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	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-00	OIGO-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00
	VC-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	JUSE-00	LAB-01
	L-00	VCE-00	AC-00	NEA-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-00
	PA-00	TFBI-00	PM-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00	IRM-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	R-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00
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 TAGS: PREL, MOPS, PHUM, OSCE, IZ
 SUBJECT: OSCE PC GUIDANCE: INTERVENTION ON <<TREATMENT>>
 OF <<DETAINEES>> IN <<IRAQ>>

REF: 5-11 HELWIG-TROUTMAN E-MAIL

1. POST IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT THE MAY 13 PC MEETING IN VIENNA:

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN,

EVERYONE AROUND THIS TABLE IS AWARE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN REVELATIONS OF ABUSE AND HUMILIATION OF IRAQI <<DETAINEES>> IN AMERICAN CUSTODY IN <<IRAQ>>.

WE HAVE ALL SEEN THE PICTURES IN THE MEDIA. THEY ARE SHOCKING AND SHAMEFUL. THE ACTS THEY DEPICT ARE

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 1

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 2004STATE106534

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

DESPICABLE AND DISGUSTING. PRESIDENT BUSH HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY ARE A STAIN ON OUR COUNTRY'S HONOR AND REPUTATION, AND ARE AN OFFENSE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AS THE PRESIDENT SAID TO ARABIC MEDIA "OUR CITIZENS IN AMERICA ARE APPALLED BY WHAT THEY SAW, JUST LIKE PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE APPALLED."

AS A PARTICIPATING STATE OF THE OSCE AND A STATE PARTY TO MULTIPLE TREATIES DEALING WITH THE HUMANE <<TREATMENT>> OF PEOPLE IN CUSTODY, THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> IS WORKING TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS TO BRING THE PERPETRATORS OF THE ABUSE TO JUSTICE AND TO TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE THAT SUCH ACTS DO NOT OCCUR AGAIN.

I WILL TELL THIS COUNCIL HOW THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> GOVERNMENT HAS RESPONDED:

FIRST, SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT, HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT THESE ACTS WERE ABHORRENT AND UNACCEPTABLE. BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAVE COMMITTED TO THE VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION AND TRANSPARENT PURSUIT OF THE FACTS TO DETERMINE THE FULL EXTENT OF THESE ABUSES.

SECOND, WE HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO ENSURE THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE WILL BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY CHARGED SEVEN MILITARY PERSONNEL WITH CRIMINAL OFFENSES, OFFICIALLY REPRIMANDED SEVERAL OTHERS, AND RELIEVED TWO OFFICERS OF COMMAND. SEVERAL INVESTIGATIONS ARE STILL OPEN.

ALL ALLEGATIONS OF MISTREATMENT WILL BE INVESTIGATED.

FAIR JUDICIAL PROCESSES WILL DETERMINE WHO IS GUILTY THROUGH TRANSPARENT AND FAIR PROCEDURES.

THOSE CONVICTED OF THESE ABUSES WILL BE PUNISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULE OF LAW.

THIRD, THE U.S. SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ANNOUNCED THAT THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> IS BEGINNING TO WORK ON THE ISSUE OF COMPENSATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE ABUSE.

FOURTH, THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> IS ACTING WITH DISPATCH TO ENSURE THAT THESE ABUSES ARE NOT REPEATED. ALL PRISON OPERATIONS IN <<IRAQ>> WILL BE THOROUGHLY REVIEWED. BRIGADIER GENERAL MARK KIMMITT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 2

COALITION OPERATIONS IN <<IRAQ>>, HAS ALSO OUTLINED ADDITIONAL STEPS, INCLUDING AN INTERNAL REVIEW TO ENSURE COMMAND STRUCTURES ACCURATELY REPORT EVENTS UP AND DOWN THE CHAIN OF COMMAND, AND TO ENSURE PRISON GUARDS RECEIVE PROPER TRAINING.

MAJOR GENERAL GEOFFREY MILLER HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE NEW COMMANDER OF <<DETAINEE>> OPERATIONS IN <<IRAQ>>. HE IS SPEAKING OPENLY TO THE PUBLIC AND HAS BROUGHT THE PRESS INTO THE ABU GHRAIB PRISON.

MR. CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT BUSH HAS APOLOGIZED TO THOSE WHO WERE ABUSED, AND TO THEIR FAMILIES. AMERICANS BELIEVE IN THE WORTH AND RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF EVERY PERSON.

THE U.S. MILITARY IS A VALUES-BASED ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO RESPECTING THE INTERNATIONAL LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS CONDUCT THEMSELVES IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH THIS BODY OF LAW, AS THEY ARE TRAINED TO DO, AND REPRESENT THEMSELVES AND THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> HONORABLY.

AS PRESIDENT BUSH HAS SAID, ONE OF THE KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DEMOCRACIES AND DICTATORSHIPS "IS THAT FREE COUNTRIES CONFRONT SUCH ABUSES OPENLY AND DIRECTLY." SADLY, NO COUNTRY IS IMMUNE FROM ABUSES, BUT IN A DEMOCRACY, THOSE WHO ABUSE POWER ARE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE. FAR FROM TRYING TO HIDE THESE ABUSES, THE

<<UNITED>> <<STATES>> HAS CONFRONTED THEM IN FULL PUBLIC VIEW, AS DEMOCRACY DEMANDS.

THE <<UNITED>> <<STATES>> IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS -- INCLUDING THOSE OF INDIVIDUALS DETAINED IN <<IRAQ>>.

WE TAKE OUR OSCE COMMITMENTS SERIOUSLY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP THE PERMANENT COUNCIL APPRISED OF THE SITUATION AS INVESTIGATIONS PROCEED.

THANK YOU.
POWELL

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