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O P 210254Z MAY 04 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE WASHDC 0000

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY DOHA

CTF NORTHERN WATCH INCIRLIK AB TU//POLAD//

INFO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

USCINCPAC HONOLULU

USCENTCOM MACDILLAFB FL

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 113639

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TAGS:

SUBJECT: NEA PRESS GUIDANCE - 05/20/04

INFORM CONSULS-PASS PAOS-MILITARY ALSO FOR POLAD

LONDON FOR POL-ETHAN A. GOLDRICH

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: FRANK E SCHMELZER DATE/CASE ID: 09 DEC 2004 200303827

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ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS: GAZA SITREP

BAHRAIN: ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AT GTMO

REGION: IRAO WAY FORWARD MEETING

1. ISRAEL/PALESTINIANS: GAZA SITREP

WHO IS TALKING TO WHOM?

FOR THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SENIOR
ISRAELI, EGYPTIAN, AND PALESTINIAN OFFICIALS IN THE REGION
AND IN WASHINGTON.

OTHER KEY POINTS

AS THE WHITE HOUSE MADE CLEAR IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY, "WE DEEPLY REGRET THE LOSS OF LIFE OF INNOCENT PALESTINIAN CIVILIANS (TODAY) IN GAZA.

"WE NOTE THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS EXPRESSED ITS "DEEP REGRET" FOR WHAT IT CALLED A "TRAGIC EVENT." THESE EVENTS IN FACT SERVE AS A GRIM REMINDER OF THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL DISENGAGING FROM GAZA, AND HAVING ITS SECURITY PRESENCE REPLACED BY REFORMED PALESTINIAN SECURITY FORCES THAT WILL - AND MUST - THEMSELVES ACT TO STOP SMUGGLING AND HALT TERRORISM.

"THE ROADMAP CALLS UPON THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY TO
"DECLARE AN UNEQUIVOCAL END TO VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM AND
UNDERTAKE VISIBLE EFFORTS ON THE GROUND TO ARREST, DISRUPT,
AND RESTRAIN INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS CONDUCTING AND PLANNING
VIOLENT ATTACKS ON ISRAELIS ANYWHERE" AND TO BEGIN
"SUSTAINED, TARGETED, AND EFFECTIVE OPERATIONS AIMED AT
CONFRONTING ALL THOSE ENGAGED IN TERROR AND DISMANTLEMENT
OF TERRORIST CAPABILITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS."

FROM EOV: WHILE WE BELIEVE THAT ISRAEL HAS THE RIGHT TO ACT TO DEFEND ITSELF AND ITS CITIZENS, WE DO NOT SEE THAT ITS OPERATIONS IN GAZA IN THE LAST FEW DAYS SERVE THE PURPOSES OF PEACE AND SECURITY. THEY HAVE WORSENED THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND RESULTED IN CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN ISRAELI FORCES AND PALESTINIANS, AND HAVE NOT, WE BELIEVE, ENHANCED ISRAEL'S SECURITY.

WE HAVE URGED THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM RESTRAINT. ALL PARTIES SHOULD FIND A REASON TO CALM THE SITUATION.

WE BELIEVE OTHER SECURITY MEASURES CAN AND SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN URGENTLY BY THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY, ISRAEL,

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AND EGYPT, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS IN THE BORDER AREA.

ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIANS? IN FISCAL YEAR 2004, WE ARE PROVIDING \$75 MILLION TO THE PALESTINIANS; WILL BE DISBURSED THROUGH UN AGENCIES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

IN ADDITION, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDES NEARLY 1/3 OF THE UN RELIEFS AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST (UNRWA) TOTAL BUDGET, INCLUDING A CONTRIBUTION OF OVER \$80 MILLION TO THE GENERAL FUND IN 2004 AND 20 MILLION.

2. BAHRAIN: ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AT GTMO

#### KEY POINTS:

ON APRIL 26, 2004 A GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN DELEGATION VISITED GUANTANAMO FOR THE THIRD TIME AND MET WITH ALL SIX BAHRAINI DETAINEES.

TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, NONE OF THE BAHRAINI DETAINEES ALLEGED ABUSE OR MISTREATMENT WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT DELEGATION DURING THIS VISIT OR EARLIER VISITS.

THROUGHOUT THEIR DETENTION AND INTERROGATION, THE UNITED STATES HAS TREATED AND WILL CONTINUE TO TREAT ALL DETAINEES AT GUANTANAMO HUMANELY AND IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION OF 1949.

THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PERMIT, TOLERATE OR CONDONE ANY ACT OF TORTURE BY ITS EMPLOYEES UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

U.S. FEDERAL LAW AND MILITARY LAW IMPOSE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ACTS OR ATTEMPTED ACTS OF TORTURE, INCLUDING THOSE BY US NATIONALS THAT TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

ANY ALLEGATION OF ABUSE OR MISTREATMENT BY U.S. PERSONNEL WOULD BE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED AND IF AN INVESTIGATION INDICATES THAT ILLEGAL CONDUCT HAS OCCURRED, THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE A DUTY TO TAKE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT ANY INDIVIDUALS RESPONSIBLE ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.

3. REGION: IRAQ WAY FORWARD MEETING

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF TODAY'S MEETING WITH COALITION PARTNERS?

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PURPOSE OF TODAY'S CONSULTATIONS WITH PARTNERS (COUNTRIES THAT HAVE TROOPS ON THE GROUND IN IRAQ PLUS TURKEY) IS TO DISCUSS THE POLITICAL WAY AHEAD IN IRAQ.

AS THE SECRETARY SAID IN HIS OPENING REMARKS TO THE GROUP THIS MORNING, WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO IN THE NEXT 42 DAYS. WE HAVE TO WORK WITH THE UN TO ESTABLISH AN INTERIM IRAQI GOVERNMENT, AND GET IT READY TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY BY THE 30TH OF JUNE. AND WE'RE HARD AT WORK TO DO THAT. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT PORTANT IN THE NEXT 42 DAYS TO WORK EVEN MORE CLOSELY TOGETHER.

WHAT IS EXPECTED/HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY IT?

TODAY'S MEETING IS INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT REGULAR CONSULTATIONS IN BAGHDAD AND WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE AND IS DESIGNED TO SEEK INPUT FROM OUR PARTNERS ON THE POLITICAL WAY AHEAD IN IRAQ..

WHAT DID YOU TELL THEM ABOUT THE WAY FORWARD?

TODAY'S AGENDA I FOCUSED ON TWO SPECIFIC ITEMS: (1) THE TRANSITION TO THE IRAQI INTERIM GOVERNMENT ON JUNE 30, AND (2) THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION WHICH WILL BE NEGOTIATED IN NEW YORK.

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING INCLUDE DPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY BETH JONES, ASSISTANT SECRETARY KIM HOLMES, ASSISTANT SECRETARY BILL BURNS, AND AMBASSADOR JOHN NEGROPONTE.

AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE IS SHARING OUR PLANS TO GET THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD UP AND RUNNING. FOR VISITORS INTERESTED IN ECONOMICS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY TONY WAYNE WILL HOLD A SEPARATE SESSION ON RECONSTRUCTION LATER TODAY.

DID ANYONE PLEDGE NEW TROOPS/LONGER STAYS/ ADDITIONAL RECONSTRUCTION FUNDS?

TODAY'S CONSULTATIONS WERE TO ADDRESS THE POLITICAL WAY AHEAD IN IRAQ. WE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY SEEK ADDITIONAL TROOPS CONTRIBUTIONS OR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. (IF PRESSED) AS THE SECRETARY SAID, THE PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S CONSULTATIONS ARE ALREADY ACTING AS LEADERS ON THE SITUATION IN IRAQ. WE WILL WORK WITH THEM AND OTHERS TO ENSURE THAT IRAQ HAS WHAT IT NEEDS TO ACHIEVE A BETTER FUTURE.

DID THEY TALK AT ALL ABOUT PRISONER ABUSE SCANDAL? HAS IT

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AFFECTED THEIR COMMITMENT? DID YOU DISCUSS ELEMENTS OF A NEW UNSCR?

THE SECRETARY MENTIONED SEVERAL PRIORITIES WE MUST ACCOMPLISH IN THE COMING DAYS INCLUDING HELPING AMBASSADOR BRAHIMI COMPLETE HIS GOALS, COMPLETE A NEW UN SECURITY RESOLUTION, CONTINUING THE TRANSITION TO THE SOVEREIGN IRAQI INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND CONTINUING FINANCIAL AND RECONSTRUCTION SUPPORT.

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