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INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EUR-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02
	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9419  
INFO EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 000120

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/24/2012  
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, UN, EI  
SUBJECT: UHCR ROBINSON'S CONCERNS OF GUANTANAMO PRISONERS  
ECHOED BY IRISH OFFICIALS

CLASSIFIED BY: DCM JANE FORT. REASONS 1.5 (B,D)

ROBINSON VOICES CONCERN OVER DETAINEES  
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1. (U) AT A CONFERENCE IN DUBLIN JANUARY 17 UN HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSIONER MARY ROBINSON STATED THAT SHE WAS VERY CONCERNED  
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ABOUT THE TREATMENT THAT THE DETAINEES IN GUANTANAMO WERE  
RECEIVING, AND CALLED FOR THEM TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE A COURT  
OR TRIBUNAL. ROBINSON SAID THAT THE RESPONSE OF MANY  
COUNTRIES TO THE SEPTEMBER 11TH ATTACKS HAD LED TO A  
CURTAILMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND AN INCREASE IN RACIAL  
DISCRIMINATION. PREVIOUSLY, IN GENEVA, SHE STATED THAT "IT  
IS IMPORTANT AT A TIME OF DIFFICULTY THAT HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS BE CLEARLY UPHELD AND  
OBSERVED. IF ANYTHING, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT AT TIMES OF  
STRESS AND ANXIETY AND FEELINGS OF INSECURITY THAT THERE IS  
AN AFFIRMATION OF THESE VALUES."

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

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TAOISEACH SUPPORTS ROBINSON...

2. (U) THE TAOISEACH (PRIME MINISTER) BERTIE AHERN, WHO ALSO ADDRESSED THE DUBLIN CONFERENCE, TOLD THE AUDIENCE THAT HE FULLY SUPPORTED ROBINSON IN HER CONCERNS. THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRIAN COWEN, SPEAKING DURING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO BEIJING, TOLD REPORTERS THAT IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR EXACT STATUS UNDER THE GENEVA CONVENTION (WHICH IS A MATTER FOR A TRIBUNAL TO DECIDE) THE AL-QAEDA PRISONERS ARE ENTITLED TO THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS. COWEN ADDED, THAT IN CONFRONTING THOSE WHO ABUSE AND VIOLATE ALL FORMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE MAINTAIN THE HIGHEST STANDARDS AT ALL TIMES. BOTH THE TAOISEACH AND COWEN ADDED THAT THEY HAD RAISED THEIR CONCERNS WITH S/P DIRECTOR RICHARD HAASS IN MEETINGS IN DUBLIN ON JANUARY 15.

... AND THE IRISH MEDIA JOIN IN

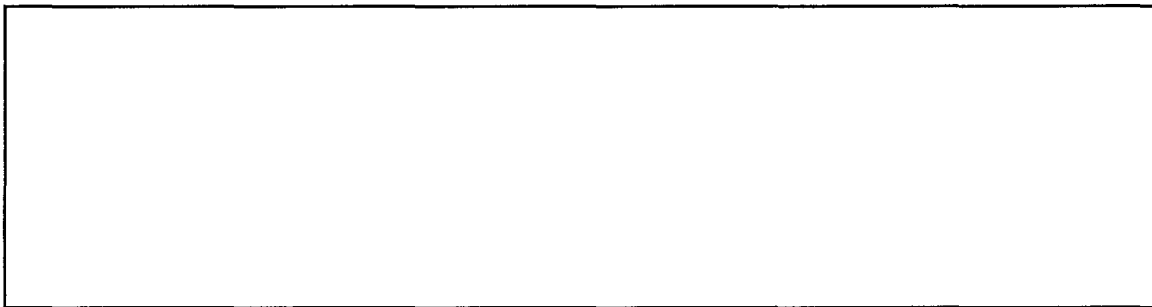
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3. (U) THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF EDITORIALS IN LOCAL PAPERS DISCUSSING THE TREATMENT OF THE PRISONERS IN GUANTANAMO. THE IRISH TIMES STATED THAT SOME OF THE PHYSICAL CONDITIONS IMPOSED ON THE PRISONERS ARE GRATUITOUSLY PENAL, WHILE THE DECISION TO SHAVE THEIR BEARDS OFFENDS THEIR BELIEFS AND SIGNIFIES AN INTOLERANCE THEIR SYMPATHIZERS WILL BE QUICK TO EXPLOIT. THE SUNDAY TRIBUNE STATED THAT THESE PRISONERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN TRIED FOR ANY CRIME, WERE TAKEN IN A DEGRADING FASHION, HOODED AND SHACKLED, WHICH WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY EXCESSIVE TO SECURITY NEEDS, TO THEIR DESTINATION. THE IRISH INDEPENDENT EDITORIAL STATED THAT THE U.S. AUTHORITIES HAVE BROKEN THE RULES OF HUMANE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS. MEDIA COMMENTARY REACHED A PEAK WITH THE RELEASE OF PICTURES OF HOODED AND SHACKLED PRISONERS ARRIVING AT GUANTANAMO.

COMMENT

B1



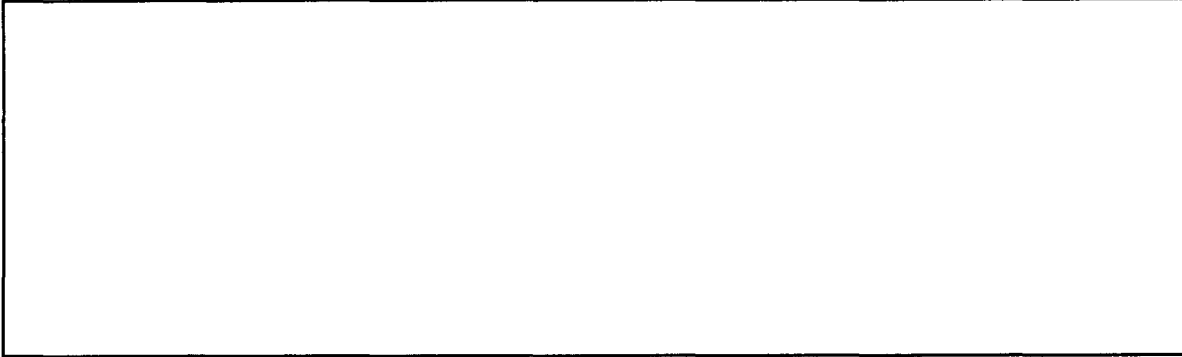
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