

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA5559 0102317-UUUU--RHEHNSC.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O P 102313Z JAN 01

LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC

OSRI: RUEHC

DTG:

ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC

TO: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

RUEHJA/AMCONSUL SURABAYA IMMEDIATE 2697

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2535

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 3773

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

INFO: RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 3765

RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 3516

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 3040

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0545

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 2046

RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 4828

RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 6320

RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 8458

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0829

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY 1841

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP PRIORITY 6173

RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY

RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY

RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD PRIORITY

RUAGAMS/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOR//CC/BJ/CJ/EJ/PAJ/SJS// PRIORITY

RUAGAMS/CHJUSMAG SEOUL KOR PRIORITY

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY 5722

RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY 5927

RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 7569

RUHGOAA/COMSEVENTHFLT PRIORITY

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 8448

RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

SUBJ: JANUARY 10 PRESS GUIDANCE FOR THE EAP REGION

SECDEF -- ALSO FOR OASD/PA AND OASD/SOLIC/SOP

USCINCPAC FOR FPA TWINING

UNVIE FOR FITZPATRICK

TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 STATE 005559

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US, KPAO

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USEU FOR RUTH

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- INDONESIA: ACEH TALKS IN GENEVA (PARAS 2,4)
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- FOREIGN DIGNITARIES AT INAUGURATION (PARAS 6-7)

2. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCES WERE PREPARED ON 1/10/2001 AND WERE NOT USED AT THE PRESS BRIEFING ON THAT DAY. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THEM ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

3. BURMA -- DIALOGUE WITH AUNG SAN SUU KYI

Q: WHAT'S YOUR REACTION TO THE REPORTED DIALOGUE THAT HAS STARTED BETWEEN AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND BURMA'S MILITARY RULERS?

A: -- AS SECRETARY ALBRIGHT SAID YESTERDAY (JANUARY 9), U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR RAZALI, HAS REPORTED TO HIM THAT THERE IS A DIALOGUE GOING ON BETWEEN AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND THE GOVERNMENT.

-- THAT IS SOMETHING WE HAVE LONG WANTED TO SEE.

-- WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHETHER THIS IS A GENUINE DIALOGUE AND WHERE IT LEADS.

-- WE THINK THE LEVEL OF DIALOGUE IS VERY IMPORTANT.

-- WE BELIEVE AUNG SAN SUU KYI SHOULD BE RESPECTED AS A POLITICAL LEADER AND NOT BE KEPT UNDER HOUSE ARREST.

-- AND, FINALLY, WE BELIEVE IT'S VERY USEFUL THAT THE U.N. AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR RAZALI, TAKE THIS KIND OF ACTIVE ROLE.

CONTEXT: IN A JANUARY 9 PRESS BRIEFING, IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, SECRETARY ALBRIGHT SAID THE FOLLOWING: "ON AUNG SAN SUU KYI, I WAS CALLED YESTERDAY BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO TOLD ME THAT MR. RAZALI, HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE THERE FROM MALAYSIA, REPORTED THAT THERE WAS A DIALOGUE THAT WAS GOING ON BETWEEN AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND THE GOVERNMENT, AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE HAVE WANTED TO HAVE IS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A DIALOGUE.

"OBVIOUSLY WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHERE IT LEADS AND WHETHER IT IS A GENUINE DIALOGUE RATHER THAN THE KINDS OF PATRONIZING AND CRUEL CONVERSATIONS THAT WERE EVIDENT WHEN I WAS THERE, WHERE SHE NEEDS TO BE RESPECTED AS A POLITICAL LEADER AND NOT, AS WAS FRAMED TO ME, AS A LITTLE SISTER THAT THEY HAD TO

TAKE CARE OF BY KEEPING HER IN HER HOUSE. SO I THINK THAT THE LEVEL OF DIALOGUE IS VERY IMPORTANT.
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"BUT I DO THINK THAT IT'S EXTREMELY USEFUL THAT THE UNITED NATIONS, THIS CURRENT REPRESENTATIVE, IS TAKING THIS KIND OF AN ACTIVE ROLE."

4. INDONESIA -- ACEH TALKS IN GENEVA

Q: WHAT IS OUR REACTION TO REPORTS THAT THE HUMANITARIAN PAUSE IN ACEH HAS BEEN EXTENDED?

A: -- WE ARE VERY PLEASED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA AND THE FREE ACEH MOVEMENT (GAM) HAVE REACHED A PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT ON A ONE-MONTH MORATORIUM ON VIOLENCE BEGINNING JANUARY 15, WHEN THE HUMANITARIAN PAUSE WAS DUE TO EXPIRE.

-- WE ALSO WELCOME REPORTS THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN FEBRUARY. AS WE HAVE STATED PREVIOUSLY, WE STRONGLY SUPPORT DIALOGUE AS THE ONLY MEANS TO REACH A COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION TO THE SITUATION IN ACEH.

-- WE URGE THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE FREE ACEH MOVEMENT TO CONTINUE THEIR DIALOGUE. ANY RESORT TO VIOLENCE WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE AIMS OF BOTH PARTIES.

CONTEXT: THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA AND THE FREE ACEH MOVEMENT MET IN GENEVA JANUARY 6-10 TO DISCUSS THE EXTENSION OF THE HUMANITARIAN PAUSE, WHICH HAS BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE JUNE AND HAS BEEN EXTENDED TWICE PREVIOUSLY. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THEY REACHED AGREEMENT ON A ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF THE PAUSE AND THAT THEY WILL SEEK WAYS TO MAKE THE PAUSE MORE EFFECTIVE DURING THIS EXTENSION. THE GOI IS WILLING TO GRANT SPECIAL AUTONOMY TO ACEH, HOWEVER, THE GAM HAS INSISTED ON FULL INDEPENDENCE.

5. UN: REVISED SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS/PAYING ARREARS

Q: COMMENT ON SENATOR HELMS ENDORSEMENT OF A PARTIAL PAYMENT IN UN BACK DUES (ARREARS)?

A: -- WE ARE VERY PLEASED THAT SENATOR HELMS HAS INDICATED THAT HE SUPPORTS THE RELEASE OF THE NEXT PAYMENT OF ARREARS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HELMS-BIDEN LEGISLATION.

-- WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE CONGRESS TAKING THE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN.

-- CLEARING THIS 582 MILLION DOLLARS IN ARREARS WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARD SOLIDIFYING THE U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UN.

-- WE THANK SENATORS HELMS AND BIDEN AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THEIR SUPPORT, AND

WILL CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE REFORM AT THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Q: WITH THE 25 PERCENT CAP ON PEACEKEEPING PAYMENTS, WON'T THE U.S. CONTINUE TO ACCRUE NEW ARREARS?

A: -- WHILE THE RATE AT WHICH NEW ARREARS ACCRUE WILL SIGNIFICANTLY DECLINE, AS LONG AS THE CAP IS IN PLACE, WE WILL INCUR NEW ARREARS FOR PEACEKEEPING.

-- UNDER THE AGREEMENT REACHED IN NEW YORK, THE PERCENTAGE BILLED TO THE U.S. SHOULD CONTINUE TO DECLINE, AND WE BELIEVE IT WILL REACH THE 25 PERCENT LEVEL BY 2005 OR 2006.

-- WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE U.S. TO ACCRUE NEW ARREARS, AND WE HOPE THE CONGRESS WILL WORK UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 STATE 005559

E.O. 12958: N/A

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WITH US TO REMOVE THE LEGISLATED CAP.

Q: WHAT ABOUT EXISTING UN ARREARS THAT WON'T BE CLEARED WITH THIS 582 MILLION-DOLLAR PAYMENT?

A: -- IN ADDITION TO THE 582 MILLION DOLLARS FOR UN PEACEKEEPING ARREARS, AN ADDITIONAL 244 MILLION DOLLARS REMAINS AUTHORIZED UNDER HELMS-BIDEN TO PAY ARREARS TO THE UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

-- WE ARE WORKING WITH THESE ORGANIZATIONS TO ACHIEVE THE REFORMS REQUIRED TO MAKE THESE FINAL HELMS-BIDEN ARREARS PAYMENTS.

-- ACHIEVING REFORMS IS OUR MAIN FOCUS AT THIS TIME, ALTHOUGH WE ARE ALSO EXPLORING WAYS TO RESOLVE THE REMAINING ARREARS.

CONTEXT: REPORTS IN THE WASHINGTON POST, NY TIMES, AND WASHINGTON TIMES COVERED SENATOR JESSE HELMS (R-NC), CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AGREEING TO A COMPROMISE THAT WILL ALLOW THE UNITED STATES TO PAY A LARGE PORTION OF ITS DEBT TO THE UN. HELMS SAID HE WOULD ALLOW THE RELEASE OF 582 MILLION DOLLARS OF BACK DUES IN RETURN FOR THE 189-MEMBER UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S DECISION LAST MONTH TO SLASH THE US SHARE OF THE UN BUDGET, SAVING TAXPAYERS MORE THAN 100 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR.

6. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED ON 1/10/2001 AND SPOKESMAN RICHARD BOUCHER USED IT AT THE PRESS BRIEFING ON THAT DAY.

7. FOREIGN DIGNITARIES AT PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

CONTEXT: PA HAS BEEN ASKED WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR FOREIGN DIGNITARIES COMING TO WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR THE INAUGURATION.

Q: WHAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR FOREIGN DIGNITARIES
COMING TO WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR THE INAUGURATION.

A: -- IN THE PAST, FOREIGN DELEGATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN INVITED
TO WASHINGTON FOR THIS OCCASION AND SUCH DELEGATIONS HAVE NOT
BEEN INVITED THIS TIME. IT IS LONGSTANDING UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT POLICY THAT FOREIGN AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED TO THE
UNITED STATES REPRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE CHIEFS OF STATES AND
GOVERNMENTS AT THE PRINCIPAL INAUGURAL EVENTS.
ALBRIGHT

TOR: 01/12/01 13:05:37

DIST: SIT: NSC CHRISTY Ehrendreich JARRETT OSIUS PRITCHARD SMITHH TIGHE