPA AND WHITE HOUSE FOR GLOBE PROGRAM  
USIA FOR NEA AND EN

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: SENV, IN  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR CELESTE'S CALL ON NEW INDIAN MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

REF: A) STATE 57753, B) NEW DELHI 2274

CHALLENGES. THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAD TRIED TO MOVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE AGENDAS FORWARD IN THE STATES AND INTERNATIONALLY. DRAWING ON THE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REF A, HE UNDERScoreD THAT LEADERSHIP FROM THE DEVELOPING WORLD WAS ESSENTIAL IF ANY PROGRESS WAS TO BE MADE ON CLIMATE CHANGE. INDIA COULD CERTAINLY HAVE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE IN DISCUSSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT/CLIMATE CHANGE.

#### GREENING THE U.S. MISSION

7. UNDER THE "PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH" RUBRIC, THE AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED THAT HIS GOAL WAS TO CREATE A "GREEN" MISSION. IN AN EFFORT TO CUT ELECTRICITY BILLS WHICH ACCOUNT FOR A THIRD OF OUR EXPENDITURES, SOLAR HOT WATER HEATERS ARE BEING INSTALLED IN MISSION HOUSING. TO HELP REDUCE POLLUTION IN NEW DELHI, THE EMBASSY NOW USES UNLEADED GAS. RECENTLY, THE AMBASSADOR AND THE LT. GOVERNOR OF NEW DELHI INAUGURATED TWO ELECTRIC CARS WHICH ARE BEING MANUFACTURED IN INDIA USING U.S. TECHNOLOGY. THE HOPE IS THAT USE OF THESE CLEAN CARS WILL CUT CITY POLLUTION.

#### VISITING THE STATES

8. THE MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CSD) MEETING AT THE U.N. IN NEW YORK AT THE END OF THE MONTH. THE AMBASSADOR OFFERED TO FACILITATE APPOINTMENTS WITH EPA'S CAROL BROWNER AND STATE/OES'S MELINDA KIMBLE WHILE THE MINISTER WAS IN THE STATES. THE MINISTER ASKED NIRMAL ANDREWS TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE MISSION ON POSSIBLE APPOINTMENTS.

#### PRABHU AN IV GRANTEE

9. IN CONCLUDING AN EXTREMELY CORDIAL MEETING, THE MINISTER COMMENTED THAT LAST YEAR HE AND THREE OTHER INDIANS HAD VISITED THE UNITED STATES ON AN INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM AND THAT HE HAD MET WITH THE INDIAN CAUCUS IN CONGRESS AND WITH SENATOR JESSE HELMS IN HIS HOME DISTRICT. HE NOTED WITH

A SMILE THAT TWO OF THE FOUR IVPS WON THEIR RACES AND WERE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET; THE OTHER TWO LOST. AN IVP GRANT EVIDENTLY OFFERED A 50-50 CHANCE OF AN ELECTION VICTORY AND HIGH OFFICE.

## COMMENT

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10. PRABHU APPEARS TO BE SOMEONE WE CAN WORK WITH. WE HAVEN'T SUCCEEDED IN SCHEDULING A HIGH-LEVEL GLOBAL ISSUES MEETING IN INDIA FOR SOME TIME NOW. WE REALIZE OUR TOP ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS WILL BE VERY BUSY IN NEW YORK DURING THE CSD MEETING, BUT WE BELIEVE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THEY TAKE THE TIME TO MEET WITH PRABHU, ESPECIALLY GIVEN INDIA'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS. WHEN WE GET MORE INFORMATION ON THE MINISTER'S SCHEDULE, WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH WASHINGTON ABOUT POSSIBLE APPOINTMENTS.

CELESTE

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 02

&lt;^SECT&gt;SECTION: 02 OF 02

**SSN:** 2840

&lt;^SSN&gt;2840

**TOR:** 980407015345 M3233287

&lt;^TOR&gt;980407015710 M3233296

**DIST:**

SIT: ANTHOLIS BENJAMIN CLARKER GREER HAWLEY KLEIN METZL ORFINI RIEDEL ROSA  
SANDALOW SIMON VP WECHSLER  
SIT: NSC

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                       | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. cable               | re: Vietnamese Ambassador and EAP A/S Roth on Next Steps. (4 pages) | 04/07/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
NSC Cables  
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

2006-1363-F

vz5589

### RESTRICTION CODES

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 002. cable               | re: Spanish Response on International Criminal Court. (4 pages) | 04/08/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

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Clinton Presidential Records  
NSC Cables  
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

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# Cable

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**PREC:** IMMEDIATE  
**CLASS:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**LINE1:** OAAUZYUW RUEHNEA2978 1040401-UUUU--RHEHAAX.  
**LINE2:** ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
**LINE3:** O 140401Z APR 98  
**LINE4:** FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
**OSRI:** RUEHNE  
**DTG:** 140401Z APR 98  
**ORIG:** AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
**TO:** RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0694  
**INFO:** RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3077  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC  
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//USIA//  
RUESFG/FBIS BANGKOK TH  
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 0728  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0751  
RUEHHK/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 0489  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0881  
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 0736  
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 0603  
RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 1589  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0433  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0442  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0500  
**SUBJ:** MEDIA REACTION SOUTH ASIA GHOURI MISSILE TEST

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SUBJECTS COVERED IN THIS REPORT  
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**TEXT:** UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978  
  
USIA FOR NEA, R, R/MR, I/TGI, I/RF, I/TIC, I/GNEA,  
I/REC, I/RW,  
STATE FOR SA/INS, PM/CBM, PM/PRO T AND ACDA  
STATE FOR NSC  
STATE FOR AID/APRE-A  
STATE PASS USDA FOR FAS/ITP/PURDY  
USDOC FOR 4530/IEP/ANESA/OSA  
USIS FOR BILL MURPHY  
USUN ALSO FOR CHUCK MAST  
  
E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, IN  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION SOUTH ASIA GHOURI MISSILE TEST

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SUBJECTS COVERED IN THIS REPORT  
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## 1. SOUTH ASIA: RICHARDSON'S VISIT/GHAURI MISSILE

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PAGE ONE STORIES  
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## 1. GHAURI TEST--U.S. RULES OUT ACTION AGAINST PAKISTAN:

-- PAKISTAN'S GHAURI MISSILE TEST CONTINUED TO DOMINATE NATIONAL DAILY HEADLINES OVER THE WEEND. SEVERAL LEADING PAPERS THIS MORNING CARRIED AN ISLAMABAD ITEM SAYING THAT THE U.S. HAS RULED OUT UNILATERAL ACTION AGAINST PAKISTAN FOR FIRING THE GHAURI, STATING THAT IT WAS ENTIRELY PAKISTAN'S INDIGENOUS EFFORT. THE REPORT QUOTED HIGHLY PLACED SOURCES IN PAKISTAN STATING THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT ABLE TO CONFIRM WHETHER CHINA HAD ACTUALLY SUPPORTED PAKISTAN IN THE MANUFACTURE OF THE MISSILE AND WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT IT WAS PRODUCED INDIGENOUSLY. THE SOURCES SAID THAT THE U.S. ALSO DID NOT WANT TO IMPOSE ONE-SIDED RESTRICTIONS SINCE IT BELIEVED THAT THE MTCR COULD NOT BE APPLIED AGAINST PAKISTAN ALONE. SEVERAL PAPERS CARRIED COMPLEMENTARY STORIES QUOTING PAKISTAN FOREIGN MINISTER GOHAR AYUB KHAN STATING THAT THE RANGE OF THE GHAURI (1,500 KMS) COULD BE EXTENDED BY LAUNCHING IT FROM SHIPS. SEVERAL PAPERS ALSO CARRIED A PTI STORY FROM ISLAMABAD WHICH QUOTES THE PAKISTANI MEDIA STATING THAT PAKISTAN WILL UNDERTAKE A NUCLEAR TEST IF INDIA DOES SO, BUT WILL NOT START THE NUCLEAR TEST WAR. REPORTS NOTED THAT INCIDENTLY, PAKISTAN ARMY CHIEF GEN. JEHANGIR KARAMAT HAD VISITED THE U.S. A FORTNIGHT BEFORE THE GHUARI MISSILE TEST, AND HAD TOLD U.S. OFFICIALS THAT ISLAMABAD WOULD GO AHEAD WITH ITS GHAURI PROGRAM IRRESPECTIVE OF "THE COSTS OF TIES WITH WASHINGTON."

-- THE INDIAN EXPRESS AND OTHER DAILIES ON SUNDAY CARRIED WASHINGTON STORIES STATING THAT THE U.S. WAS AWARE OF THE IMPENDING TEST BY PAKISTAN OF ITS GHAURI MISSILE AND TRIED TO BUY IT OFF BY PROMISING TO SPEED UP THE DELIVERY OF THE SEQUESTERED F-16S. THE STORIES QUOTED WELL-PLACED DEFENSE ANALYSTS STATING ON FRIDAY THAT, DEMONSTRATING AN UNUSUALLY INDEPENDENT STREAK, ISLAMABAD WENT AHEAD WITH THE MISSILE TEST, RISKING NOT JUST THE PLANES' DELIVERY REMAINING IN LIMBO, BUT ALSO POSSIBLE SANCTIONS BY THE WHITE HOUSE AND LEGISLATIVE WRATH FROM PROLIFERATION HAWKS IN THE CONGRESS. THE SUNDAY PAPERS ALSO REPORTED A NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE SAYING THAT THE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY WAS SMUGGLED FROM NORTH KOREA, AND THAT U.S. OFFICIALS HAD CONFIRMED THIS.

-- SATURDAY PAPERS REPORTED FROM WASHINGTON A KEY US. OFFICIAL ON THURSDAY AUTHENTICATED ISLAMABAD'S CLAIM THAT IT HAS SUCCESSFULLY TESTED ITS HATF-V GAURI MISSILE. "WE BELIEVE THE TEST TOOK PLACE. WE KNOW THAT PAKISTAN HAS AN ACTIVE PROGRAM TO DEVELOP MISSILES, AND THEY DO TEST THEM FROM TIME TO TIME," PENTAGON SPOKESMAN AND A/S FOR DEFENSE KENNETH BACON HAS SAID, VIRTUALLY RUBBISHING THE SKEPTICISM SOME SECTIONS IN INDIA HAVE

BEN VOICING ABOUT PAKISTAN'S CAPABILITY.

-- THE VERNACULAR DAILIES ALSO PITCHED IN WITH THE DAINIK JAGRAN, ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT HINDI DAILIES, STATING THAT CHINA HAS BUILT SEVERAL STATIONS ALONG THE BORDER FROM WHICH CAN LAUNCH MISSILE ATTACKS AND INDIAN MUST NOW DO THE SAME FOR ALL FUTURE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

USIA FOR NEA, R, R/MR, I/TGI, I/RF, I/TIC, I/GNEA, I/REC, I/RW, STATE FOR SA/INS, PM/CBM, PM/PRO T AND ACDA STATE FOR NSC STATE FOR AID/APRE-A STATE PASS USDA FOR FAS/ITP/PURDY USDOC FOR 4530/IEP/ANESA/OSA USIS FOR BILL MURPHY USUN ALSO FOR CHUCK MAST

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WARS WILL INVOLVE USE OF MISSILES. IT ADDS THAT THE U.S. KNOWS EVERYTHING BUT WAS TURNING A BLIND EYE. THE NAVBHARAT TIMES IN A PAGE ONE REPORT ON SUNDAY SAID THAT INDIA HAS PLANS TO BUILD THE "SURYAMISSILE, WHICH HAS A STRIKING CAPABILITY OF 5,000 KMS.

2. INDIA GEARING UP FOR DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE;  
GHAURI TO FIGURE ON U.S. DELEGATION'S AGENDA:

-- THE BILL RICHARDSON/KARL INDERFURTH VISIT RECEIVED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE AND COMMENT OVER THE WEEKEND, WITH PAPERS MOSTLY CONNECTING IT WITH THE GHAURI MISSILE TEST. THE MEDIA EXPECTS THAT THIS ISSUE WILL BE ON TOP OF RICHARDSON'S AGENDA HERE. THE INDIAN EXPRESS SAID THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HERE AGREE THAT PAKISTAN'S FIRING OF GHAURI WOULD DEFINITELY BE A PRIORITY ITEM ON THE BILATERAL AGENDA. THE REPORT QUOTES LIBERALLY FROM WASHINGTON BRIEFINGS TO JOURNALISTS, WHICH APPEARED IN USIA'S WIRELESS FILES. SEEMA MUSTAFA WROTE IN THE ASIAN AGE ON SATURDAY THAT "UNOFFICIALLY, RICHARDSON WILL ASSESS THE FLEXIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE (KASHMIR ONLY BEING THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE) AND ADVISE PRESIDENT CLINTON ABOUT THE OVERALL POLICY REQUIRED TO KEEP THE COUNTRIES IN THIS REGION PLIABLE AND SUBSERVIENT BY PLAYING ONE AGAINST THE OTHER...." EXCERPTS FROM EDITORIALS AND COMMENTARY FOLLOWS.

-- THE HINDU'S STRATEGIC AFFAIRS EDITOR, RAJA MOHAN, WROTE THAT NRC CHAIRMAN SHIRLEY JACKSON IS VISITING INDIA FOR EXTENSIVE INTERACTION ON NUCLEAR SAFETY ISSUES. THIS, HE SAYS, MAY MARK AN IMPORTANT SHIFT IN THE NATURE OF NUCLEAR CONVERSATION BETWEEN NEW DELHI AND WASHINGTON.

-- U.S. ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL DENNIS REIMER'S VISIT WAS ALSO IN THE NEWS. ACCORDING TO DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS HERE, GEN. REIMER'S VISIT WILL "OFFER THE INDIAN MILITARY LEADERSHIP A FIRST-HAND BRIEFING ON THE PENTAGON'S VIEWS ON THE PAKISTANI MISSILE TESTS AND THE CLANDESTINE PAK.-CHINA MISSILE COOPERATION." THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS SECRETARY DEFENSE AJIT KUMA'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN NEXT WEEK BUT HAS BEEN PUT OFF AGAIN.

3 GOI SETS UP TASK FORCE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL:

-- ALL PAPERS REPORTED ON SATURDAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT TOOK THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS THE FORMATION OF APEX BODY FOR SECURITY ISSUES, WITH THE SETTING UP OF A TASK FORCE TO WORK OUT THE MODALITIES OF CONSTITUTING A NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. THE TASK FORCE WILL BE CHAIRED BY FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER K.C. PANT AND WILL HAVE AS ITS MEMBERS DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION JASWANT SINGH AND DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE STUDIES AND ANALYSES JASJIT SINGH.

4. INDIA TO PRESS FOR REVISION OF PATENT LAW:

-- THE PIONEER REPORTED ON FRIDAY THAT FINANCE MINISTER YASHWANT SINHA HAS SAID THAT INDIA WAS OPPOSED TO INTERNATIONAL PATENT LAW AND WAS DETERMINED TO SEEK ITS REVISION IN THE WTO WITH THE HELP OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SINHA SAID THE PATENT LAW WAS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE INTEREST OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIKE INDIA. HE TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE CONGRESS GOVERNMENT COMMITTED A BLUNDER BY SIGNING THE AGREEMENT UNDER PRESSURE FROM POWERFUL COUNTRIES." HE ALSO HINTED THAT UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

USIA FOR NEA, R, R/MR, I/TGI, I/RF, I/TIC, I/GNEA,  
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HE WAS OPPOSED TO MAKING INDIAN CURRENCY FULLY CONVERTIBLE, CITING THE EXAMPLE OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOUTH ASIAN MARKET AS A LESSON FOR INDIA.

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1. SOUTH ASIA: RICHARDSON'S VISIT/GHOURI MISSILE  
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--"SEEKING ANSWERS," EDITORIAL IN APRIL 13 CENTRIST THE TIMES OF INDIA:

-- "A HIGH-POWERED AMERICAN DELEGATION LED BY BILL RICHARDSON, IS VISITING INDIA AT A TIME WHEN THE STRATEGIC CONTOURS IN EAST AND SOUTH ASIA ARE GETTING MORE CLEARLY DELINEATED. ON THE EVE OF THE VISIT, THE OFFICIAL U.S. SPOKESPERSON ADMITTED THAT WASHINGTON UNDERSTANDS THE CONCERNS INDIA HAS OVER CHINA.... IN HIS TESTIMONY TO THE U.S. CONGRESS ON FEBRUARY 4, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE ROBERT EINHORN TRACED CHINA'S NUCLEAR WEAPON TECHNOLOGY TRACED CHINA'S NUCLEAR WEAPON TECHNOLOGY RELATIONSHIP WITH PAKISTAN THROUGHOUT THE 1980S AND ITS SUBSEQUENT SUPPLY OF MISSILES AND DISCLOSED THAT THOUGH COMPLETE MISSILES ARE NOT BEING SUPPLIED NOW, MISSILE COMPONENTS ARE STILL BEING TRANSFERRED FROM CHINA TO PAKISTAN. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE ASSERTION OF INDIAN DEFENSE MINISTER GEORGE FERNANDES THAT CHINA IS THE MOTHER OF PAKISTAN'S GHAAURI MISSILE BECOMES RELEVANT. THE U.S. VISITORS SHOULD BE ABLE TO APPRECIATE THAT INDIA SEES PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR AND MISSILE CAPABILITIES AS ANALOGOUS TO THE SOVIET DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR MISSILES IN CUBA IN 1962.... PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR AND MISSILE CAPABILITIES ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM OF CHINA'S GROWING POWER AND ROLE IN ASIA....

-- "THE CONTINUING US UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE A DETERMINATION ON THE TRANSFER OF M-11 MISSILES FROM CHINA TO PAKISTAN IN 1993 DOES NOT SPEAK WELL OF WASHINGTON'S COMMITMENT TO NON-PROLIFERATION.... CHINA IS ADMITTEDLY BEYOND PENALISING SINCE THE US HAS A HUGE ECONOMIC STAKE IN THAT COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS. NORTH KOREA IS ALSO SUSPECTED TO BE A SOURCE FOR PAKISTANI MISSILE.... THE IMPRESSION IS BOUND TO GAIN GROUND THAT THE US IS HELPLESS IN HALTING PROLIFERATION IN ASIA AND, THEREFORE, IT IS LOGICAL FOR INDIA TO HAVE ITS OWN THREAT ASSESSMENT AND NUCLEAR AND MISSILE POLICIES TO ENSURE ITS SECURITY. THIS HAS BEEN ADMITTED BY THE US SPOKESPERSON WHEN HE SAID "INDEED, WE DO NOT DISPUTE THE VIEW OF THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT THAT THEY WOULD DETERMINE THEIR STRATEGIC POSTURE BASED ON THEIR OWN ASSESSMENT OF THE REGION." ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS ON US PROLIFERATION POLICY TOWARDS THE ASIAN REGION WILL HAVE A LARGE INFLUENCE ON THE INDIAN ASSESSMENT."

--DIALOGUE WITH THE US," 'GLOBAL WATCH' COLUMN IN APRIL 13 PRO-ECONOMIC REFORMS THE ECONOMIC TIMES BY PUNDIT K. SUBRAHMANYAM:

-- "A HIGH-POWERED US TEAM IS ARRIVING IN DELHI ON TUESDAY, IS EXPECTED TO PREPARE THE GROUND FOR THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON TO DELHI LATER THIS YEAR.... THE FORTHCOMING VAJPAYEE CLINTON SUMMIT WILL BE HELD UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES DIFFERENT FROM THE EARLIER SUMMITS. THE US HAS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE WEAKNESS OF EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES FOLLOWING THE CURRENCY TURMOIL AND JAPAN TEETERING ON THE EDGE OF

RECESSION.... AMERICANS ARE EMERGING OUT OF THEIR  
UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

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TRADITIONAL OBSESSION THAT NOTHING ELSE MATTERS IN THE  
SUBCONTINENT EXCEPT INDIA-PAKISTAN EQUATION AND THE  
NUCLEAR AND MISSILE ISSUES IN THE SUB-CONTINENT HAVE NO  
EXTERNAL DIMENSIONS....

-- "THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE THE POINT  
THAT BEIJING'S MATERIAL INPUTS SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED OR  
TAKEN FOR GRANTED. THIS REMARK IS AT VARIANCE WITH THE  
STATEMENT OF ROBERT EINHORN..... THEREFORE, THE PRESENT  
VISIT OF THE US TEAM SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO DISCUSS THE  
NATURE OF PROLIFERATION IN ASIA AND ROLES OF CHINA AND  
NORTH KOREA AND THEIR TRANSACTIONS WITH PAKISTAN AND  
OTHER COUNTRIES.... INDIA'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS  
COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN AND THE AMERICAN APPROACH ARE NOT  
DIFFERENT.... INDIA TOO, BY KEEPING OUT OF CTBT,  
RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TEST BUT IS NOT IN A POSITION TO  
GIVE SIX MONTH'S NOTICE AS STIPULATED IN THE TREATY  
SINCE INDIA DOES NOT HAVE THE KIND OF CAPABILITY US  
HAS..... THEREFORE, KEEPING OUT OF CTBT IS ITSELF A STEP  
IN DETERRENCE GIVEN THE SITUATION WHERE INDIA FINDS  
ITSELF BETWEEN TWO NUCLEAR WEAPON POWERS BETWEEN THE TWO  
OF WHOM THERE IS AN ONGOING NUCLEAR WEAPON TECHNOLOGICAL  
RELATIONSHIP.... ONCE THE NEW GOVERNMENT FORMULATES ITS  
STRATEGIC DEFENCE VIEW IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE  
DIALOGUE WITH US MORE PURPOSEFUL. ALL THESE YEARS,  
INDIA HAS BEEN UNDER A HANDICAP SINCE THE INDIAN  
PARTICIPANT COULD NOT MATCH UP WITH THE AMERICAN. IT IS  
HOPED THAT THIS VISIT WILL MARK A TURNING POINT IN  
INDO-US DIALOGUE."

--U.S. ENVOY'S VISIT: A NEW PHASE?," ANALYSIS IN APRIL  
10 CENTRIST THE HINDU BY STRATEGIC AFFAIRS EDITOR C.  
RAJA MOHAN:

-- "RICHARD'S EXTENDED SOJOURN IN THE  
SUBCONTINENT MARKS THREE IMPORTANT DEPARTURES IN THE  
U.S. POLICY TOWARDS THE REGION. FIRST, CLINTON APPEARS  
DETERMINED TO END THE LOW PRIORITY THAT THE REGION HAS  
HAD IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.... SECOND, WITHIN THE  
SUB-CONTINENT THE U.S. INTEREST IS NO LONGER LIMITED TO  
AMERICAN BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND PAKISTAN AND

A DESIRE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF INDO-PAK TIES SUCH AS KASHMIR AND NUCLEAR AND MISSILE NON-PROLIFERATIO.... THE NEW AMERICAN APPROACH IS REFLECTED IN THE FACT THAT RICHARDSON IS TRAVELLING TO BANGLADSH AND SRI LANKA BESIDES INDIA AND PAKISTAN.... NEW DELHI NEEDS TO WELCOME THIS SHIFT IN AMERICAN POLICY AWAY FROM AN OBSESSION WITH INDO-PAK ISSUES....

-- "THIRD, THE PERIPHERY OF THE SUB-CONTINENT IS INCREASINGLY BEING FACTORED INTO THE AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS THE REGION. TIBET, AFGHANISTAN, IRAN AND MYANMAR HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PART OF THE NATURAL GEOGRAPHIC CONTINUUM OF THE SUB-CONTINENT.... THE CHANGING AMERICAN APPROACH WILL GENERATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS DIFFICULTIES FOR INDIA.... IT IS ABSOLUTELY IMPORTANT THAT INDIA DEMAND FROM RICHARDSON AN ELABORATION ON AMERICAN OBJECTIVES IN TIBET, AND CONVEY INDIA'S OWN DETERMINATION TO INSULATE SINO-INDIAN RELATIONS FROM THE UPS AND DOWNS OF SINO- AMERICAN TIES.... IRAN CAN NO LONGER BE IGNORED IN THE GEOPOLITICS OF THE SUB-CONTINENT -- IN RESOLVING THE AFGHAN CONFLICT.... AS INDIA AND THE U.S. SEEK TO BUILD A NEW PARTNERSHIP THROUGH A STRATEGIC DIALOG, A VERY BROAD AGENDA, INCLUDING THE REFORM OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL, AWAITS RICHARDSON IN NEW DELHI. INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN -- GHAWRI NOTWITHSTANDING -- CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO COME IN THE WAY."

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UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

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--INDIAN, U.S. STAKES IN BANGLADESH," ANALYSIS IN APRIL  
12 CENTRIST THE HINDU BY STRATEGIC AFFAIRS EDITOR C.  
RAJA MOHAN:

-- "THAT BILL RICHARDSON IS BEGINNING HIS WHIRLWIND TOUR OF THE REGION THIS WEEK FROM BANGLADESH MAY BE OF SOME SIGNIFICANCE TO THE LONG-TERM EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN POLICY TO WARDS SOUTH ASIA. IF NEW DELHI AND WASHINGTON CAN SHED THEIR LONG-STANDING OBSESSION WITH PAKISTAN, THEY COULD LOOK AT A VERY INVITING, CONSTRUCTIVE AND A POSITIVE AGENDA OF REGIONAL COOPERATION INT HE EASTERN PART OF THE SUBCONTINENT.... RICHARDSON'S VISIT TO DHAKA REFLECTS THE GROWING AMERICAN INTEREST IN BANGLADESH....

-- "IN BANGALADESH, RICHARDSON WILL FOCUS ON DEEPENING DEMOCRACY IN THAT VOLATILE NATION, AND PROMOTING THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF ITS LARGE NATURAL GAS RESOURCES.... BEYOND THE GAS PIPELINES, THERE IS GROWING INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN SUB- REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN AMONG INDIA, BANGLADESH, NEPAL, AND BHUTAN. AMERICAN ENERGY COMPANIES, THE WORLD BANK AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ARE KEEN TO PROMOTE SUCH A COOPERATION TO BOOST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ONE OF THE WORLD'S POOREST REGIONS.... INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES CAN GRASP THIS OPPORTUNITY ONLY IF THEY LOOK BEYOND PAKISTAN IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP....

-- "AS HE EMBARKS ON AN IMPORTANT MISSION IN THE REGION. BILL RICHARDSON HAS TWO CHOICES. HE CAN DWELL ON THE SUBCONTINENT'S PAST AND ITS PROBLEMS; OR HE CAN LOOK TO ITS FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES. IF HE ADOPTS THE TRADITIONAL AMERICAN APPROACH, HE WILL WASTE HIS TIME ON INDO-PAK RELATIONS, KASHMIR AND NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION. IF HE BREAKS FREE FROM THAT FAILED APPROACH, HE CAN UNVEIL A VISION OF AMERICAN COOPERATION WITH INDIA AND HER NEIGHBORS TO BUILD A PROSPEROUS EASTERN PART OF THE SUBCONTINENT.... IF RICHARDSON PAYS HEED TO TO FOLKS FROM THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT AND THE ENERGY COMPANIES, HE CAN BOOST THE PROSPECTS FOR AN "EMERGING EAST" IN THE SUBCONTINENT."

--HEY INDIA, HEY PAKISTAN, BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING,"  
EDIT-PAGE ANALYSIS IN APRIL 11 CENTRIST THE ASIAN AGE BY  
NEW DELHI BUREAU CHIEF SEEMA MUSTAFA:

-- "OFFICIALLY THE RICHARDSON TRIP IS A PRECURSOR TO PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S VISIT TO THE COUNTRY LATER THIS YEAR, THE DATES FOR WHICH ARE STILL BEING FINALIZED. UNOFFICIALLY, RICHARDSON WILL ASSESS THE FLEXIBILITY OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE (KASHMIR ONLY BEING THROWN IN FOR GOOD MEASURE) AND ADVISE PRESIDENT CLINTON ABOUT THE OVERALL POLICY REQUIRED TO KEEP THE COUNTRIES IN THIS REGION PLIABLE AND SUBSERVIENT BY PLAYING ONCE AGAINST THE OTHER, EXERTING PRESSURE ON THE SENSITIVE SPOTS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED, AND WORKING TOWARDS THE LONG TERM OBJECTIVE OF LEGITIMISING US INTEREST (READ INTERFERENCE) IN THE REGION....

-- "THE US IS SILENT. AS BEHOVES A SUPERPOWER WHICH DOES NOT NEED TO MEDDLE WHEN IT HAS OTHERS TO DO

THE JOB. IT HAS LEFT IT TO PAKISTAN TO RAISE THE ANTE AND NAWAZ SHARIF HAS BEEN FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL IN THAT. IN THE PROCESS KASHMIR HAS BEEN LINKED TO WHAT PAKISTAN AND NOW THE US ARE DESCRIBING AS A NUCLEAR ARMS RACE IN THE REGION. THE TALKS HAVE GONE INTO THE BACKGROUND WITH UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

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THE FIRING OF THE GHOURI MISSILE BY PAKISTAN. THERE IS NO UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE POLITICAL MESSAGE THAT PAKISTAN WILL COUNTER THE INDIAN MISSILE PROGRAM, BUT IF INDIA SIGNS THE CTBT, MUCH OF THE TENSION CAN BE AVOIDED....

-- "THAT IS THE OBVIOUS MESSAGE. NOT SO OBVIOUS IS THAT ONCE AGAIN THE US HAS COME INTO THE PICTURE IN ITS SELF-ASSUMED ROLE OF THE GLOBAL NUCLEAR REFEREE.... THE US ADMINISTRATION WILL SPEAK TO BOTH COUNTRIES BUT IF THEY DO NOT LISTEN (AND THEY WILL NOT), PRESIDENT CLINTON WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO INTERVENE. THIS HAS JUST BEEN HINTED AT, NOT SAID. BUT IT UNDERLIES THE WORDS OF WISDOM ENANATING FROM THE WHITE HOUSE.... RICHARDSON'S REAL INTEREST IS THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S NUCLEAR POLICY. THE US ADMINISTRATION HAS ALLOWED PAKISTAN TO STEP UP THE ATTACK AGAINST INDIA....

-- "IT CAN BE SAID WITH A FAIR DEGREE OF CERTAINTY THAT INDIA WILL START FEELING THE PRESSURE. THE TIMING WILL DEPEND MUCH ON WHAT RICHARDSON TAKES BACK WITH HIM, AND HOW SOON THE US ADMINISTRATION IS READY TO JOIN ISSUE WITH THE BJP GOVERNMENT HERE. IT CAN BE SAID THAT THE US IS RE-ASSESSING ITS POLICY TOWARDS THE ENTIRE REGION. IT CAN BE SAID THAT THE US IS RE- ASSESSING ITS POLICY TOWARDS THE ENTIRE REGION. IT CAN ALSO BE SAID THAT THERE WILL BE NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE POLICY, JUST SHIFTS IN STRATEGY AND TACTICS."

--PARANOID FORECASTING," EDITORIAL IN APRIL 10 CENTRIST THE HINUDSTAN TIMES:

-- "PARANOIA HAS ALWAYS PLAGUED THE PENTAGON'S GENERALS AND THEIR POLITICAL MASTERS IN THEIR ROLE AS THE SELF-APPOINTED GUARDIANS OF PEACE ON THIS PLANET.... THE PENTAGON, TODAY, ROUTINELY MAKES COMPUTER COMPOSITIONS FOR JUST ABOUT ANY SORT OF EXIGENCY WHICH

COULD POSSIBLY CROP UP ANYWHERE ON THE GLOBE. THE IMPRESSIONIST PICTURE OF AN INDO-PAKISTAN NUCLEAR CONFLICT WHICH MAY TAKE PLACE LESS THAN A DECADE FROM NOW IS THE LATEST OFFERING FROM WASHINGTON'S VOTARIES OF WAR VORTICISM, AND IT DESCRIBES GRAPHICALLY HOW SUBCONTINENTAL STRIFE WILL THREATEN WORLD PEACE IN THE YEAR 2006 OF THE LORD....

-- "IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE AMERICAN STRATEGIC ESTABLISHMENT SHOULD PLAY UP TENSIONS IN A REGION WHICH IS MORE LIKELY TO SPARK OFF NUCLEAR WAR THAN ANY OTHER PLACE ON THE EARTH. WASHINGTON CANNOT PRETEND TO BE UNAWARE, OF THE FACT THAT FOR ALL THE BLUSTER NEW DELHI AND ISLAMABAD MAY INDULGE IN, THEIR ACTUAL CONFLICTS WERE ALWAYS RITUALIZED. AND, IN ANY CASE, INDIA'S CREDENTIALS AS A PACIFIST, IF NUCLEAR-CAPABLE, STATE AUTOMATICALLY ADDS A POWERFUL STABILISING FACTOR TO THE ERRATIC BILATERAL EQUATIONS IN THE SUBCONTINENT. SO, IN SPITE OF THE ODD IRRITANT WITHIN THE TWO COUNTRIES' BILATERAL BEARINGS, OVERALL, INDIA AND PAKISTAN HAVE APPARENTLY EVOLVED THEIR OWN SPECIFIC PATTERNS OF CRISIS MANAGEMENT... WASHINGTON, MEANWHILE, SHOULD DESIST FROM ITS WELL-INTENTIONED BUT FATUOUS EFFORTS TO HALT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IN THE REGION BY INVOKING THE PHANTOMS OF A WAR WHICH MAY NEVER BE FOUGHT."

-- "'GHAURI' CONUNDRUM ELICITS FAMILIAR U.S. REACTION," ANALYSIS IN APRIL 12 CENTRIST THE TIMES OF INDIA BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT RAMESH CHANDRAN:

-- "DESPITE THE DEEP-SEATED SKEPTICISM OVER THE VIABILITY OF A FULL-FLEDGED TEST OF THE GHAURI IN SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE QUARTERS IN INDIA, ASSUMING THAT ONE HAS UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

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TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, IN

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION SOUTH ASIA GHAURI MISSILE TEST

INDEED BEEN CONDUCTED, IT HAS INSTIGATED PROLIFERATION SPECIALISTS IN THIS COUNTRY TO PONDER WHERE THE TECHNOLOGY MIGHT HAVE ORIGINATED--COULD IT BE CHINA OR PERHAPS FINANCIALLY-STRAPPED NORTH KOREA?.... SO FAR, CLINTON ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS HAVE TREAD ON THE SUBJECT WITH EXCEPTIONAL CAUTION IN NOT ATTEMPTING TO IMPLICATE CHINA IN A CAVALIER FASHION. AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON, OR THE TWO OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING HIM--KARL INDERFURTH OR BRUCE RIEDEL, ARE HARDLY EXPECTED TO BE MORE FORTHRIGHT ON THIS WHILST THEY ARE IN NEW DELHI THIS WEEK.... IN THE PAST WEEK, JAMES FOLEY, JOHN

HOLUM, KENNETH BACON AND THOMAS PICKERING HAVE ALL TENACIOUSLY REFRAINED FROM COMMENTING ON THE GHAURI MISSILE TEST EXCEPT TO SAY TWO THINGS: 'DON'T ASSUME CHINA IS THE SUPPLIER AND ENTREATING BOTH INDIA AND PAKISTAN TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT.'...

-- "THERE ARE ANY NUMBER OF SENIOR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN-- AMONGST THEM SUCH FORMIDABLE FIGURES LIKE JESSE HELMS, BENJAMIN GILMAN, NANCY PELOSI AND ARLEN SPECTER WHO REMAIN PROFOUNDLY DISTRUSTFUL OF BEIJING'S STRATEGIC AMBITIONS IN THE REGION. WHICH IS WHY IT IS ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA FOR VISITING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT--BE IT FINANCE MINISTER YASHWANT SINHA DUE HERE THIS WEEK-- OTHERS WHO MAY FOLLOW IN HIS WAKE--TO MEET WITH THIS GROUP TO INTERPRET WITH LUCIDITY INDIA'S CONCERNS IN THE REGION ARE NOT ALWAYS TRANSFIXED BY ISLAMABAD'S ACTIONS ALONE."

--"THE BILATERAL DIALOGUE MUST CONTINUE," EDITORIAL IN APRIL 13 NATIONALIST THE HINDUSTAN TIMES:

-- "PAKISTAN'S CLAIMS OF TEST FIRING THE GHAURI SHOWS THAT PRIME MINISTER NAWAZ SHARIF REMAINS, ARGUABLY, A MINOR PLAYER IN SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS OVER WHICH THE ARMY HAS A TIGHT GRIP. BY ANNOUNCING GHAURI, THE ARMY HAS SEVERAL INTERLINKED OBJECTIVES IN MIND -- TRYING TO DICTATE AN AGENDA FOR U.S. PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA LATER THIS YEAR; BRINGING PARITY BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN IN THE EYES OF THE WEST; AND UNDERMINING THE GUJRAL DOCTRINE. ALL OF THESE CONTRADICT SHARIF'S TASK OF 'FIXING' HIS COUNTRY'S ECONOMY. NEW DELHI, THEREFORE, NEEDS TO CONSIDER THE RELEVANCE OF A BILATERAL DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMABAD IF SHARIF'S ROLE IS (ARGUABLY) GOING TO BE MARGINAL....

-- "WITH THE ASSUMPTION OF POWER IN NEW DELHI OF A GOVERNMENT WHOSE NATIONAL AGENDA INCLUDES A REVIEW OF THE NUCLEAR POLICY, THE PAK ARMY HAS APPARENTLY TRIED TO PLAY ON AMERICAN ANXIETIES OF A NUCLEAR 'FLASHPOINT' ON THE SUBCONTINENT IN ORDER TO DRAW THE U.S. INTO A MEDIATORY ROLE. AT THE SAME TIME, GHAURI SERVES THE PAKISTAN ARMY'S LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT TO THE CHIMERA OF PARITY WITH INDIA IN WESTERN EYES. IT ALSO HELPS TO UNDERMINE THE GUJRAL DOCTRINE WHICH SOUGHT TO DELINK PAKISTAN FROM INDIA IN NEW DELHI'S INTERNATIONAL DEALINGS. IT IS CLEAR THAT DESPITE HERALDING GHAURI TO THE WORLD, SHARIF HAS LITTLE TO DO WITH IT. SO THE DILEMMA IS: IS THERE A POINT IN TALKING TO HIM? THE BEST SOLUTION PROBABLY IS THE MATURE AND COLDLY CALCULATED ONE: RECOGNIZE THAT THE DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN IS GOING TO BE A VERY LONG AND DRAWN OUT AFFAIR; DO NOT BOTHER ABOUT THE INTERNAL INTERPLAY OF FORCES IN PAKISTAN; AND KEEP ALIVE THE PROCESS OF DIALOGUE, EVEN IF IT REMAINS BOGGED DOWN IN HAIR-SPLITTING OVER META-PRELIMINARIES."

USIA FOR NEA, R, R/MR, I/TGI, I/RF, I/TIC, I/GNEA,  
I/REC, I/RW,  
STATE FOR SA/INS, PM/CBM, PM/PRO T AND ACDA  
STATE FOR NSC  
STATE FOR AID/APRE-A  
STATE PASS USDA FOR FAS/ITP/PURDY  
USDOC FOR 4530/IEP/ANESA/OSA  
USIS FOR BILL MURPHY  
USUN ALSO FOR CHUCK MAST

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, IN

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION SOUTH ASIA GHAURI MISSILE TEST

--"A. B. VAJPAYEE'S FIRST MONTH AS PM," ANALYSIS IN  
APRIL 12 CENTRIST THE PIONEER BY NOTED COLUMNIST SAEED  
NAQVI:

-- "ROUTINE PREPARATIONS ARE ON TO RECEIVE BILL  
XRICHARDSON, WHO IS VISITING THE SUBCONTINENT AND  
AFGHANISTAN AS PRESIDENT CLINTON'S SPECIAL ENVOY. AS  
THE TWO SIDES PROCEED ALONG THE ELABORATE AGENDA,  
PAKISTAN'S NEW MISSILE GHAURI WILL COME UP FOR SOME  
ATTENTION. THE INDIAN UNDERSTANDING IS THAT IT IS A  
NORTH KOREAN MISSILE, NODONG II, FIRED FROM  
BALUCHISTAN. THE CHINESE HAVE APPARENTLY PROVIDED THE  
GUIDANCE SYSTEM. RICHARDSON WILL BE TOLD WITH CANDOR  
THAT THE U.S. MUST, IN THE INTEREST OF BETTER BILATERAL  
RELATIONS, BE MORE SENSITIVE TO INDIA'S SECURITY AND  
ECONOMIC INTERESTS. THAT INDIA SHOULD 'EXERCISE  
RESTRAINT' IS A REFRAIN WHICH HAS BEGUN TO IRRITATE  
POLICY MAKERS IN NEW DELHI. THE EXCLAMATIONS IN SOUTH  
BLOCK GO SOMETHING LIKE THIS: THERE HAS BEEN NO NUCLEAR  
TEST SINCE 1974, THE AGNI HAS BEEN ON HOLD SINCE 1994.  
WHAT FURTHER 'RESTRAINT' IS SOUGHT FROM A COUNTRY PLACED  
IN A SECURITY ENVIRONMENT WHICH IS NOT TOO HAPPY? SOON  
PRESIDENT CLINTON WILL VISIT BEIJING WHERE ON OFFER WILL  
BE A PACKAGE WHICH POSSIBLY INCLUDES DEFENSE RELATED  
TECHNOLOGIES. THIS COULD ONLY ADD TO INDIAN  
ANXIETIES....

-- "ON THE FOREIGN SECRETARY LEVEL TALKS WITH  
PAKISTAN, ISLAMABAD HAS TO RESPOND TO THE DOCUMENT  
FOREIGN SECRETARY K. RAGHUNATH HANDED TO HIS PAKISTANI  
COUNTERPART, SHAMSHAD AHMAD, DURING THE THREE NATION  
SUMMIT IN DHAKA LATE LAST YEAR. ON AFGHANISTAN, WHICH  
RICHARDSON WILL VISIT ON APRIL 17, INTEREST REVOLVES  
AROUND THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE U.S. AND THE NEW REGIME  
IN TEHERAN ARE WILLING TO SHED OLD HOSTILITY.... FROM  
THE VANTAGE POINT OF BEING THE U.S. AMBASSADOR AT THE  
UN, RICHARDSON HAS AN OVERVIEW OF A WIDER CANVAS THAN  
ANYONE IN THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION. THE INDIAN SIDE  
WOULD LIKE TO DRAW HIM OUT ON THESE ISSUES TO HAVE A  
BETTER IDEA OF THE BIG PICTURE WITHIN WHICH HIS NEW  
DELHI SOJOURN MUST BE PLACED."

--"INDIA NEEDS ITS OWN SPY IN THE SKY," ANALYSIS IN

APRIL 11 CENTRIST THE PIONEER BY FOREIGN EDITOR V.

-- "FINALLY, THERE IS GHOURI. THIS ONE HAS GOT AN AMAZING STEALTH COATING. IT IS INVISIBLE TO EVERYBODY BUT TO THE PAKISTANIS AND THE AMERICANS.... THE PAKISTANI MISSILE PROGRAM IS NOT AS MUCH ABOUT TESTING AS IT IS ABOUT ACQUISITION. FIVE TYPES OF FULLY DEVELOPED MISSILES IN A SPAN OF MERE 10 YEARS! INDIA HAS A SEMI-EVOLVED TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR, PAKISTAN HAS FULL-FLEDGED BATTLE-READY INSTANT MISSILES.... AND WE HAVE TO TAKE THIS TO BE A FACT BECAUSE WE HAVE PAKISTAN'S WORD FOR IT. AND THE AMERICAN LEAKS IN THE MEDIA. WE HAVE IT FROM AUTHORITATIVE SOURCES THAT WE ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE NECESSARY CONFIRMATIONS FROM 'FRIENDLY COUNTRIES' WITH THE TECHNICAL MEANS OF ASCERTAINING IF IN FACT PAKISTANI CLAIMS AND THE AMERICAN CORROBORATIONS ARE IN THE REALM OF FACT OR FICTION.... THIS IS A MOST PECULIAR STATE OF BEING, THAT OF A STRATEGIC SUPPLICANT EVEN FOR BASIC INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN OUR IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORHOOD AND PRIMARILY AREA OF STRATEGIC CONCERN....

-- "THE FACT REMAINS THAT AGNI IS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE PAKISTAN-CENTRIC.... A PIQUANT PROBLEM ARISES WITH THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF A STRICT ONE-TO-ONE UNCLAS SECTION 09 OF 09 NEW DELHI 002978

USIA FOR NEA, R, R/MR, I/TGI, I/RE, I/TIC, I/GNEA,  
I/REC, I/RW,  
STATE FOR SA/INS, PM/CBM, PM/PRO T AND ACDA  
STATE FOR NSC  
STATE FOR AID/APRE-A  
STATE PASS USDA FOR FAS/ITP/PURDY  
USDOC FOR 4530/IEP/ANESA/OSA  
USIS FOR BILL MURPHY  
USUN ALSO FOR CHUCK MAST

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: OPRC, PGOV, PREL, IN  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION SOUTH ASIA GHOURI MISSILE TEST

RECIPROCITY WITH RESPECT, AT LEAST, TO PAKISTAN.... THAT A NATION WHICH HARBORS ASPIRATIONS TO PLAY A GRAND GLOBAL ROLE DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE WHEREWITHAL, TECHNICAL OR OTHERWISE, TO CALL THE AVERAGE PAKISTANI MISSILE BLUFF, MAKES FOR AN AMAZING SITUATION.... THE FACT REMAINS THAT PAKISTAN DOES NOT HAVE TO TEST THESE MISSILES, ONLY FIRE THEM. SO, WHAT DO WE HAVE IN TERMS OF EVASIVE ACTION? MORE STRATEGIC SILENCE. IT HAS LONG BEEN HELD THAT POSITIONING A DEDICATED MILITARY SATELLITE OVER PAKISTAN IS PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE. BUT THEN SO IS THE COST OF GOING NUCLEAR. THERE ARE SOME DOWN PAYMENTS FOR SECURITY THAT SIMPLY HAVE TO BE MADE, NO MATTER HOW EXPENSIVE. OUR VERY OWN SPY IN THE SKY IS ONE OF THEM."

--"GHOURI: IS IT JUST POLITICS OR IS IT WAR," ANALYSIS IN APRIL 12 CENTRIST THE TIMES OF INDIA BY DEFENSE CORRESPONDENT DINESH KUMAR:

-- "THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT PAKISTAN DOES NOT HAVE A CREDIBLE INDIGENOUS MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THEY HAVE THE MISSILES -- FROM CHINA. AND THE WORST IS: THERE IS NO RELIABLE DEFENSE AGAINST MISSILES. IN MANY WAYS, THE EXCITEMENT OVER ISLAMABAD'S APRIL 6 TESTING OF GHOURI MISSILE IS MISPLACED.... WE MAY BLITHELY DISMISS THE CLAIMED TEST AS A NON-EVENT AND ASSUME THAT PAKISTAN DOES NOT HAVE THIS LETHAL WEAPON WITH A 1,500 KM RANGE. BUT, THE FACT REMAINS THAT FROM AS FAR BACK AS 1991-92, ISLAMABAD HAS BEEN KNOWN TO POSSESS MISSILES THAT CAN TARGET CITIES IN THE BORDER STATES OF KASHMIR, PUNJAB, RAJASTHAN AND GUJARAT. THIS WAS CONFIRMED SEVEN YEARS AGO BY NONE OTHER THAN THE THEN CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES....

-- "SO HOW DOES INDIA COUNTER PAKISTANI MISSILES? 'WITH MISSILES,' ANSWERS JASJIT SINGH. INDIA HAS TWO TYPES OF MISSILES - PRITHVI AND AGNI.... SINCE PAKISTAN HAS A LIMITED GEOGRAPHICAL DEPTH (MAXIMUM 400 KMS), THE DEFENSE MINISTER IS NOT EXAGGERATING WHEN HE SAYS THAT PRITHVI CAN REACH EVERY INCH OF PAKISTAN. PAKISTAN'S MAJOR CITIES -- LAHORE, ISLAMABAD, KARACHI, MULTAN -- FALL WELL WITHIN THIS MISSILE'S RANGE. OF COURSE AGNI...IS OF LITTLE RELEVANCE VIS-A-VIS PAKISTAN UNLESS FIRED FROM BIHAR, UTTAR PRADESH OR MAHARASHTRA. ITS REAL RELEVANCE IS WITH REGARD TO CHINA, WHICH, THE DEFENSE MINISTRY ACKNOWLEDGES, POSES THE LONG-TERM THREAT AND CHALLENGE.... WHATEVER THE DECISION OVER AGNI, NEW DELHI CANNOT IGNORE THE TWO LONG-TERM GEO-STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENCE OF MISSILES IN INDIA'S NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE FACT THAT CHINA CONTINUES TO HELP PAKISTAN WITH MISSILE TECHNOLOGY. IT IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT THAT THE UNITED STATES, WHICH HAS PLEDGED ITSELF TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION OF MISSILE AND NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY IS BEING OPENLY DEFIED BY PAKISTAN AND CHINA ALIKE." WARD

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 09

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 09  
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**SSN:** 2978

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**DIST:**

SIT: BOLAN GREER RIEDEL  
SIT: NSC

## Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHHIA1281 1061034-UUUU--RHEHNSC.  
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
LINE3: O 161034Z APR 98  
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY HANOI  
OSRI: RUEHHI  
DTG: 161034Z APR 98  
ORIG: AMEMBASSY HANOI  
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1966  
INFO: RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
SUBJ: VICE PREMIER/FON MIN CAM VISIT TO U.S.

## TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 HANOI 001281

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SECSTATE FOR EAP AND EAP/BCLTV

NSC POR KRISTOPF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, OTRA, OVIP, VM, US

SUBJECT: VICE PREMIER/FON MIN CAM VISIT TO U.S.

1. (SBU) AMBASSADOR CALLED MFA AMERICAS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR HUNG MORNING OF APRIL 16 TO CONVEY INFORMATION REGARDING SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S UNAVAILABILITY DURING PROPOSED MAY VISIT TIMEFRAME AND TO PROPOSE HER SUGGESTION FOR A JUNE 15 SCHEDULE. HUNG SAID HE COULD NOT RESPOND IMMEDIATELY -- VIETNAMESE HAD EARLIER SAID MAY WAS MOST CONVENIENT OF THE COMING MONTHS -- BUT WOULD CONVEY THE MESSAGE AND GET BACK TO US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AMBASSADOR ALSO SAID A SIMILAR MESSAGE WOULD BE DELIVERED TO CHARGE QUE IN WASHINGTON ON THE 16TH.

2. (SBU) VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR BANG, A DAY EARLIER, HAD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR CAM'S OVERSEAS TRIP WAS ALSO PLANNED TO INCLUDE STOPS IN RUSSIA, CANADA, AND COLOMBIA. BUT, BANG SAID, THE U.S. STOP WAS THE KEY. NOTHING ELSE WOULD BE PLANNED OR SCHEDULED UNTIL THAT TIME WAS CERTAIN. BANG FURTHER SAID, INITIAL THINKING HAD BEEN TO HAVE A COUPLE OF DAYS IN WASHINGTON WITH NO CURRENT PLANS FOR ANY OTHER U.S. STOP. BANG SAID, HOWEVER, THIS WOULD ALL BE DETERMINED ONCE THE ACTUAL DATES COULD BE LOOKED AT TO SEE WHAT WOULD WORK. (THIS IS AN ISSUE WHICH THE VIETNAMESE WILL CLEARLY HAVE TO DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES, BUT WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO SEE THEM PLAN A STOP IN THE SAN FRANCISCO AREA BECAUSE OF THE VIETNAMESE CONGEN THERE.) IN THIS DISCUSSION, THE AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THE

VIETNAMESE CONSIDER TAKING ONE OF THEIR NEW AVIATION OFFICIALS AS PART OF THE DELEGATION TO THE U.S. TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY BASIS FOR RESUMING TALKS ON AN AVIATION AGREEMENT. HE INDICATED IN THIS REGARD, HOWEVER, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE BASED ON SOME MOVEMENT BY THE VIETNAMESE ON THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITION BEYOND WHAT HAD BEEN OFFERED IN LAST MONTH'S TALKS.

3. (SBU) SINCE BOTH SIDES HAVE NOW AGREED ON THE VISIT AND WE ARE NEGOTIATING DATES, AMBASSADOR WISHES TO PUT IN AN EARLY REQUEST TO PUSH FOR A COURTESY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT AND HIS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR. AMBASSADOR PETERSON WILL BE IN THE U.S. (PARTICIPATING IN THE U.S.-ASEAN AMBASSADORS TOUR) DURING THE SECRETARY'S PROPOSED VISIT TIME AND WANTS TO PERSONALLY REQUEST THE PRESIDENT SCHEDULE THE MEETING. HE ALSO WISHES TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF HIS INTENTION TO ACCOMPANY VICE PREMIER CAM FOR SUCH A MEETING.

4. (SBU) IN THE LAST FEW DAYS, EMBASSY HAS BEEN WORKING ON AN OUTLINE OF VISITS/EVENTS WHICH WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A CONSTRUCTIVE VISIT BY THE VIETNAMESE LEADER'S DELEGATION. THE NEW TIMING ALSO FOCUSES A LOT OF ATTENTION ON THE JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER RENEWAL ISSUE AND VICE PREMIER CAM WILL CERTAINLY WANT TO SPEAK TO THAT SUBJECT DURING HIS MEETINGS. FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE IDEAS WHICH WE RELIEVE SHOULD BE DEVELOPED AS PART OF A SCHEDULE IN WASHINGTON TO MAKE CAM'S VISIT AS PRODUCTIVE AS POSSIBLE:

-- SECRETARY ALBRIGHT MEETING IS CLEARLY THE KEYSTONE SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE SESSION AND WE BELIEVE IT CAN REASONABLY FOCUS ON BILATERAL AND STRATEGIC ISSUES, PARTICULARLY IF MANY OF THE OTHER MORE SPECIALIZED MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED.

-- DPTY. SECRETARY TALBOTT (UNDER SECRETARY PICKERING ALTERNATE) HOSTED LUNCHEON MEETING WITH SENIOR STATE DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP. WE SEE THIS GROUP INCLUDING ALL THE MAJOR ASSISTANT SECRETARIES WHO HAVE IMPORTANT ISSUES IN VIETNAM. THE CORE SHOULD INCLUDE PRM, DRL, CA WITH OPTIONAL RUT HIGHLY DESIRABLE PARTICIPATION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF OES (AGENT ORANGE AND S&T AGREEMENT), INL (NARCOTICS AGREEMENT AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT ISSUES), EB (TRADE AND APEC ISSUES), AND H (JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER STRATEGY).

-- TREASURY SECRETARY RUBIN: THIS WOULD RETURN RUBIN'S

DE  
AND FISCAL REFORM, PARTICULARLY IMF ISSUES WHICH CURRENTLY ARE STALLED IN THE GVN.

-- COMMERCE SECRETARY DALEY: PRIMARY FOCUS WOULD BE TO INTRODUCE OPIC, EXIM, AND TDA PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS STIMULATE SUPPORT WITH CAM FOR A STRONG U.S. BUSINESS PRESENCE. THIS COULD SET THE STAGE FOR A DALEY TRIP TO VIETNAM IN THE FALL AS PART OF A REGIONAL BEM

TOUR.

-- USTR BARSHEVSKY: DESIGNED TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE MAY ROUND OF BILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO RESPOND TO CAM'S OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE AREAS. THIS WOULD BE ANOTHER TIME TO PICK UP ON APEC UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 HANOI 001281

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

SECSTATE FOR EAP AND EAP/BCLTV

NSC POR KRISTOPF

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, OTRA, OVIP, VM, US

SUBJECT: VICE PREMIER/FON MIN CAM VISIT TO U.S.

ISSUES WHERE THE VIETNAMESE ARE LARGELY NOVICES AND TO GIVE THEM SOME IDEA OF HOW SENIOR LEVEL AND HEAD OF STATE SESSIONS ARE CONDUCTED IN THE APEC CONTEXT.

-- DEFENSE SECRETARY COHEN: WE HAVE BEEN GETTING INCREASING ACCESS THROUGH OUR DAO SCHEDULED MILITARY-TO-MILITARY CONTACTS AND CAM WOULD BE A GOOD ALLY TO STRENGTHENING OF THE STRATEGIC DIALOGUE THROUGH THIS MEETING. (WE UNDERSTAND SOME IN DEFENSE ARE ALREADY RECOMMENDING SUCH A MEETING.) POW/MIA ISSUES WOULD BE AN OBVIOUS TOPIC AND THE NEW DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POW/MIA AFFAIRS WILL STILL NOT HAVE BEEN TO VIETNAM IN HIS CURRENT CAPACITY. THIS WOULD ALSO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHETHER RECENT EFFORTS TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO APPROACH DEMINING, FURTHER COOPERATION ON MILITARY MEDICAL FIELDS, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE EFFORTS COULD BEAR FRUIT.

-- CONGRESS: WITH THE PRESUMED SUBMISSION OF A RECOMMENDATION TO RENEW THE JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER FROM THE PRESIDENT A WEEK OR SO EARLIER, IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO BRING TOGETHER THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AND THE HILL LEADERSHIP. SENATORS KERRY, MCCAIN AND OTHERS CAN BE COUNTED ON TO HOST SUCH A GATHERING. WE ALSO STRONGLY RECOMMEND A MEETING BETWEEN CAM AND SENATOR HELMS, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE SENATOR'S DIRECT CONCERN OVER THE MONTAGNARD EMIGRATION ISSUE.

-- AFL-CIO: WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO SEEK A CAM MEETING WITH AFL-CIO SWEENEY IN ORDER TO HELP COPE WITH HIS AND THE LABOR ORGANIZATION'S STATEMENT IT WOULD OPPOSE THE OPIC LABOR CERTIFICATION DECISION ANNOUNCED IN MARCH. WE NEED TO WORK TO DEVELOP A COUNTER CURRENT IN THIS AREA SO THAT WE DO NOT LOSE OPIC INVOLVEMENT DURING ITS END OF YEAR PUBLIC MEETING.

5. (SBU) THE U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND PARTICULARLY THE US-VIETNAM TRADE COUNCIL AND THE US-ASEAN BUSINESS COUNCIL CAN BE EXPECTED TO ORGANIZE EVENTS FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND CAN BE COUNTED ON TO ENCOURAGE

CABINET/AGENCY INVOLVEMENT IN THE CAM VISIT. A NUMBER OF NGOS AND OTHER GROUPS WILL BE SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR A PART OF CAM'S TIME, BUT ASIDE FROM THE AFL-CIO MEETING SUGGESTED ABOVE, WE DO NOT CONSIDER ANY OF THEM ESSENTIAL. SOME, WITH A CONGRESSIONAL CONNECTION, MIGHT REALISTICALLY BECOME PART OF A PROGRAM ORGANIZED ON THE LIILL.

6. (SBU) EMBASSY WILL RELAY VIETNAMESE RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S JUNE DATE AS SOON AS WE HAVE HEARD AND WILL WORK WITH DEPARTMENT TO STIMULATE A WORKABLE SCHEDULE AND MEETING PROGRAM WITH THE VIETNAMESE.

PETERSON

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 02  
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

**SSN:** 1281  
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**TOR:** 980416064600 M3245947  
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**DIST:** SIT: BADER GAGNON KRISTOFF NORRIS PRITCHARD  
SIT: NSC

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                            | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
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| 003. cable               | re: Panama: Waiting for Next MCC Shoe to Drop. (4 pages) | 04/09/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
NSC Cables  
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

2006-1363-F  
vz5589

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

## Cable

PREC: PRIORITY  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUDKMKA4230 1170913-UUUU--RHEHOND.  
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU  
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OSRI: RUDKMKA  
DTG: 270911Z APR 98  
ORIG: FBIS LONDON UK  
TO: RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA  
RHDIAAA/AFOSI REGION 2 RTAC LANGLEY AFB VA  
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N2//  
RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//  
RHEPAAB/ACCIS LANGLEY AFB VA//36IS//  
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//O5MP//  
RHFJFYW/CTF 125  
RHFJJXP/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT AMADOR PM  
RHFPAAA/UTAS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//  
RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//  
RUCBACM/USCINACOM NORFOLK VA//J5//  
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA  
RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//  
RUCMACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//  
RUCMACC/CDR 4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOC-POG-SB//  
RUCOGCG/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA GUANTANAMO BAY CU  
RUCOGDA/NAVINTELOFC GUANTANAMO BAY CU//N2//  
RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC  
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//  
RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC  
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//  
RUDKBR/FBIS BRUSSELS BE  
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA  
RUDPHMS/COLMGTOFC82DABNDIV  
RUDEMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC  
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RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMO-SSM//  
RUEAIIS/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA  
RUEALGX/DEFINTAGENCY WASHINGTON DC  
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RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//ARA/CCA//  
RUEHIA/USIA WASHINGTON DC//R//  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUERFCP/CDR USARSO FT CLAYTON PM//SOCS-PA//  
RUESDM/JTLO MIAMI FL  
RUESFV/FBIS VIENNA AU  
RUESPF/FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM

RUETIAV/MPC FT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
RUFNEU/CDR USASSETAF VICENZA IT//AESE-CMO//  
RUGAID/USCINCEUR INTEL VAIHINGEN GE  
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK  
RUFTAKA/UCIRF GABLINGEN GE  
RUFTAKC/UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
RULGPRW/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA ROOSEVELT ROADS PR  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCJ3-PSY//  
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RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM//IN//  
RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//  
ACCT FBLD-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Canadian Prime Minister Chretien Visits Havana

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A/CUBAP CANAP POL ECON

WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: LD2704091198

PASS: ATTN WIRE SELECT

COUNTRY: CUBA

SUBJ: Canadian Prime Minister Chretien Visits Havana

SOURCE: Montreal Radio Canada International in English 0830 GMT  
27 Apr 98

TEXT:

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chretien, has arrived in Havana on a historic visit to Cuba. It's the first official visit to Cuba by a Canadian prime minister since Pierre Trudeau in 1976. As Derek Quinn reports, Chretien hopes to persuade Fidel Castro to be more open and not only fear freer trade [as heard] but other changes as well.

[Begin recording] [Quinn] Chretien comes to Havana after a decision taken at the Summit of the Americas that 34 democracies in the Western hemisphere agree to push for a hemispheric free trade zone by the year 2005. One of the main reasons Chretien is here in Cuba is to brief Castro on what took place at the summit. Chretien says he hopes Canada's policy of constructive engagement will lead Havana to be more open.

[Chretien] The winds of change are blowing through our hemisphere and indeed (?along) the world and we must all adapt. Three months ago, Pope John Paul II paid a historic visit to your nation. We in Canada followed the visit closely and welcomed and supported the call from the Holy Father for Cuba to open itself to the world with all its magnificent possibilities and for the world to open itself to Cuba.

[Quinn] Canadian government officials say they detect a new sense in the Americas that Cuba no longer represents a threat to them. They say that with the end of the Cold War, Canada and other countries in the Americas would like to see Cuba once again welcomed back into the family.

Last week, Canada's Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, suggested

that it was time for the United States to relax its approach to Cuba. He was quickly denounced by Jesse Helms, one of the sponsors of the Helms-Burton Act, which penalizes countries that do business with Cuba. However, his denunciation came at the same time as a delegation of American business leaders was here in Havana. It seems clear that Chretien is not only publicly pushing freer trade and human rights but also doing for the United States what it cannot yet do for itself.

Derek Quinn, Radio Canada International, Havana. [end recording]

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(endall) 270830 rogers/eh 27/0913z apr

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 4230

**TOR:** 980427051651 M3261058

**DIST:**

SIT: NSC

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                               | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 004. cable               | re: OECD: U/S Eizenstat's Bilateral Meeting with. (7 pages) | 04/22/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
NSC Cables  
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

2006-1363-F  
vz5589

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                       | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 005. cable               | re: May 2-4 Visit to London: Scenesetter. (3 pages) | 04/30/1998 | P1/b(1)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
NSC Cables  
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])  
OA/Box Number: 520000

### FOLDER TITLE:

[04/03/1998-06/02/1998]

2006-1363-F

vz5589

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
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- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

## Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
LINE3: O 041347Z MAY 98  
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
OSRI: RUEHVI  
DTG: 041347Z MAY 98  
ORIG: AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1520  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6136  
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO: ////  
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION AMERICAN U.N. DEBTS  
TEXT:  
UNCLAS VIENNA 003944

USIS  
USIA FOR WEU, R/PM  
STATE FOR EUR/AG, INR/WEA AND INR/P  
WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC/WEUROPE  
E.O. 12958: N/A  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION AMERICAN U.N. DEBTS

1. IN "DER STANDARD," GERHARD PLOTT WRITES ON SENATOR JESSE HELMS' NEW STRATEGY TO EVADE THE PAYMENT OF AMERICA'S UN DEBTS AND AT THE SAME TIME PUT PRESSURE ON PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PRO-ABORTION POLICY. TRANSLATED EXCERPTS FOLLOW.

"UNPAID BILLS ..."

2. "THE U.S. OWES THE WORLD ORGANIZATION AN AMOUNT OF APPROXIMATELY 10 BILLION SHILLINGS. SINCE HELMS (THE ECCENTRIC FROM NORTH CAROLINA ADVANCED IN YEARS) DOES NOT WANT TO RELEASE THIS OVERDUE AMOUNT, HE DEVISES A STRATEGY: HELMS SAID HE WOULD COME UP WITH THE MONEY PROVIDED THAT THE U.N. COMMITS ITSELF TO TAKE STRICTER MEASURES AGAINST ABORTION AND TO WIN OVER OTHER GOVERNMENTS FOR ANTI-ABORTION LAWS. ... THE U.S. SENATE NOW SHARES JESSE HELMS' POINT OF VIEW AND VOTED WITH A NARROW MAJORITY FOR LINKING THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBTS WITH THE ANTI-ABORTION CAMPAIGN. AT THE SAME TIME, THE REPUBLICAN SENATORS PUT ENORMOUS PRESSURE ON THE PRESIDENT.

IT IS EVIDENT THAT BILL CLINTON WILL VETO SUCH A SCHEME. AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL REFERRED BACK TO THE SENATE, AND THE PAYMENT OF THE FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED BY THE U.N. WILL BE POSTPONED FOR ETERNITY: A GREAT SUCCESS FOR THE HARD LINER HELMS."

END EXCERPTS.

KOENGETER

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 3944

**TOR:** 980504095046 M3271312

**DIST:**

SIT: BANDLER BROWN BUTLER CROWLEY DAVIDSON MCELLOWNEY RUBIN SAPIRO

SIT: NSC

# Cable

**PREC:** PRIORITY

**CLASS:** UNCLASSIFIED

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**LINE2:** ZNR UUUUU ZZH

**LINE3:** P R 112145Z MAY 98

**LINE4:** FM SECSTATE WASHDC

**OSRI:** RUEHC

**DTG:** 112145Z MAY 98

**ORIG:** SECSTATE WASHDC

**TO:** ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0000

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0000

RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0000

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 0000

RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0000

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0000

RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY 0000

RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 0000

**INFO:** RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0000

RUEHMT/AMCONSUL MONTREAL 0000

RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0000

RUEHSD/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 0000

RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ 0000

RUEHNL/AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO 0000

RUEHTM/AMCONSUL TIJUANA 0000

RUCBCLF/USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

RUERFCP/CDR 193RD INFBDE (PAN) FT CLAYTON PN AFZU-PO

RUWMEGA/24TH WING HOWARD AFB PA

RHFJJXP/NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN PN/PAO

RUWSMXI/USCINCTrans INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL

RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL

**SUBJ:** ARA GUIDANCES, MAY 8, 1998

**TEXT:**

UNCLAS STATE 084544

ALL POSTS PLEASE PASS PAO; ROME FOR VATICAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: ARA GUIDANCES, MAY 8, 1998

1. ARA PRESS GUIDANCE, FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1998:

MEXICO: THREAT TO DEPORT ITALIAN DELEGATION FROM CHIAPAS  
DAVIDOW: SUCCESS IN COUNTER-NARCOTICS PROGRAMS

-- DAVIDOW: SUCCESS IN COUNTER-NARCOTICS PROGRAMS --

Q. CAN YOU COMMENT ON REP. GILMAN'S LETTER TO SEN. HELMS, AS REPORTED IN THE WASHINGTON TIMES TODAY, CONCERNING ASSISTANT SECRETARY JEFFREY DAVIDOW'S NOMINATION AS AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO IN WHICH GILMAN CLAIMS THAT UNDER HIS (DAVIDOW'S) PURVIEW, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS PURSUED A "A CALAMITOUS POLICY" OF COUNTERNARCOTICS ASSISTANCE REGARDING COLOMBIA?

A. REGARDING AMBASSADOR DAVIDOW'S QUALIFICATIONS, WE HAVE ALREADY NOTED THAT UNDER HIS TENURE OUR RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA HAVE REACHED NEW HEIGHTS. THAT INCLUDES EFFORTS TO FIGHT THE FLOW OF NARCOTICS. THANKS TO HIS STEWARDSHIP, WE HAVE ACHIEVED HIGHER LEVELS OF COOPERATION THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE IN RECOGNIZING AND COMBATTING THIS SCOURGE.

AS FOR COLOMBIA,

STATE DEPARTMENT FUNDING FOR COUNTERNARCOTICS ASSISTANCE TO THAT COUNTRY HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. (IN FY 96 WE PROVIDED 23 MILLION DOLLARS IN PROGRAM FUNDS; IN FY 97, WE PROVIDED NEARLY 52 MILLION; FY 98 LEVELS HAVE NOT YET BEEN FINALIZED.)

THE COLOMBIAN NATIONAL POLICE IS OUR SINGLE LARGEST RECIPIENT OF COUNTERNARCOTICS ASSISTANCE IN THE WORLD.

IN AREAS WHERE WE HAVE ASSISTED IN SPRAYING PROGRAMS, THERE HAS BEEN A 25 PERCENT DECREASE IN COCA CULTIVATION.

KEY TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE SUFFERED DISRUPTIONS; VIRTUALLY ALL CALI CARTEL KINGPINS HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED.

- MEXICO:THREAT TO DEPORT ITALIAN DELEGATION FROM CHIAPAS -

BACKGROUND: AN ITALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS DELEGATION OF 130 PLUS PERSONS IS OBSERVING CONDITIONS IN CHIAPAS. ON WEDNESDAY IT BECAME INVOLVED IN A DISPUTE WITH MEXICAN AUTHORITIES WHO WOULD NOT LET THE GROUP TRAVEL TO A CONTROVERSIAL FORMER "AUTONOMOUS MUNICIPALITY," OSTENSIBLY BECAUSE THE PLACE WAS NOT LISTED ON THE GROUP'S VISAS. AFTER A STANDOFF, THE GROUP EVENTUALLY MADE ITS WAY TO THE VILLAGE. A SENIOR MEXICAN IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL, HOWEVER, SAID THAT MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION THAT VIOLATED THE CONDITIONS OF THEIR VISAS COULD BE EXPELLED FROM MEXICO.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO REPORTED THREATS BY MEXICAN OFFICIALS TO DEPORT MEMBERS OF AN ITALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS DELEGATION NOW IN CHIAPAS?

A: WE HAVE SEEN REPORTS THAT THE ITALIAN DELEGATION HAS BEEN HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN TRAVELING TO ALL THE LOCATIONS IT DESIRED TO VISIT IN CHIAPAS.

AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE FULLY SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF FOREIGN HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN WORKERS TO TRAVEL TO AND WITHIN CHIAPAS WHILE RESPECTING THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF MEXICO.

(IF PRESSED)

WE SUGGEST YOU CONTACT ITALIAN GOVERNMENT SOURCES FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE SITUATION OF THE ITALIAN DELEGATION.

Q. WHAT ADVICE DOES THE U.S. EMBASSY PROVIDE ITS CITIZENS ON TRAVEL TO CHIAPAS?

A. IN ITS CONSULAR INFORMATION SHEET DATED APRIL 29, 1998, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SAID: "THE EMBASSY IN MEXCO CITY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT AMERICAN CITIZENS TRAVELLING TO CHIAPAS EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION.... MEXICAN IMMIGRATION LAW PROHIBITS FOREIGNERS FROM ENGAGING IN POLITICAL ACTIVITY. U.S. CITIZENS HAVE BEEN DETAINED IN CHIAPAS AND EXPELLED OR DEPORTED FROM MEXICO FOR VIOLATING THEIR TOURIST VISA STATUS:"

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2. CA PRESS GUIDANCES, FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1998:  
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-- PERU: ONE AMERICAN DEATH IN PERU PLANE CRASH --

CONTEXT: WE CAN CONFIRM THAT U.S. CITIZEN HAROLD WHITEHEAD WAS ON BOARD THE PLANE CHARTERED BY OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM THAT CRASHED MAY 5 IN PERU HIS NAME WAS ON THE MANIFEST BUT HIS BODY HAS NOT BEEN LOCATED. WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY OTHER AMERICANS ON BOARD. AS OF PRESENT, 13 SURVIVORS AND 50 BODIES HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT OF 87 PEOPLE ON BOARD. THE SEARCH HAS BEEN IMPEDED BY HEAVY RAIN. HAROLD WHITEHEAD'S FAMILY LIVES IN THE PERUVIAN CITY OF IQUITOS.

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE AMERICAN ON BOARD THE PLANE CHARTERED BY OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM THAT CRASHED MAY 5 IN PERU AND THAT HE DIED?

A: WE BELIEVE HAROLD WHITEHEAD WAS THE ONLY ONE U.S. CITIZEN ON BOARD THE PLANE AND THAT HE DIED. HE WAS THE ONLY AMERICAN NAMED ON THE MANIFEST.

RESCUERS HAVE LOCATED 13 SURVIVORS AND 50 BODIES. HAROLD WHITEHEAD'S BODY HAS NOT BEEN FOUND.

OUR EMBASSY IN LIMA IS COMMUNICATING WITH WHITEHEAD'S NEXT-OF-KIN, HIS SON, WHO LIVES IN IQUITOS, PERU.

-- ECUADOR: EARLIER DECISION AGAINST AMERICAN UPHELD --

AN ECUADORIAN SUPERIOR COURT CONFIRMED A LOWER COURT RULING

AGAINST U.S. CITIZEN JAMES WILLIAMS ON MAY 6. WILLIAMS AND EIGHT CO-DEFENDANTS WERE FOUND TO BE THE "RESPONSIBLE PARTY" IN THE PESCADOR MONEY LAUNDERING CASE. THE EXACT CHARGE IS "ILLICIT ASSOCIATION" CONNECTED TO MONEY LAUNDERING. WILLIAMS NOW FACES CONFIRMATION -- OR REVERSAL -- OF THIS DECISION BY YET ANOTHER PANEL, WHICH WILL HAND DOWN THE OFFICIAL VERDICT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IF THE DECISION IS UPHELD, HE COULD FACE A TERM OF 8-12 YEARS. WILLIAMS, ARRESTED IN SEPTEMBER 1996 IN GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR, IS THE FOCUS OF INTENSE MEDIA AND CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION. ROBIN WILLIAMS, HIS WIFE, IS SPENDING TIME IN THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OF REP. CORRINNE BROWN (D-FLA.), AND REP. JACK KINGSTON (R-GA.), HAS ALSO BEEN ACTIVE ON THIS CASE.

WE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THIS CASE CLOSELY, AND ARE ANALYZING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MAY 6 COURT RULING.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE DECISION AGAINST JAMES WILLIAMS IN ECUADOR?

A: AN ECUADORIAN SUPERIOR COURT PANEL UPHELD A LOWER COURT FINDING AGAINST JAMES WILLIAMS MAY 6. THE CHARGE IS "ILLICIT ASSOCIATION" CONNECTED TO LAUNDERING DRUG MONEY.

MR. WILLIAMS HAS BEEN INCARCERATED IN GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR SINCE SEPT. 18, 1996, WHEN HE WAS ARRESTED ON SUSPICION OF MONEY LAUNDERING. HE PROVIDED U.S. CONSULAR OFFICIALS A PRIVACY ACT WAIVER THAT ALLOWS US TO DISCUSS HIS CASE WITH THE MEDIA.

IN OCTOBER 1997, THE INVESTIGATIVE JUDGE HANDED DOWN A RULING UPHOLDING THE CHARGES. THE MAY 6 DECISION APPARENTLY SUPPORTS THAT RULING, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS NOT THE FINAL STEP IN A LONG PROCESS. ANOTHER JUDICIAL ENTITY MUST NOW APPROVE OR REJECT THIS PANEL'S CONCLUSION.

MR. WILLIAMS HAS A LOCAL ATTORNEY WHO HAS BEEN REPRESENTING HIM THROUGHOUT THIS CASE. HIS ATTORNEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF THE MANY PROCEDURES AND STEPS INVOLVED IN HIS CASE IN THE ECUADORIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

Q: ARE THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO WROTE TO SECRETARY ALBRIGHT IN DECEMBER 1997 CORRECT WHEN THEY SAY THAT "THE U.S. EMBASSY IN ECUADOR CAN AND SHOULD DO MORE...FOR THIS AMERICAN CITIZEN"? WHAT HAS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DONE TO ASSIST WILLIAMS?

A: U.S. EMBASSY OFFICERS IN QUITO AND OFFICERS OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN GUAYAQUIL HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING THIS CASE CLOSELY SINCE IT BEGAN.

OUR OFFICERS, INCLUDING OUR DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION AND OUR CONSUL GENERAL, HAVE REPEATEDLY RAISED MR. WILLIAMS'S CASE WITH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR, REQUESTING THAT THIS CASE PROCEED QUICKLY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECUADORIAN LAW.

WE CONCUR WITH THE CONGRESSPERSONS' ASSESSMENT THAT THE ECUADORIAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM IS SLOW, INEFFICIENT AND CUMBERSOME. WE FIND THIS REGRETTABLE AND HAVE STATED SO PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY.

CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE VISITED M. WILLIAMS REGULARLY, STARTING WITH THE FIRST POST-ARREST VISIT ON SEPT. 23, 1996. THE LAST VISIT WAS APRIL 20, 1998.

CONSULAR OFFICERS MONITOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF MR. WILLIAMS, SERVE AS A LIAISON WITH HIS FAMILY, AND PROVIDE GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN ECUADOR. CONSULAR OFFICERS ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE OFFICIAL JUDGMENTS AS TO THE GUILT OR INNOCENCE OF AMERICANS ARRESTED ABROAD, NOR MAY THEY SERVE AS DEFENSE ATTORNEYS. CONSULAR OFFICERS MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT AMERICANS ARE NOT DISADVANTAGED RELATIVE TO LOCAL PRISONERS AND THAT THEY RECEIVE FAIR AND HUMANE TREATMENT.

Q: DO YOU THINK THE DELAYS IN THE CASE VIOLATE ECUADORIAN LAW?

A: THAT IS A MATTER FOR MR. WILLIAMS' ATTORNEY TO ADDRESS. ALBRIGHT

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 4544

**TOR:** 980511174925 M3281953

**DIST:**

SIT: NSC

## Cable

PREC: PRIORITY  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
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OSRI: RUESFV  
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ORIG: FBIS VIENNA AU  
TO: RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA  
RHDIAAA/AFOSI REGION 2 RTAC LANGLEY AFB VA  
RHDLCNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N2//  
RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//  
RHEPAAB/ACCIS LANGLEY AFB VA//36IS//  
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//  
RHFJFYW/CTF 125  
RHFJJXP/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT RODMAN PM  
RHFPAAB/UTAS RAMSTEIN AB GE//INOW//  
RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//  
RUCBACM/USCINCOM NORFOLK VA//J5//  
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA  
RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//  
RUCMACC/CDR 4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOCF-POG-SB//  
RUCMACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//  
RUCOGCG/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA GUANTANAMO BAY CU  
RUCOGDA/NAVINTELOFC GUANTANAMO BAY CU//N2//  
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RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//  
RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC  
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//  
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RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA  
RUDPHMS/COLMGTOFC82DABNDIV  
RUDPMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC  
RUDPTUT/COLMGTOFCXVIIIABNCORPS  
RUDPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC  
RUEABND/DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMIN HQ WASHINGTON DC//POL//  
RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMO-SSM//  
RUEAIIS/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA  
RUEALGX/DEFINTAGENCY WASHINGTON DC  
RUEDADA/AFISA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC  
RUEDAEA/NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//ARA/CCA//  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EEC//  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//  
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RUEHIA/USIA WASHINGTON DC//R//  
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
RUEHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
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RUESDM/JTLO MIAMI FL  
RUESFB/FBIS ASUNCION PA  
RUESPF/FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM  
RUETIAV/MPC FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
RUFDMNEU/CDR USASSETAF VICENZA IT//AESE-CMO//  
RUFGAID/USCINCEUR INTEL VAIHINGEN GE  
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RUFTAKC/UDITDUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
RULGPRW/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA ROOSEVELT ROADS PR  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCJ3-PSY//  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//  
RUWGTCG/COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA//PI//  
RUWMBKA/612 AINS DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB AZ//INTA//  
RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//  
RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM//IN//  
ACCT FBAU-EDWK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Castro Rules Out Resigning To End US Embargo on Cuba

TEXT:

UNCLAS 7M

WARNING: TOPIC: INTERNATIONAL, LEADER, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL

SERIAL: AU1705162398

PASS: ATTN WIRE SELECT

COUNTRY: SWITZERLAND, CUBA

SUBJ: Castro Rules Out Resigning To End US Embargo on Cuba

REF: pa1705013098 havana tele rebelde and cubavision networks  
spanish 170000 -- castro meets with swiss lawmakers in  
geneva

SOURCE: Paris AFP (North European Service) in English 1614 GMT 17  
May 98

TEXT:

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Geneva, May 17 (AFP) -- Cuban President Fidel Castro Sunday ruled out stepping down in exchange for the lifting of the US trade embargo on his country, saying it would be a capitulation.

"I reject any blackmail over resigning so the blockade could be lifted," Castro said in a Swiss television interview. "That would be capitulation."

Castro arrived here Wednesday for a week-long visit coinciding with the 50th anniversary celebrations of the predecessor of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Castro, 70 and in power in Cuba since the 1959 Communist revolution, said he intended to remain in power as long as he enjoyed the support of the Cuban people.

However he described holding power as "neither a pleasure nor a privilege", stressing that he did not want to cling to the presidency.

If he retired, he said, he could "finally begin to write."

At a press conference, Castro denounced last week's announcement of a lightening of the US embargo as a "deception."

He also dismissed a 100 million dollar humanitarian aid package put forward last week by US Senator Jesse Helms, saying his country had a sense of honour.

Castro was to address an audience of politicians on Tuesday, and take part in round table talks in a WTO conference.

US President Bill Clinton is scheduled to give a speech Monday night marking the anniversary.

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(endall) 171614 waters

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 9554

**TOR:** 980517122842 M3291809

**DIST:**

SIT: NSC

## Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHCAA9123 1382120-UUUU--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: P R 182118Z MAY 98

LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC

OSRI: RUEHC

DTG: 182118Z MAY 98

ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC

TO: ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 0000

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0000

RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0000

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0000

RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 0000

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RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY 0000

RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 0000

INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0000

RUEHMT/AMCONSUL MONTREAL 0000

RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 0000

RUEHSD/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO 0000

RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ 0000

RUEHNL/AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO 0000

RUEHTM/AMCONSUL TIJUANA 0000

RUCBCLF/USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

RUERFCF/CDR 193RD INFBDE (PAN) FT CLAYTON PN AFZU-PO

RUWMEGA/24TH WING HOWARD AFB PA

RHFJJXP/NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN PN/PAO

RUWSMXI/USCINCTrans INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL

RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL

SUBJ: ARA GUIDANCES, MAY 15, 1998

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ARA PRESS GUIDANCES, MAY 15, 1998:  
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TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 089123

ALL POSTS PLEASE PASS PAO; ROME FOR VATICAN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: ARA GUIDANCES, MAY 15, 1998

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ARA PRESS GUIDANCES, MAY 15, 1998:  
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-- MEXICO: FOREST FIRES --

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION WITH THE FOREST FIRES IN MEXICO?  
WHAT IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOING ABOUT IT?

A: HISTORICALLY HIGH TEMPERATURES AND AN ALMOST TOTAL LACK OF RAIN FOR THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS HAVE RESULTED IN A RECORD NUMBER OF FOREST FIRES IN MEXICO. THERE ARE CURRENTLY ABOUT 100 FIRES RAGING IN MEXICO, AND THE HAZE THEY HAVE PRODUCED HAS REACHED PARTS OF TEXAS, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI.

SINCE JANUARY OF THIS YEAR FIRES THROUGHOUT MEXICO HAVE DESTROYED AN AREA ABOUT THE SIZE OF RHODE ISLAND.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO HAS DEPLOYED AIRPLANES, HELICOPTERS AND FIREFIGHTERS IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL THESE BLAZES. OVER 50 MEXICAN FIREFIGHTERS HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES.

WE ARE WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO, DISCUSSING POSSIBLE ACTIONS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE IN THIS SITUATION THAT AFFECTS US BOTH.

AMONG THE SHORT-TERM MEASURES BEING CONSIDERED ARE THE SHARING OF REAL TIME INFRARED SATELLITE IMAGES TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO PIN POINT THE LOCATION OF NEW FIRES, AND THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

WHILE THE IMMEDIATE SITUATION IS CRITICAL, WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING WAYS WE CAN HELP THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO AVOID PROBLEMS ON THIS SCALE IN THE FUTURE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS HELPED MEXICO TRAIN FIREFIGHTERS IN THE PAST, AND, TOGETHER WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT, WE ARE CONSIDERING AN INTENSIFICATION OF THESE EFFORTS.

THE SAME CLIMATIC CONDITIONS HAVE LED TO FIRES IN A NUMBER OF CENTRAL AMERICAN NATIONS, AND OUR EMBASSIES ARE DISCUSSING THE SITUATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MOST AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

-- CUBA: HELMS "SOLIDARIDAD" BILL ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CUBA --

Q: DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE BILL ANNOUNCED BY SENATOR HELMS YESTERDAY (CUBAN SOLIDARITY ACT-SOLIDARIDAD) THAT PROPOSES TO INCREASE HUMANITARIAN DONATIONS OF FOOD AND MEDICINE TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE?

A: WE HAVE JUST SEEN THE BILL ANNOUNCED BY SENATOR HELMS AND WILL BE REVIEWING ITS PROVISIONS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS SAID THAT WE WILL WORK ON A BIPARTISAN BASIS WITH THE CONGRESS ON FINDING WAYS TO INCREASE SUPPORT FOR THE CUBAN PEOPLE BY FACILITATING THE TRANSFER OF FOOD AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

WE WILL BE PURSUING THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH CONGRESS IN THE  
COMING WEEKS.

WE WILL NOT COMMENT ON ANY SPECIFIC PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN  
PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO CUBA  
WHILE OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH CONGRESS ARE ONGOING.

THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT TAKEN AN OFFICIAL POSITION ON  
THE HELMS BILL OR ON ANY OF THE OTHER LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS  
FOR INCREASING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE CUBAN PEOPLE.  
TALBOTT

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 9123

**TOR:** 980518172230 M3293247

**DIST:**

SIT: NSC

## Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUCWAAA0590 1410637-UUUU--RHEHOND.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU

LINE3: P 210636Z MAY 98

LINE4: FM FBIS RESTON VA

OSRI: RUCWAAA

DTG: 210636Z MAY 98

ORIG: FBIS RESTON VA

TO: RUWMBKA/612 AINS DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB AZ//INTA//  
RUEDADA/AFISA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC  
RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//  
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA  
RUCMACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//  
RUERFCP/CDRUSARSO FT CLAYTON PM//SOCS-PA//  
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//  
RHFJJXP/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT RODMAN PM  
RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC  
RUDPHMS/COLMGTOFC82DABNDIV  
RUDPTUT/COLMGTOFCXVIIIABNCORPS  
RUWGTCG/COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA//PI//  
RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//  
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA  
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//  
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//  
RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//  
RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM//IN//  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCJ3-PSY//  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//  
ACCT FBWA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: TAKE 2 OF 2--Havana TV Summary 210000: HAV 98-160

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6Z

WARNING: FTS\_DOC\_ID: FTS19980521000031

WARNING: A VIDEOTAPE OF THE PROGRAM SUMMARIZED BELOW CAN BE ORDERED FROM FBIS BY CALLING (703) 482-7409 BETWEEN 0800 AND 1600 EST OR BY FAXING AN ORDER TO (703) 482-3815. PLEASE SUPPLY THE TAPE NUMBER (FOUND ON SUBJECT LINE), YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER, AND OFFICE ADDRESS. TAPES NOT ORDERED WITHIN 30 DAYS WILL BE ERASED

WARNING: TOPIC: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, DOMESTIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: WA2105063698

PASS: ATTN BBC LATIN  
COPY TO VED

COUNTRY: CUBA  
SUBJ: TAKE 2 OF 2--Havana TV Summary 210000: HAV 98-160  
REF: PA2105025298 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cubavision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 May 98 /// Video shows same.  
SOURCE: Havana Tele Rebelde and Cubavision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 May 98  
TEXT:

20. [24] Report over video: Russia -- New sectors join strike in demand of late payments; road blocks virtually isolate the nation. Video shows participants in rallies.

21. [25] Report over video: Indonesia -- Thousands of students continue protests, Congress asks Suharto to resign by Friday. Video shows protesters, riot Police.

22. [26] Report over video: Germany -- Foreigners increasingly threatened in several neighborhoods by members of so-called German Popular Union spurred by success in recent elections. Video shows man throwing fire bomb.

23. [26] Video report: Video shows Israeli soldiers beating arrested Palestinian citizens. Human rights organization denounces practice, says this must stop. Video shows same.

24. [27] Video report: Swiss President Flavio Cotti receives Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz in Berne. Video shows Castro, Cotti shaking hands; Castro greeting other cabinet officials. Castro wears dark dress suit. Video shows both heads of state inspecting troops, participating in meeting with other officials. Also Cotti, Castro making statements for reporters. Castro denies visiting Swiss clinic, says will visit United States when President William Clinton is reelected, if the constitution is ever amended, and when Senator Jesse Helms no longer chairs Foreign Affairs Committee. (text)

25. [41] Video report: Switzerland -- traits, language, and culture. Video shows street scenes.

26. [42] Announcer-read report: closing statements.

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(endall)

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01  
SSN: 0590  
TOR: 980521030337 M3298128  
DIST:  
SIT: NSC

## Cable

PREC: ROUTINE  
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED  
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUESPFA7502 1531849-UUUU--RHEHOND.  
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU  
LINE3: R 021849Z JUN 98  
LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM  
OSRI: RUESPF  
DTG: 021849Z JUN 98  
ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM  
TO: RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA  
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RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//  
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//  
RHFJFYW/CTF 125  
RHFJJXP/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT RODMAN PM  
RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//  
RUCBACM/USCINCCOM NORFOLK VA//J5//  
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA  
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RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//  
RUCMACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//  
RUCOGCG/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA GUANTANAMO BAY CU  
RUCOGDA/NAVINTELOFC GUANTANAMO BAY CU//N2//  
RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC  
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//  
RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC  
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//  
RUDKMKB/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC RUCWAAA//  
RUDKMKC/FBIS LONDON UK  
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA  
RUDPHMS/COLMGTOFC82DABNDIV  
RUDPMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC  
RUDPTUT/COLMGTOFCXVIIIABNCORPS  
RUDPWDC/DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC  
RUEABND/DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMIN HQ WASHINGTON DC//POL//  
RUEADWD/HQ DA WASHINGTON DC//DAMO-SSM//  
RUEAIIIS/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA  
RUEALGX/DEFINTAGENCY WASHINGTON DC  
RUEDADA/AFISA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC  
RUEDADI/AFOSI IOC BOLLING AFB DC  
RUEDAEA/NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//ARA/CCA//  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//STR//  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA  
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUESDM/JTLO MIAMI FL  
RUETIAV/MPC FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD  
RULGPRW/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA ROOSEVELT ROADS PR  
RULGPSP/COMFAIRCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS PR  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//

RUWGTCG/COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA//PI//  
RUWMBKA/612 AINS DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB AZ//INTA//  
RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM//IN//  
RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//  
ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Take 2 of 2 -- Ricardo Alarcon on US-EU Agreement

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A

WARNING: GENEVA: ARMS CONTROL

WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: PA0206184998

COUNTRY: CUBA

SUBJ: Take 2 of 2 -- Ricardo Alarcon on US-EU Agreement

REF: pa0206184698 havana juventud rebelde (internet version)  
spanish 24 may///world, can engage."

TEXT:

[FBIS Translated Text] In addition to this complex framework, there is the historical inconsistency of the United States' promises because what has been signed now had already been promised, with no signs of compliance.

Ricardo Alarcon remembers: "A year ago we denounced Washington was not complying with the understanding signed between the EU and the United States on 11 April 1997. Based on that understanding, the EU suspended the request for a WTO panel provided the United States would, in turn, hold consultations with Congress so the latter would authorize the suspension of Title IV of the Helms-Burton law, which only deals with the visas issue. That was the only thing the United States promised. And we denounced on 30 May 1997 that the 11 April understanding was not being complied with by Washington, because no step had been taken in Congress for this.

"Quite the contrary," he explains, "what was ascertained went in the opposite direction: Various amendments to strengthen the blockade against Cuba and, specifically, one amendment to prevent the implementation of the understanding signed in April. And there is no US statement opposing those efforts.

"A year elapsed and then the 18 May understanding took place; and the United States again pledged to do what it had failed to do."

The Cuban parliament leader explains that, quite the contrary, the amendment for the non-implementation of the April 1997 understanding is still on the Oval Office desk, with the two chambers' approval, waiting for Bill Clinton's approval or veto.

The amendment has been attached to a bill for the Department of State's reorganization. The bill also contains issues that are both critical and dissimilar like the much-debated abortion issue and the heavy US heavy debt with the UN, where Washington will lose its veto right if it has not paid the balance by September.

Moreover, extreme right Congressional groups personally led by Jesse Helms do not seem motivated enough to accept a negotiation that will imply granting Clinton the authority he lost regarding

Title IV of the law. Helms said "hell would freeze over" first.

And, on the other hand, Ricardo Alarcon comments, Congress would have little time to delve into this legislative puzzle -- it is about to declare a recess and resume its activities in June, then it will declare another recess next month, on the occasion of the 4th of July. Consequently, there will be little time left before the elections -- precisely the legislative elections -- are held in November.

Meanwhile, the world must remember Europe's statements against the extraterritorial nature of the US policy toward Cuba, even before the Helms-Burton law existed.

Referring to this, Ricardo Alarcon recalled the message issued by the former European Economic Community in 1990, through the Irish Embassy in Washington, with the following warning:

/The Community is of the opinion that the United States does not base itself on international laws to claim the right to authorize non-US transactions in Cuba, by companies established outside the United States, no matter who their owners are or who control them./

Now, perhaps, many people, like the Cuban parliament president, hope that the compromise eventually reached between the European governments and the United States, even regarding an unimportant part of the Helms-Burton law, will not lead them to accept the worst part of the law and everything that the United States has been arbitrarily imposing in its efforts to drown Cuba. The impositions, Ricardo Alarcon recalls, have never been accepted by sovereign countries in the world.

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(endall) 25 May MGV/Valencia/cn MVCU0106.01E 02/1850z jun

**SECT:** SECTION: 01 OF 01

**SSN:** 7502

**TOR:** 980602153039 M3316099

**DIST:**

SIT: NSC