FOR ARA/CAR AMBASSADOR HRINAK

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, ECON, SCUL, CMGT, AMGT, MARR, ETRD, DR
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: WE PROVIDE HEREIN A SERIES OF SUGGESTED ACTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER DURING YOUR FIRST TWO MONTHS AT POST. WE HAVE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM FOURTEEN SECTIONS/AGENCIES IN WHICH THEY HAVE IDENTIFIED KEY ISSUES FOR YOU TO INITIALLY FOCUS YOUR ATTENTION. THESE ARE ONLY FOOD FOR THOUGHT AS EACH SECTION WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH A BRIEFING COVERING ALL MATTERS UNDER THEIR RESPONSIBILITY DURING YOUR FIRST TWO WEEKS AT POST. NEVERTHELESS, SINCE WE KNOW YOU ARE SECRET

POLITICAL

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(C) ELECTIONS: POST HAS BEEN KEEPING WASHINGTON INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ELECTORAL CRISIS. THE LATEST NEWS IS THAT THE INVESTIGATION COMMISSION HOPES
TO SUBMIT ITS REPORT TO THE JCE BY JULY 12. WE STILL FEAR THAT BALAGUER WILL BE PROCLAIMED THE WINNER WITHOUT RESOLVING ALL QUESTIONS, POSSIBLY BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH. THE OTHER IMMEDIATE PROBLEM IS A POSSIBLE ANNULATION OF THE POLITICAL PARTY ALLIANCES. BOTH OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD PROVOKE A STRONG, POSSIBLY VIOLENT, RESPONSE FROM THE PRD AND WOULD ALSO GENERATE A NEGATIVE REACTION FROM THE USG.

(C) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU DEVOTE YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION TO THIS ISSUE UPON ARRIVAL AT POST.

(C) WORKER'S RIGHTS - GSP PETITION: THE AFL-CIO'S JUNE 1993 PETITION AGAINST THE DR'S GSP BENEFITS ALLEGED THAT COMPANIES IN THE DOMINICAN EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES CONTINUE TO ILLEGALLY IMPEDE UNION ORGANIZING EFFORTS, THAT THE GODR DOES NOT MAKE SUFFICIENT EFFORTS TO ENFORCE THE LAW IN THE EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES, AND THAT THE DOMINICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM DOES NOT SATISFACTORILY RESOLVE CASES BROUGHT AGAINST COMPANIES FOR WORKERS RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. WHILE SECRET

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THE DOMINICAN LABOR SECRETARIAT HAS ATTEMPTED TO PROSECUTE WORKERS RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM HAS FAILED TO VIGOROUSLY PROSECUTE SUCH CASES. THE MANAGEMENT OF EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE COMPANIES HAVE MODERATED THEIR TACTICS TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW BUT REMAIN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO UNION ORGANIZING EFFORTS. USTR HAS ANNOUNCED A DECISION TO EXTEND THE PETITION REVIEW FOR 90 DAYS (UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30) BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION.

(C) ACTION REQUESTED: THIS ISSUE REQUIRES NO IMMEDIATE ACTION. HOWEVER, JOSE CERON, THE HEAD OF THE DOMINICAN FREE ZONE COMPANY ASSOCIATION (ADOZONA), WILL TRY TO APPROACH YOU FOR AN INTERVIEW ON THIS ISSUE. POL RECOMMENDS THAT YOU DO NOT MEET WITH CERON UNTIL AFTER YOU MAKE A COURTESY CALL ON THE DOMINICAN LABOR SECRETARY. (CERON, IN BUSINESSMEN'S MEETING WITH SKOL, ATTRIBUTED EXTENSION TO PROBLEMS WITH THE ELECTIONS.)

(S) HUMAN RIGHTS - THE DISAPPEARANCE OF NARCISO GONZALEZ: WE WILL SHORTLY REPORT EVIDENCE WHICH POINTS TO GODR INVOLVEMENT IN THE MAY 26 DISAPPEARANCE OF DISAPPEARANCE OF NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (UASD) PROFESSOR
NARCISO GONZALEZ. WE SUSPECT THAT GONZALEZ WAS DETAINED (AND PROBABLY DIED IN CUSTODY) BECAUSE OF HIS PERSONAL ATTACKS AGAINST PRESIDENT BALAGUER, IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED BEFORE THE ELECTION AND IN A UNIVERSITY SPEECH GIVEN THE MORNING OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE. THE GODR IS UNLIKELY TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE ABSENT STRONG OUTSIDE PRESSURE.

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(C) COMMERCIAL DEBT: AFTER LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS, EFFORTS TO SETTLE THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT'S ONE BILLION DOLLARS IN COMMERCIAL DEBT (DEBT OWED TO COMMERCIAL BANKS) APPEAR TO BE IN THE FINAL STAGES. THE DEBT AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY THE GODR EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANKS HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DOMINICAN CONGRESS. LEGAL PAPERWORK IS BEING FINALIZED. CLOSING THIS DEAL WILL REQUIRE THE DOMINICAN CENTRAL BANK TO DISBURSE APPROXIMATELY 191 MILLION DOLLARS (A VERY SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES). THIS LOSS OF RESERVES COULD CAUSE ECONOMIC INSTABILITY.

(C) ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS: IF ASKED, WE COULD USE OUR "GOOD OFFICES" TO HELP KEEP THE DEBT DEAL ON TRACK.
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ACTION ARA-01

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CTME-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 EB-01 E-00 H-01 TEDE-00
INR-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02
OMB-01 PM-00 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SSO-00 SS-00
STR-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 PRMC-01 DRL-09 G-00
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9340

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THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT THE MACROECONOMIC INSTABILITY.

(C) -- FINANCIAL-MONETARY CODE: A NEW BANKING LAW THAT HAS BEEN SIMMERING FOR YEARS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS FOR APPROVAL IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. THE ONLY U.S. BANK IN THE DR (CITIBANK) IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT PROVISIONS OF THE NEW LAW THAT MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR OPERATIONS HERE.

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(C) ACTION RECOMMENDATIONS: CITIBANK MAY ASK THE AMBASSADOR TO INTERCEDE. WE HAVE ASKED FOR WASHINGTON'S GUIDANCE. HEAR CITIBANK OUT, BUT WAIT FOR WORD FROM WASHINGTON ON WHAT TO DO.

(C) -- FREEZING HAITIAN FINANCIAL ASSETS: UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 917 "STRONGLY URGES" MEMBER STATES TO FREEZE THE FINANCIAL ASSETS OF PERSONS LINKED TO THE
MILITARY REGIME IN HAITI. WE HAVE DEMARCHED THE SRE, THE CENTRAL BANK, AND WE HAVE INFORMED THE LOCAL CITIBANK BRANCH. WE MAY BE ASKED AGAIN BY WASHINGTON TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THE GODR TO GET THEM TO DO THIS.

(C) ACTION RECOMMENDATION: DEMARCHES TO DON FABIO AS MAY BE NEEDED.

(C)-- GSP-INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMPLAINT: USTR HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CASE THAT HAS THREATENED THE DR'S GSP TRADE PRIVILEGES HAS BEEN CONTINUED (DEFERRED TO AN UNSPECIFIED DATE). THE DR HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ON THE ISSUE OF CABLE TELEVISION PIRACY, BUT MANY OTHER IPR ISSUES REMAIN UNRESOLVED AND MAY COME TO THE FORE IF GSP IS TO BE EXTENDED BEYOND ITS SEPTEMBER 30 EXPIRATION.

(C) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU SEEK EARLY AND THOROUGH BRIEFINGS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM ABOUT PROGRESS ON IPR, WITH ATTENTION TO SHARING YOUR VIEW AS TO WHAT YOU BELIEVE ARE THE APPROPRIATE ROLES FOR THE VARIOUS U.S. AGENCIES TO PLAY IN WORKING WITH SECRET

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DOMINICAN COUNTERPARTS ON THIS MATTER.

(C) AS REPORTED IN SANTO DOMINGO 5747, EMBASSY RECEIVED A THIRD DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON 17 JUNE FROM THE GODR FORMALLY REQUESTING A "FOUND OF NEGOTIATIONS" TO DISCUSS THE U.S.-DOMINICAN BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT. ALTHOUGH EMBOFFS HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE CLEAR TO GODR OFFICIALS THE USG POSITION THAT SUCH TALKS WOULD NOT BE FRUITFUL, THE GODR IS UNDETERRED AND APPEARS DETERMINED TO FORCE A CONFRONTATION WITH THE USG ON CIVIL AVIATION ISSUES. AS THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PENDING MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION, FORMAL AVIATION TALKS MAY BE INEVITABLE. POST IS WAITING FOR DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE IN RESPONSE TO SD 5747.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU DEFLECT ANY APPROACHES FROM GODR OFFICIALS ON THIS ISSUE UNTIL WE RECEIVE DEPT GUIDANCE.

USIS

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BACKGROUND: USIS deals with all the issues that affect the image of the U.S. in the DR and leaves to other mission officers the difficult task of explaining those issues in substance and detail. USIS' main concern is the public affairs aspect of those issues, specifically (at this time) ways in which post management can help repair the current rather battered image of the USG.

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REFURBISHING THE U.S. IMAGE CAN BEST BE CARRIED OUT BY:

(U) -- Maintaining a clear and consistent position on primary issues;

(U) -- Significantly lowering the mission's public profile on secondary issues; and

(U) -- Carefully choosing the time and place for the public announcements of ranking mission officers, particularly the ambassador.

(U) This alone will go far in diminishing or diverting the focus from those bilateral issues that are popularly perceived as the most conflict-ridden, notably:

(U) -- The USG's position and reaction to the disputed fraud perpetrated in the May 16 national elections;

(U) -- The administration's Haiti policies, and unusual on the DR to implement tougher Haiti sanctions;

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(U)-- U.S. VISA CANCELLATION OF TWO DOMINICAN GENERALS AND TWO COLONELS, AND THE USE OF VISAS AS A TOOL OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY;

(U)-- PERCEIVED AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL "INTERFERENCE" IN A WIDE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS, FROM DONATED HOSPITAL BEDS TO DOMINICAN JUDICIAL DECISIONS ON LOCAL DRUG DEALER COURT CASES.

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SECOND, BECOME COMFORTABLE AND FAMILIAR WITH THE DR MEDIA THROUGH A SERIES OF SMALL, OFF-THE-RECORD WORKING LUNCHEONS WITH OPINION MOLDERS.

THIRD, EARLY IN SEPTEMBER, PRESENT A MAJOR SPEECH AT A HIGHLY-RESPECTED PUBLIC FORUM ON A CURRENT MAJOR ISSUE OR A SUBJECT THAT WILL HAVE LONG-RANGE ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL IMPORTANCE FOR U.S.-DR RELATIONS, SUCH AS DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE OR ECONOMIC INTEGRATION.

THERE FOLLOWS A LISTING OF YOUR INITIAL CONTACTS WITH THE MEDIA:

JULY 15: AMBASSADOR HRINAK'S ARRIVAL IN SANTO DOMINGO.

LOCATION: AMBASSADOR'S LOUNGE
LAS AMERICAS AIRPORT.
EVENT: BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT FOR THE PRESS.

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JULY 18: PHOTO OPP AT FONMIN'S

JULY 22: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO HEAD OF STATE.

LOCATION: NATIONAL PALACE
EVENT: READ A 1 TO 2-PARAGRAPH STATEMENT OF ISSUES DISCUSSED TO THE PRESS.

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY.

LOCATION: ALTAR DE LA PATRIA

PARQUE INDEPENDENCIA
EVENT: PHOTO OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL
WEEK OF JULY 25:

MEET WITH EDITORS OF "LISTIN DIARIO," EL CARIBE," HOY" AND "EL SIGLO"

LOCATION: AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
EVENT: OFF-THE-RECORD WORKING LUNCH

WEEK OF AUG. 1:

MEET WITH FOUR TELEVISION STATION OWNERS/MANAGERS: COLORVISION,
TELEANTILLAS, RAHINTEL, RTVDOMINICANA
LOCATION: AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE
EVENT: OFF-THE-RECORD WORKING LUNCH

SEPT. 6:

MAJOR SPEECH AT FORUM SUCH AS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LOCATION: TBD, PROBABLY HOTEL LINA OR JARAGUA
EVENT: FULL MEDIA COVERAGE


FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SECTION
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(U) -- ATTITUDE OF GODR TOWARDS PAYING ITS BILLS: THE DR HAS MADE VERY SLOW PROGRESS IN RESOLVING ITS FOREIGN DEBT PROBLEMS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPROXIMATELY 4.6 BILLION DOLLARS IN FOREIGN DEBT, APPROXIMATELY 75 PERCENT OF THIS IS OWED TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, THE REST IS OWED TO FOREIGN COMMERCIAL CREDITORS, INCLUDING APPROXIMATELY 160 MILLION IN UNPAID CENTRAL BANK SUPPLIER CREDITS, SOME OF WHICH DATE BACK TO 1980. THE SLOW AND GRUDGING WAY IN WHICH THE GODR HAS DEALT WITH DEBTS OF ALL SIZES: THE GODR IS NOT EXPEDITIOUS IN ITS HANDLING OF ITS FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. OUT OF ALL THE TRADE COMPLAINTS OF UNPAID BILLS HANDLED BY FCS, 90 PERCENT ARE AGAINST GODR OFFICES.
There are a number of outstanding collection claims, i.e., International Air Leases (IAL) vs. Corporacion Dominicana de Aviacion (CDA), etc. Our office prepares a monthly report on the status of the cases we are currently handling. Investment disputes and expropriation cases are handled by the Economic Section.

Action requested: When this issue is raised by senior GODR officials, remind them of the importance of improving their performance in resolving foreign debt problems.

Cooperation from GODR offices in releasing project information: As part of the National Export Strategy and the Strategic Commercial Plan, we are committed to perform advocacy efforts for U.S. firms interested in major projects. It has proved to be very difficult to get project-related information from the various government offices in the D.R. We have tried unsuccessfully to obtain information on water transmission projects for INDHRI and highway and airport construction projects from the Secretariat of State for Public Works.

Secret

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Action requested: Please raise the issue of their lack of cooperation in your conversations with government officials.

Narcotics Affairs Section

Unfortunately, the Narcotics Affairs Section (NAS) is about to close. INM has decided that, in order to save money and comply with the Clinton Counter-Narcotics Policy Direction, it cannot any longer justify a NAS in Santo Domingo. NAS director will depart post on or about August 9. Due to the suddenness of the decision, NAS has slightly more that USD300,000 left and several items in the pipeline. Therefore, INM has agreed to pay the part-time salary for the NAS assistant, Mrs. Ana Maria Hirsh, and will hopefully continue to fund the part-time accountant in B&F. Mrs. Hirsh can do the administrative work.
PRESENT PLAN IS FOR THE DCM TO BE THE NARCOTICS COORDINATOR, WHICH IS NORMAL, AND FOR CHRIS LAMBERT, WHO WILL ROTATE INTO THE ECONOMICS SECTION FROM THE CONSULATE AT A YET-TO-BE-DETERMINED DATE, WILL BE THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR.

(C)-- THE NARCOTICS ISSUE: THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IS A TRANSIT COUNTRY (MOSTLY COCAINE) WITH UNKNOWN MONEY LAUNDERING ACTIVITIES. DUE TO AGGRESSIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND U.S.-PROVIDED RADARS, THE PAST TRAFFICKING BY SMALL PLANES HAS ALL BUT ENDED.

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INSTEAD, TRAFFICKERS PREFER AIRDROPS OFF THE COAST -- USUALLY IN THE MONA CHANNEL -- AND MARITIME SMUGGLING. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW MUCH MARITIME SMUGGLING IS OCCURRING. NAS BELIEVES IT TO BE MORE THAN WE REPORT. SINCE PUERTO RICO IS PART OF THE UNITED STATES, IT IS A GOAL FOR A LOT OF TRAFFICKERS, FOR ONCE GOODS ENTER PUERTO RICO, THEY HAVE CLEARED U.S. CUSTOMS. ON MAY 16, FOR EXAMPLE, THE U.S. BORDER CONTROL AND CUSTOMS SEIZED MORE THAN ONE TON OF COCAINE IN THE MONA CHANNEL.

(C) DRUG CONSUMPTION IS LIMITED. THE DOMINICANS HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE AND GOOD EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM WHICH WE ASSIST. DOMINICANS ALSO FEAR THE DNCD (NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL DIRECTORATE) WHICH DOES NOT HESITATE TO PUT SOMEONE IN JAIL FOR SMALL AMOUNTS.

(C) ONE OF THE WEAK POINTS IS THE JUDICIARY WHICH IS GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE PRETTY CORRUPT. A LOT OF MONEY CHANGES HANDS DURING THE TRIALS OF ACCUSED TRAFFICKERS. A MONEY LAUNDERING/ASSET SEIZURE AMENDMENT TO THE ANTIDRUG LAW (50-88) IS BEFORE THE SENATE.

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THE U.S. COUNTER-NARCOTICS PROGRAM: THE INM PROGRAM HERE HAS LIMITED FUNDS, BUT HAS BEEN ABLE TO HELP ESTABLISH THE INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING. ON JUNE 27 WE SIGNED AND AMENDMENT TO THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH DNCD PRESIDENT R/ADMIRAL JULIO C. VENTURA BAYONET FOR USD 140,000. INM SUBSEQUENTLY AUTHORIZED AN ADDITIONAL USD 7,000 FOR THE JICC PROJECT. THESE FUNDS AND THOSE REMAINING FROM PRIOR YEARS WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT THE SECRET.

DNCD, DOMINICAN NAVY IN COUNTER NARCOTICS OPERATIONS, AND TRAINING. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING TO SUPPORT A JUDICIAL PROGRAM WHEN WE CAN IDENTIFY ONE. THAT, OF COURSE, DEPENDS ON THE DOMINICAN WILL. SINCE 1988 WE HAVE CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN USD3,000,000 TO THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS EFFORT.
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(C) OUR PRINCIPAL SUPPORT FOR THE NEXT YEAR WILL BE IN TRAINING, JUDICIAL PROGRAMS, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, AND THE UPGRADE OF THE JICC (JOINT INTELLIGENCE COORDINATION CENTER). WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE OUR SUPPORT TO THE NATIONAL DRUG COUNCIL (CND) YOUTH PREVENTION COMMITTEE (COJUPRE), AN EXCELLENT COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM.


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HE UNDERSTANDS THE DRUG PROBLEM AND THE NEED TO COMBAT IT. THE DNCD HAS ABOUT 750 MEMBERS -- FAR TOO MANY. UNFORTUNATELY, IT IS SHALLOW AND ONLY A FEW CAN BE RELIED ON. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE WORKING TO TRAIN AND MOTIVATE YOUNGER OFFICIALS AND IT SEEMS TO BE HAVING SOME RESULTS. TWO OFFICERS ARE NOW IN PERU ATTENDING THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS OPERATIONS COURSE. BAYONET IS OPEN TO MOVING HIS PEOPLE AROUND TO GET THE MOST OUT OF WHAT HE HAS. THE DNCD IS UNIQUE IN THAT IT IS STAFFED BY MEMBERS OF ALL ARMED FORCES, THE POLICE, AND CIVILIANS. BAYONET CAN REQUEST SUPPORT FROM THE NAVY, AIR FORCE, POLICE OR ARMY. THIS WORKS BETTER IN THEORY THAN IN PRACTICE, BUT COULD BE WORKED ON.

(C) THE UNITED NATIONS PREVENTION PROGRAM (PROPUIID) FALLS UNDER THE DNCD AND IS HEADED BY A POLICE MAJOR, WHO IS ALSO A DOCTOR. IT IS WELL FUNDED, BUT LIKE MOST SUCH PROGRAMS, LACKS DYNAMICS.
THE NATIONAL DRUG COUNCIL (CND) IS AN ADVISORY COUNCIL WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO ADVISE AND INFORM THE PRESIDENT WHO APPOINTS ITS MEMBERS. THE CURRENT PRESIDENT IS SENATOR (AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE) JACINTO PEYNADO. ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS ATTORNEY DIOGENES CHECO. THE CND HAS EXCEEDED ITS MANDATE BY BRANCHING INTO PREVENTION, EDUCATION, AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS. IT NOW HAS ABOUT 80 PEOPLE. WE ARE UNSURE AS TO WHAT MANY OF THEM DO. HOWEVER, THE YOUTH PREVENTION COUNCIL (COJUPRE) IS AN EXCELLENT COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM WHICH HAS OFFICES IN SIX REGIONS. IT IS ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL IN LATIN AMERICA AND SO SECRET.

ISSUES: AFTER A LONG DELAY, THE SENATE IS CONSIDERING A MONEY LAUNDERING/ASSET SEIZURE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW. BASED ON THE OAS MODEL, IT IS PROBABLY ADEQUATE FOR NOW BUT HAS MET WITH SOME OPPOSITION FROM THE BANKING SECTOR.

BAYONET WANTS MORE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS, PRIMARILY WITH PUERTO RICO, VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, NASSAU, AND EVENTUALLY HAITI. HE HAS LITTLE FAITH IN THE MANY U.N. AND OAS CONFERENCES EVER ACCOMPLISHING MUCH. WE ARE DISCUSSING HOW TO IMPROVE THE DNCD RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES IN PUERTO RICO AND HAD PLANNED A TRIP. TRIP WAS POSTPONED DUE TO THE MILITARY VISA ISSUE. WE HAD A MEETING WITH POLICE FROM THE TURK AND CAICOS WHICH PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL IN PROVIDING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND, WHEN POSSIBLE, INTELLIGENCE. NAS ALSO TOOK BAYONET TO JTF-4 FOR A MEETING THERE. BAYONET WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE VICE CHIEFS OF THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS.
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SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

(C) CORRUPTION IS A MAJOR PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY WITHIN THE JUDICIARY, AND INCLUDES JUDGES, PROSECUTORS, AND OTHER COURT OFFICIALS. SOMETIMES IT INCLUDES DNCD OFFICIALS WHO DELIBERATELY MAKE WEAK CASES OR DO NOT SHOW UP. JUDICIAL CORRUPTION IS DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH BUT WE MUST TRY. THERE ARE SEVERAL CASES PENDING NOW IN WHICH LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY ARE CHANGING HANDS. NAS DIRECTOR HOPES YOU WILL EARLY MAKE KNOWN THAT WE APPRECIATE THE JUDICIAL PROCESS BUT THAT WE ARE WATCHING. HOPEFULLY, THE DOMINICANS WILL NOT BRING UP THE O.J. SIMPSON "SUPER SHOW" AS AN EXAMPLE OF U.S. JUSTICE.
ADMINISTRATION ISSUES

(U) -- THE PURCHASE OF AND RETROFITTING OF THE CONSULAR BUILDING: FBO AND THE OWNERS OF THE BUILDING ARE USD 1.6 MILLION DOLLARS APART ON THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE BUILDING. IN SANTO DOMINGO 5792 POST RECOMMENDED TO FBO THAT A REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST TRAVEL TO SANTO DOMINGO TO PUSH PURCHASE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG. FBO PLANS TO FOLLOW UP ON THIS RECOMMENDATION AND WILL SEND SOMEONE TO POST LATER THIS MONTH.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY ARISES, THAT YOU URG EA FBO TO EXPEDITE THIS ACQUISITION.

(U) -- THE ISSUE OF IMPORTATION OF A SECOND CAR BY DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HAS BEEN RAISED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THE MINISTRY (DON FABIO) TWO MONTHS AGO THAT OUR REQUEST WAS APPROVED. WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU PERIODICALLY REMIND FABIO HERRERA OF YOUR INTEREST IN GETTING THIS APPROVED.

DEA

(U) -- RECENT PROBLEMS SURROUNDING CANCELLATION OF VISAS: RECENTLY THE DOMINICAN MILITARY LEADERSHIP HAS VOICED ITS DISPLEASURE OF THE CANCELLATION OF FOUR (4) VISAS OF HIGH-RANKING DOMINICAN MILITARY OFFICIALS PERCEIVED BY THE EMBASSY AS VIOLATORS OF THE HAITIAN EMBARGO. DEA'S MAIN CONTACT IN-COUNTRY IS HE MAINTAINS STRICT LOYALTY TO THE DOMINICAN MILITARY HIERARCHY AND SHOWED IT BY BOYCOTTING OUR 4TH OF JULY TOAST. HAS STATED
THAT PERSONALLY HE IS NOT OPPOSED TO THE EMBASSY ACTION CANCELING THE VISAS. HOWEVER, HE WAS ORDERED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMED FORCES, LT. GENERAL CONSTANTINO MATOS VILLONUEVA, TO BOYCOTT THE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION. [ ] [ ] ALSO SAID THAT PRESIDENT BALAGUER FOUND OUT ABOUT MATOS' ORDER AND WAS VERY UPSET BY IT. IF ENCOURAGED, WE BELIEVE THAT [ ] [ ] WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN OUTSTANDING RELATIONS WITH THE EMBASSY IN THE FUTURE.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU USE THE OPPORTUNITY OF YOUR INITIAL COURTESY CALLS TO CONVEY SUPPORT FOR THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF [ ] [ ] SECRET

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(U) -- MANSFIELD AMENDMENT EXEMPTION: BECAUSE MOST DRUG SMUGGLING OPERATIONS IN AND AROUND THE DR THAT ARE DETECTED REQUIRE THE USE OF DEA AND OTHER USG ASSETS, THE MANSFIELD AMENDMENT EXEMPTION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY EVERY U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC IN THE AST. DEA RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT AMBASSADOR HRINAK CONTINUE GRANTING THE MANSFIELD AMENDMENT EXEMPTION BECAUSE IT IS LOOKED UPON FAVORABLY BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND WITHOUT U.S. ASSETS, IT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO CONDUCT SUCCESSFUL INVESTIGATIONS LEADING TO DRUG SEIZURES AND ARRESTS. MOST INVESTIGATIONS ARE U.S. INITIATED, AND THE DOMINICANS OPENLY SOLICIT OUR HELP IN EVERY MAJOR INVESTIGATION.

(U) -- AUTHORIZATION TO CARRY FIREARMS: DEA AGENTS ARE ON CALL 24 HOURS A DAY. AMONG DEA AGENTS' DUTIES ARE WORKING IN AN UNDERCOVER CAPACITY, SURVEILLANCE OF CRIMINALS, MEETING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY, HANDLING LARGE AMOUNTS OF MONEY AND PROTECTING INFORMANTS AND OTHER SOURCES. DEA AGENTS ARE CONSTANTLY TRAINED IN THE USE OF FIREARMS AND HAVE TO QUALIFY PERIODICALLY TO MAINTAIN A HIGH LEVEL OF

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO  LOG-00  AID-01  AMAD-01  CA-02  CEA-01  CIAE-00  COME-00
     CTME-00  OASY-00  DODE-00  EB-01  E-00  H-01  TEDE-00
     INR-00  IO-16  L-01  ADS-00  NSAE-00  NSCE-00  OIC-02
     OMB-01  PM-00  P-01  SNP-00  SP-00  SSO-00  SS-00
     STR-01  TRSE-00  USIE-00  PMB-00  PRMC-01  DRL-09  G-00

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O 121105Z JUL 94
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9345

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FOR ARA/CAR AMBASSADOR HRINAK

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PROFICIENCY. DEA ALSO HAS VERY STRICT RULES ON MISUSE
OF FIREARMS, AND DEA HAS NEVER HAD A PROBLEM IN THIS
REGARD THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY IN THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC. DEA AGENTS POSSESS CERTIFICATES FROM THE
GODR TO CARRY FIREARMS. DEA HAS A HISTORY OF ENFORCING
MISUSE OF FIREARMS RULES AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN
THE FUTURE.

(U) ACTION REQUEST: THAT YOU AUTHORIZE DEA SPECIAL
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AGENTS TO CARRY FIREARMS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

(U)-- PRESS RELEASES: DUE TO THE MASSIVE JUDICIAL
CORRUPTION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, IT SOMETIMES

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BECOMES FAVORABLE TO PUT OUT A PRESS RELEASE INDICATING U.S. INTEREST IN DEA/DNCD INVESTIGATIONS. WE HAVE USED THIS TOOL IN THE PAST WITH FAIRLY POSITIVE RESULTS. MOST JUDGES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ARE FOR SALE AT THE RIGHT PRICE AND THE RIGHT PRICE IS USUALLY DETERMINED BY THE RANK OF THE IMPRISONED DEFENDANT IN THE DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION. SOMETIMES IF A DEFENDANT COMES FROM A PROMINENT FAMILY, HE WILL UTILIZE THE PRESS HIMSELF TO TRY TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE, OFTEN BUYING ENTIRE PAGES OF LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. WHEN EMBASSY PRESS RELEASES ARE OUT, THEY USUALLY THANK DOMINICAN AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR INVESTIGATION AND INCARCERATION OF THE SUBJECTS AND MENTION THAT THEIR VISA STATUS IS BEING INVESTIGATED AND ALSO THE VISA STATUS OF THEIR COLLABORATORS. SINCE CORRUPT JUDGES ARE CORROBORATORS, THEY MAY THINK TWICE IN FEAR OF LOSING THEIR VISAS.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE AS IT HAS PROVEN TO BE AN EFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT TOOL IN OUR COUNTER-NARCOTICS EFFORTS.

DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY (DMA)

(U) -- NEED OF LARGER FACILITIES FOR THE INSTITUTO CARTOGRAFICO MILITAR (ICM): COMPARED TO SIMILAR CARTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE REGION, THE LOCAL ICM IS WELL AHEAD OF ALL OF THEM IN PRODUCTION, QUALITY, AND MISSION SUPPORT. THESE THREE AREAS CAN BE FURTHER IMPROVED IF THE ICM COULD MOVE TO A LARGER FACILITY. LACK OF SPACE IN THE CURRENT FACILITY PREVENTS THE INSTALLATION OF A CAD/GIS SYSTEM, A LITHOGRAPHIC PRESS, AND A FUNCTIONAL MAP/CHART LIBRARY AND STORE, ASIDE FROM THE OVERCROWDED WORKING CONDITIONS AND THE MORALE PROBLEMS THIS REPRESENTS. WE HAVE PRESENTED THIS PROBLEM TO DIFFERENT MILITARY AND CIVILIAN GODR OFFICIALS, WITH ZERO RESULTS SO FAR.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: EXPRESS TO KEY GODR OFFICIALS THE NEED TO PROVIDE THE ICM WITH A LARGER FACILITY, SO THEY CAN IMPROVE AND EXPAND THEIR SO FAR REMARKABLE PRODUCTION PROGRAM.
(U)-- NEED OF A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT: ON SEPTEMBER 1, THE IAGS REP WILL START TO ACT AS THE INTERIM DMA REGIONAL LIAISON FOR DR, CS,NU,PM, AND VE, WITH THE TASK TO TRAVEL ONCE A MONTH TO ANY ONE OF THESE COUNTRIES. A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT WILL EASE HIS ENTRIES AND EXITS THROUGH THE AIRPORTS, AND WILL HELP CLEAR TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT FROM CUSTOMS AREAS MUCH FASTER. IAGS MAY BE THE ONLY UNIT OF THE EMBASSY WITHOUT THE PRIVILEGES OF A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. HIS COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER EMBASSIES HAVE BEEN ISSUED A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT ONCE THEY WERE ON STATION.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU SUPPORT HIS REQUEST TO
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THE DEPT FOR A DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT.

PEACE CORPS
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(U) PEACE CORPS HAS BEEN PRESENT IN THE DR CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1962. PC/DR'S VOLUNTEER CONTINGENT AVERAGES 150, WORKING IN SEVEN PROJECT AREAS: CROPS PRODUCTION (INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT, SOIL CONSERVATION), HEALTH (EMPHASIZING CHILD SURVIVAL), WATER AND SANITATION (GRAVITY FED WATER SYSTEMS, VENTILATED LATRINES), PRIMARY EDUCATION (TEACHER TRAINING, DIDACTIC MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION OF PTAS), AGROFORESTRY, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, AND MICRO-ENTERPRISE ASSISTANCE.

(U) PCVS IN THE DR ALSO FORM THEMSELVES INTO COMMITTEES TO JOINTLY CARRY OUT SECONDARY ACTIVITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, PC'S INCOME GENERATING COMMITTEE SPONSORS CRAFT FAIRS TO HELP BUDDING ARTISANS MARKET THEIR WARES, THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE SPONSORS LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCES FOR RURAL TEENAGERS WITH LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL, THE WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

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FOR ARA/CAR AMBASSADOR HRINAK

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, ECON, SCUL, CMGT, AMGT, MARR, ETRD, DR
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

COMMITTEE PUTS ON TWO TO FOUR WORKSHOPS A YEAR TO TRAIN RURAL WOMEN IN PRACTICAL BUSINESS CONCEPTS, AND THE HEALTH COMMITTEE LOCATES PATIENTS FOR AND OTHERWISE ASSISTS TEAMS OF U.S. SURGEONS WHO COME EVERY YEAR TO PROVIDE CORRECTIVE SURGERY TO NEEDY DOMINICAN CHILDREN.

(U) PC HAS AN EXCELLENT REPUTATION IN THE DR AND RECEIVES FREQUENT AND ALWAYS POSITIVE PUBLICITY. ON THE WHOLE, PCV PRODUCTIVITY AND SATISFACTION ARE HIGH, SECRET

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THE PRE-VOLUNTEER COST IS RELATIVELY LOW, AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE SIDE OF THE OPERATION RUNS SMOOTHLY.
(U)  THERE ARE NO OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN PC AND EITHER THE U.S. EMBASSY OR THE GODR. THERE IS ONE ITEM I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION:

(U) --  FRONT OFFICE MORAL SUPPORT FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS: THE AMBASSADOR AND DCM HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF PC, VISITING PCVS IN THE FIELD AND ATTENDING OUR SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES AND OUR CLOSE OF SERVICE CONFERENCES. PCVS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED THE PRIVILEGE OF UTILIZING THE RESIDENCE POOL AND TENNIS COURT. IN THIS TIME OF SUCH UNCERTAINTIES, IT WOULD BE A GREAT MORALE BOOSTER FOR THE VOLUNTEERS TO HAVE THE NEW AMBASSADOR ATTEND OUR UP-COMING CLOSE OF SERVICE CONFERENCE AUGUST 17-19. IT SHOULD BE MENTIONED THAT THESE WILL BE GREAT PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES, AS THE PRESS ALWAYS PRINTS PHOTOS AND POSITIVE STORIES IN BOTH OCCASIONS.

(U) --  ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE AMBASSADOR, THE DCM AND THEIR SPOUSES SCHEDULE JULY 27 FROM 4:20 P.M. TO 6:40 P.M. (INCLUDING TRAVEL TIME) TO ATTEND THE SWEARING-IN CEREMONY AT OUR TRAINING CENTER IN PANTOJA; AND THAT THE AMBASSADOR AND DCM SCHEDULE EITHER AUGUST 18 OR AUGUST 19 FROM 11:40 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M. (INCLUDING TRAVEL TIME) TO ATTEND OUR CLOSE OF SERVICE CONFERENCE AT THE HOTEL HAMACA IN BOCA CHICA.

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MAAG
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(U)  RECENT EFFORTS BY THE USG/UN TO ENFORCE THE HAITIAN EMBARGO HAVE INCLUDED OFFERS OF MILITARY HARDWARE TO THE DOMINICAN MILITARY. WHILE THE EXACT NUMBERS AND TYPES OF EQUIPMENT ARE UNDECIDED AND FACE INCREASED CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY, WE NEED TO ENSURE THE EQUIPMENT PROVIDED CAN BE PRODUCTIVELY USED AND INCLUDES A LOGISTICS TAIL TO PROVIDE SUPPORTABILITY WHEN THE SYSTEMS BREAK. ANY TRANSFERS OF EQUIPMENT UNDER 506A WILL FALL UNDER SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND THE MAAG WILL BE INVOLVED. THE MAAG WILL ALSO BE INVOLVED IN RECEIVING THE EQUIPMENT IN COUNTRY, AND (DEPENDING ON DELIVERY SCHEDULE) MAY REQUEST AIRLIFT TERMINAL OPERATIONS TDY SUPPORT FROM USACOM.
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(U) ACTION REQUESTED: ENSURE EMBASSY/MAAG STAYS INFORMED ON CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE ACTIONS TO DETERMINE EQUIPMENT TYPES, NUMBERS, SUPPORT PACKAGES, AND DELIVERY SCHEDULES TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE

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(U) -- UN EMBARGO ENFORCEMENT: THE EMBASSY IS INVOLVED WITH THE EMBARGO ENFORCEMENT EFFORT IN SEVERAL AREAS. THE FIRST IS THE ONGOING REPORTING OF THE DOMINICAN EFFORT TO ENFORCE THE EMBARGO. WE MUST CONTINUE TO GIVE THIS REPORTING PRIORITY. THE PROPOSED DEPLOYMENT OF A MULTINATIONAL OBSERVER GROUP ALONG THE DOMINICAN BORDER MUST CONTINUE TO BE EMPHASIZED. THE
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PAGE 04 SANTO 06071 08 OF 11 121109Z COMPLETION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) WITH THE GODR IS THE NEXT STEP IN THE PROCESS. SIMILARLY THE LOGISTIC AND EQUIPMENT SUPPORT TO THE DOMINICAN ARMED FORCES NEEDS TO BE FORTHCOMING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE US AND DOMINICAN NAVIES RECENTLY COMPLETED THE FIRST COORDINATED PATROLLING OPERATIONS IN THE WATERS ALONG THE BORDER. A YET TO BE SCHEDULED JOINT REVIEW OF THE RESULTS BY JTF-120 AND DOMINICAN NAVY PERSONNEL WILL DISCUSS WHETHER THESE OPERATIONS WERE BENEFICIAL AND SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF DOMINICAN ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES TO THE SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THE HAITIAN CRISIS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. CONSTANTLY HIGHLIGHT TO THE WASHINGTON COMMUNITY THAT THE U.S. NEEDS TO FULFILL ITS PROMISES OF SUPPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

(U) -- ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION: THE U.S. HAS BEEN WORKING THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION PROBLEM FOR SEVERAL YEARS WITH THE GODR. THE DOMINICAN NAVY HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROLLING TERRITORIAL WATERS. IN THE PAST THE DOMINICAN NAVY HAS CHosen TO BASICALLY IGNORE THE YOLAS

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO LOG-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CA-02 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
CTME-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 EB-01 E-00 H-01 TEDE-00
INR-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OIC-02
OMB-01 P-00 P-01 SNP-00 SP-00 SS-00 SS-00
STR-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 PMB-00 PRMC-01 DRL-09 G-00
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
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S E C R E T SECTION 09 OF 11 SANTO DOMINGO 006071

FOR ARA/CAR AMBASSADOR HRINAK

E.O. 12356:DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, ECON, SCUL, CMGT, AMGT, MARR, ETRD, DR
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

LEAVING DOMINICAN SHORES FOR PUERTO RICO. RECENT TRENDS POINT TO THE DR AS A TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR OTHER THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS ATTEMPTING TO ILLEGALLY REACH THE U.S., PRIMARILY CHINESE, PAKISTANIS, AND CUBANS. THE LAS AMERICAS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AS WELL AS OTHER DOMINICAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS, ARE FREQUENTLY USED TO FRAUDULENTLY TRANSIT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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(U) ACTION REQUESTED: MAINTAIN THE PRESSURE ON THE GODR TO COOPERATE ON THIS PROBLEM.
(U) -- FORMAL BI-LATERAL COUNTER-DRUG MOA: USG OBJECTIVES IN PURSuing AND CONCLUDING A FORMAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT INCLUDE ENHANCING OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF COUNTER-DRUG OPERATIONS IN THE CENTRAL CARIBBEAN, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF GAINING ACCESS TO DR TERRITORIAL WATERS AND AIRSPACE. ACHIEVING AN AGREEMENT COULD BE A CATALYST FOR PROMOTING GREATER COOPERATION ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION. IT WOULD ALSO SET A POSITIVE INTERNATIONAL LAW PRECEDENT, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO THE VALIDITY AND USEFULNESS OF THE CONSENSUAL BOARDING PRACTICE, SHIPRIDER PROGRAMS, PURSUIT AND ENTRY ARRANGEMENTS AND AIR INTERDICTION ACTIVITIES.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: PUSH INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON TO MOVE THIS OFF THE BACK BURNER AND MOVE IT FORWARD.

(U) -- DOMINICAN ARMED FORCES REPRESENTATION ON INTERAMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD AND DEFENSE ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON: THE GODR DOES NOT HAVE A DEFENSE ATTACHE OR A DELEGATE AT THE IADB AND HAVE NOT FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IADB IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN HAVING A DOMINICAN DELEGATE, WHO COULD ALSO SERVE AS THEIR DEFENSE ATTACHE.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: WHEN HOLDING CONVERSATIONS WITH DOMINICAN OFFICIALS, ESPECIALLY MILITARY LEADERS, EMPHASIZE THE BENEFITS OF HAVING A "VOICE" IN SECRET

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PAGE 03 SANTO 06071 09 OF 11 121109Z WASHINGTON TO REPRESENT DOMINICAN INTERESTS IN OBTAINING THEIR FAIR SHARE OF THE RAPIDLY DIMINISHING SECURITY ASSISTANCE DOLLAR.

CONSULAR ISSUES

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(U) -- EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS:

BACKGROUND: IN FEBRUARY 1991 THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REQUESTED THAT THE EMBASSY PROPOSE INFORMALLY TO THE GODR AN AGREEMENT ON THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS. COPIES OF SUCH AGREEMENTS (SPAIN, COUNCIL OF EUROPE), AND OTHER MATERIALS OUTLINING HOW SUCH PROGRAMS WORK ELSEWHERE, WERE PROVIDED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN 1991-
92. Despite expressions of interest and additional diplomatic notes, a formal reply was received only in May 1993 in which the Secretariat for Foreign Relations stated that "we are studying your proposal." There has been no further activity since.

(U) There are approximately fifty prisoners in Dominican prisons at any one time. While many wait up to a year for a trial, some are serving long-term sentences which would be better served in a U.S. facility. An agreement would reduce family and embassy concerns about personal health and sanitary conditions, actual or potential mistreatment, and an often arbitrary and capricious judicial system. Dominican reluctance may result from the potential return of hundreds of Dominican detainees, and the strain that secret

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WOULD PLACE ON THEIR OWN SYSTEM.

(U) Action requested: that you raise the issue with the attorney general and foreign minister at an appropriate opportunity. If you agree, the consular section will request new talking points from CA/OCS and L.

(U) -- Alien smuggling:

Background: Alien smuggling from and through the D.R. is a critical problem for the USG. Unfortunately, there is minimum incentive for the GODR to curtail the flow of Dominicans because of close ties and population pressures, or the flow of third-country nationals (e.g., Cubans, Chinese, Haitians, and Yugoslavs), whose presence in the D.R. is unwelcome and who buy their way in and out. Corruption is widespread and generally accepted, and alien smuggling can be very lucrative. Reports of USDOLs 5,000 per Cuban and USDOLs 30,000 per Chinese mean there are powerful temptations for officials often making less than USDOLs 3,000 per year.

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(U) LAST YEAR, IN RESPONSE TO THE PROBLEM, THE EMBASSY ESTABLISHED AN INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE TO DEAL WITH ALL ITS ASPECTS - SMUGGLING BY SEA AND BY AIR, FRAUDULENT DOCUMENTATION, CORRUPTION, AND THE NEED FOR STRONG MEASURES. AGENCIES/OFFICES INCLUDE DAO, NAS, POL, SAA, USIS, AND CONS, WITH THE DCM AS CHAIR. AN ACTION PLAN WAS FORMULATED IN SEPTEMBER 1993 CALLING FOR AN ALIEN MIGRATION INTERDICTION OPERATIONS (AMIO) AGREEMENT.
COAST GUARD EXCHANGE PROGRAM, AND A SHIPRIDER AGREEMENT. GODR RESPONSES WERE GENERALLY POSITIVE, BUT DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS WERE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU INDICATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE ISSUES DURING INITIAL CALLS, THAT YOU ASK FOR FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS ON AN AMIO AGREEMENT, THAT YOU URGE INS COMMISSIONER DORIS MEISSNER TO ASSIGN AN INS OFFICER TO THIS POST, AND THAT YOU URGE APPROPRIATE WASHINGTON AGENCIES TO APPROVE A SHIPRIDER PROPOSAL AND COAST GUARD EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR NEGOTIATION WITH THE GODR.

USAID

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(U)-- NEED FOR A MISSION DISASTER RELIEF TEAM EXERCISE: UNUSUALLY HEAVY TURNOVER OF POST PERSONNEL HAS DELAYED A MUCH NEEDED MISSION DISASTER RELIEF TEAM SIMULATION OF A HURRICANE DISASTER. ONE WAS PLANNED LAST YEAR BUT DID NOT TAKE PLACE. THIS YEAR'S HAS BEEN DELAYED TO PERMIT A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF THE "NEW TEAM" TO PARTICIPATE. HOWEVER, PERSONNEL TURNOVER HAS BEEN SLOWER THAN EXPECTED AND ELECTIONS UNCERTAINTY HAS NOT MADE IT VERY PROPITIOUS TO BEGIN THE HURRICANE SIMULATION IMMEDIATELY. BUT BECAUSE HURRICANE SEASON IS UPON US, AND BECAUSE OFDA PERSONNEL ARE STANDING BY IN COSTA RICA TO TRAVEL HERE TO CONDUCT THE SIMULATION, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE REQUESTED:

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(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU GIVE FULL AND EARLY SUPPORT FOR THIS EXERCISE.

(U)-- USAID VOLUNTEERED AS A USG "REINVENTION LABORATORY" AS PART OF VP GORE'S INITIATIVE TO RE-ENGINEER GOVERNMENT AND AS PART OF A BROADER USAID WORLDWIDE INITIATIVE. THIS MATTER IS CALLED TO THE AMBASSADOR'S ATTENTION BECAUSE IT MAY BE RAISED FROM TIME TO TIME BY VISITORS OR OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INTERESTED IN RE-ENGINEERING GOVERNMENT.

(U)-- THIS IS NOT REALLY AN "ISSUE" BUT THE NEW AMBASSADOR NEEDS TO BE MADE AWARE THAT THIS USAID HAS
BEEN, DURING THE LAST FEW YEARS, A LEADER IS TRYING TO DISCOVER NEW WAYS OF STREAMLINING THE WAY IT WORKS AND SERVES CLIENTS. THIS HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN AN ENTIRELY SMOOTH PROCESS BECAUSE THE USG IS GENERALLY NOT PREPARED TO IMPLEMENT "EMPOWERMENT OF WORKERS," "WORKING BY OBJECTIVE" AND OTHER CONCEPTS GENERALLY REFERRED TO AS TQM, OR TOTAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT. AS A VOLUNTEER "REINVENTION LABORATORY," THE USAID WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR UNUSUAL EXCELLENCE IN DELIVERING ITS SERVICES EXPEDIENTIously WHILE MAINTAINING "GOOD ORDER" IN THE WAY IT DOES BUSINESS UNDER NUMEROUS FEDERAL REGULATIONS WHICH SET DOWN THE PARAMETERS GOVERNING USAID'S OPERATIONS. THE USAID WILL KEEP THE AMBASSADOR INFORMED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS AS THIS PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: THAT YOU ALLOW THE AID STAFF TO SECRET

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BRIEF YOU EARLY ON RE THIS PROGRAM AND ENABLE A CLIMATE OF MISSION SUPPORT FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS SUCH AS THIS ONE, WHICH MAY REQUIRE SUPPORT FROM EMBASSY PERSONNEL OFFICES AND OTHERS TO REWRITE JOB DESCRIPTIONS, JOB CLASSIFICATIONS, AND SO ON, AS RELATED TO THE FSN EMPLOYEE'S HANDBOOK.

(U) -- RESULTS AND FOLLOW UP TO THE USAID ANNUAL ACTION PLAN REVIEW: THE USAID JUST COMPLETED A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL PREPARATION AND DEFENSE OF ITS ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, A PLAN PRESCRIBING INTENDED USAID ACTIONS FOR THE NEXT TWO FISCAL YEARS. WHILE THE PLAN WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED IN USAID/W AND WILL BE APPROVED IN RECORD TIME, THE USAID WAS ASKING DURING THE REVIEW TO FOLLOW UP ON A PROPOSED ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE PROJECT AND TO FIND MORE WAYS OF PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES TO THE POOR UNTIL THE NEW PROJECT IS DESIGNED AND APPROVED. THROUGH ILANUD, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE SUCH SERVICES RATHER QUICKLY. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE REVIEW INCLUDED: 1) PRAISE FOR EDUCA (ACCION PARA LA EDUCACION BASICA) AS A MODEL USAID EDUCATION PROJECT, 2) PRAISE FOR EMPHASIS ON DECENTRALIZATION AND WORK AT MUNICIPAL "GRASSROOTS" LEVELS TO ADDRESS

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FOR ARA/CAR AMBASSADOR HRINAK

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, ECON, SCUL, CMGT, AMGT, MARR, ETRD, DR
SUBJECT: PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

CORRUPTION, 3) CONCERN OVER USAID/USDA FAILURE TO PROGRAM SUFFICIENT PL-480, TITLE II FUNDS FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND 4) A NEED FOR THE MISSION TO CONSOLIDATE ITS CRITICAL INDICATORS TO MEASURE THE DR'S PROGRESS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AREA.

(U) ACTION REQUESTED: RESOLVING THE "ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING" ISSUE WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE EMBASSY/USAID COLLABORATION BECAUSE OF DUPLICATION
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AMONG USG AGENCIES REPORTING ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS.
ANY STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO MOVE THE TEAM TOWARD UNIFIED
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING WILL SAVE LOTS OF TIME IN
VARIOUS OFFICES.

(U) JULY 29 DEADLINE FOR GODR TO RESPOND TO DEMARCHE
ON EXPROPRIATIONS AND BILATERAL AID/IFI LOANS.
(SECTION 527, HELMS AMENDMENT.)

(U) ON JUNE 30 THE ECON SECTION AND USAID DELIVERED A
DEMARCHE TO THE GODR, AS REQUESTED BY STATE, REQUESTING
THAT FULL RESTITUTION BE MADE TO THREE GROUPS OF U.S.
INVESTORS WHO CLAIMED THEY HAD NOT BEEN PROPERLY
REIMBURSED BY THE GODR FOR LANDS AND ASSETS SEIZED
DURING SEVERAL EXPROPRIATIONS THAT OCCURRED DURING THE
LAST FEW YEARS. THE GODR IS AWARE THAT, ACCORDING TO
PROVISIONS OF SECTION 527 OF THE STATE AUTHORIZATION
BILL, BILATERAL ASSISTANCE COULD BE ENDED IF CERTAIN
STEPS ARE NOT TAKEN TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION OR TO
EXPLAIN THAT IT HAS, IN FACT, BEEN RESOLVED. THE
TECHNICAL SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT IS APPARENTLY
CHARGED WITH SOLVING THIS PROBLEM AND ON JULY 8
TELEPHONED A REQUEST TO THE USAID ASKING THAT A USAID
OFFICER MEET WITH THEM TO CONSIDER THEIR RESPONSE. THE
USAID WILL RESPOND THAT THE ECON OFFICER IS IN CHARGE
OF THIS MATTER AND WILL BE FOLLOWING UP ON IT. IN THE
COUNTRY TEAM THE ECON SECTION IS CURRENTLY CHARGED WITH
HANDLING CLAIMS BY UNHAPPY U.S. INVESTORS BUT THE
USAID'S TRADE AND INVESTMENT OFFICE HISTORICALLY
HANDLED SUCH MATTERS SO MANY INVESTORS AND GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS TRY TO BRING THEIR CONCERNS TO THAT OFFICE.
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(U) ACTION REQUESTED: IN YOUR FIRST MEETINGS WITH THE
GODR OFFICIALS THIS ISSUE MAY WELL EMERGE. THE GODR
WILL LIKELY RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO THE DEMARCHE, BUT
AID WILL LIKE TO BRIEF YOU EARLY ON, SO THAT YOU ARE
FAMILIAR WITH OUR OPTIONS UNDER THE LEGISLATION SHOULD
THE RESPONSE BE UNSATISFACTORY.
Orozco

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