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- DAILY ACTIVITY REPORTS, FEBRUARY 11-12, 2001

FOR AMB, DCM, POL & ECON FROM DIRECTOR MASON

1. (U) DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT, FEBRUARY 11, 2002
2. (U) CANADA WANTS TO BE EXEMPTED FROM STEEL IMPORT
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- RESTRICTIONS

IN A DIPLOMATIC NOTE FEB. 7 TO U/S AL LARSON, THE
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ASKED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION EXEMPT
CANADA FROM THE IMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIONS ON STEEL
IMPORTS. THE PRESIDENT IS DUE TO ANNOUNCE MARCH 6, AS
PART OF THE 201 INVESTIGATION ON STEEL, WHICH COUNTRIES
WILL HAVE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED. ALTHOUGH THE ITC RULED
LAST OCTOBER THAT CANADIAN COMPANIES ARE NOT CAUSING
SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THE U.S. STEEL INDUSTRY IN THE MAJOR

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CATEGORIES, IT SAID SOME SMALLER STEEL PRODUCTS WOULD BE SUBJECTED TO FURTHER REVIEW. THE LETTER NOTED THAT ANY RESTRICTIONS WOULD DISRUPT THE SMOOTH OPERATION OF THE U.S.-CANADA INTEGRATED STEEL MARKET. ABOUT 60 PERCENT OF ALL U.S. STEEL EXPORTS (2.35 BILLION DOLLARS) GO TO CANADA, MOST IN THE FORM OF TRUCKLOAD SHIPMENTS OF STEEL PRODUCTS MADE TO ORDER AND DELIVERED ON A JUST-IN-TIME BASIS TO THE AUTOMOTIVE, APPLIANCE, OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY. THE GOC WANTS THE PRESIDENT TO UTILIZE AN EXEMPTION PROVIDED IN NAFTA. (NORMAN)

3. (U) THE MANLEY CAMPAIGN BEGINS?

ON FRIDAY DPM JOHN MANLEY TOOK HIS FIRST STEP TOWARDS ESTABLISHING HIS BONA-FIDES AS A CANDIDATE FOR PM IN A UNUSUAL CAMPAIGN-STYLE APPEARANCE BEFORE 300 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA. MANLEY ABANDONED HIS PREPARED SPEECH AND WANDERED THROUGH THE STANDING-ROOM-ONLY CROWD WITH A WIRELESS MICROPHONE SPEAKING FORCEFULLY ABOUT THE
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CHALLENGES FACING CANADA IN A POST-9/11 WORLD. ASKED FOR HIS OPINION ON THE PRESIDENT BUSH NAMING THE "AXIS OF EVIL," MANLEY RESPONDED "I DON'T THINK THAT WE WOULD HAVE USED SUCH BELLICOSE LANGUAGE." HE NOTED CANADIAN DIFFERENCES WITH THE U.S. OVER BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND LAND MINE TREATIES, EMPHASIZING THAT "WE SHOULD DIFFER FROM THE AMERICANS WHEN WE THINK THEY'RE WRONG AND WE SHOULDN'T FEEL THAT SOMEHOW OUR IDENTITY IS CHALLENGED WHEN WE AGREE WITH THEM WHEN THEY'RE RIGHT."

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH GLOBE AND MAIL, MANLEY WARNED THAT CANADA WOULD NOT SUPPORT ANY U.S. ATTACKS AGAINST THE "AXIS OF EVIL", SAYING "I DON'T THINK THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM SHOULD EXTEND BEYOND WHAT WE SEE AS BEING DIRECT LINKS TO SEPT. 11." AT THE SAME TIME, MANLEY TOOK ON LEFT-WING CRITICS, NOTING "THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO THINK WE ARE MORE CANADIAN IF WE TRY TO POKE THE UNITED STATES IN THE EYE WHENEVER WE HAVE THE CHANCE. I THINK THAT'S JUST PLAN STUPID." (MCCULLA/PRESS)

4. (SBU) TAKING YES FOR AN ANSWER ON DETAINEES

GOC LEADERS CHARACTERIZE THE FEBRUARY 7 WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT AFGHANISTAN DETAINEES AS SATISFYING INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STANDARDS. PM CHRETIEN TOLD REPORTERS ON FEBRUARY 8 THAT PRESSURE FROM OTTAWA HAD SWAYED THE USG

TO "FOLLOW THE GENEVA CONVENTION." DPM MANLEY TOLD PARLIAMENT THAT OTTAWA HAD "RECEIVED THE CLARIFICATION WE REQUESTED FROM WASHINGTON." THE USG STATEMENT IS IN FACT LESS SPECIFIC THAN THE GOC HAD WANTED, BUT CHRETIEN SEEMS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 028687 132301Z TO HAVE WHAT HE NEEDS TO DEFY HIS CRITICS. THE CONTROVERSY HAS STARTED TO FADE IN PARLIAMENT AND THE PRESS. (TULENKO/OTTAWA 381)

- 5. (U) DAILY ACTIVITY, FEBRUARY 12, 2002
- 6. (U) CABINET FEUD OVER PARTY MEMBERSHIP

A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN FINANCE MINISTER PAUL MARTIN AND INDUSTRY MINISTER ALLAN ROCK OVER PARTY MEMBERSHIP RULES ERUPTED INTO A VERBAL BRAWL ON MONDAY. OVER THE WEEKEND, MARTIN LOYALISTS IN ONTARIO PASSED A RULE MAKING IT HARDER TO RECRUIT NEW PARTY MEMBERS. ROCK ATTACKED THIS RULE AS A MOVE TO MAKE THE ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY A "COUNTRY CLUB FOR ELITES," AND ONE ROCK STAFF MEMBER SAID THE POLICY HAD "RACIST OVERTONES." MARTIN RESPONDED IN A FURY, CALLING ROCK'S REMARKS "BEYOND CONTEMPT," AND "THE WORST KIND OF POLITICS - DESTRUCTIVE AND PERSONAL ATTACKS" AND DEMANDED AN APOLOGY. ROCK RESPONDED THAT HE "WON'T BE BULLIED BY ANYBODY." PM CHRETIEN, WHO REMAINS COY ABOUT HOW LONG HE WILL STAY IN OFFICE, SAID SIMPLY "I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY ARE SO PREOCCUPIED ABOUT SUCCEEDING ME." (MCCULLA/PRESS) POWELL

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