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ACTION AF-01

INFO

LOG-00 ADS-00 AID-01 AMAD-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOEE-00 EB-01 EUR-01 FDRE-01 HA-09 H-01 INRE-00
INR-01 IO-19 L-03 NEA-01 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 OES-09
OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-01 PRS-01 P-02 RP-10
SNP-01 SP-01 SR-01 SS-01 STR-18 TRSE-00 T-01
USIE-00 /090W

--------59B63F 141140Z /12

P 141135Z APR 91
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECESTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2430
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RIYADH
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMCONSUL JEDDAH
USMISSION GENEVA 0023

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DEPT FOR AF/E, AF/EX:MOGWOG, RP/AFR AND AID/OFDA

ADDIS FOR REFCOORD AND OFDA, NAIROBI ALSO FOR JOHN FOX

LONDON FOR MCKINLEY, PARIS FOR FENDRICK

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PINS, EAIM, EPET, PHUM, PREF, ICRC, SO
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN SOMALIA: CONOCO READY TO RETURN

REFS: A) STATE 116587, B) DJIBOUTI 0967 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. [Blank]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARRY R MELONE
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 13 APR 2016
DATE/CASE ID: 05 JUL 2006 200505183

UNCLASSIFIED
IS READY TO RETURN TO WORK IN NORTHERN SOMALIA. THE SECURITY SITUATION IS STABLE, AND AMERICAN VISITORS WOULD BE GREETED "WITH OPEN ARMS." BY AGREEMENT WITH THE DOLBAHANTE AND WARSANGELE TRIBES, THE SNM MAY HAVE FORMALLY CONSOLIDATED THE ENTIRETY OF EX-BRITISH SOMALILAND UNDER ITS CONTROL. TRADE HAS RESUMED IN BERRERA, BUT HARGEISA IS A DISASTER AREA. AND THE SNM MAY BE PLANNING TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON. END SUMMARY.

3. MISE EN SCENE: AMBASSADOR AND POLOFF MET WITH APRIL 12. THEY HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO BERRERA, HARGEISA AND GAROE. RECAPPED BRIEFLY THE FIGHTING IN THE SOUTH, AND NOTED THAT THERE IS FIGHTING BETWEEN THE MAJERTAIN AND HAWIYE TRIBES JUST TO THE SOUTH AND EAST OF THE BORDER BETWEEN EX-BRITISH AND EX-ITALIAN SOMALILAND. HOWEVER, HE SAID THE SITUATION IN SNM-CONTROLLED NORTHERN SOMALIA APPEARS TO BE UNIFORMLY STABLE.

4. READY TO GO BACK:

5.

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6. BERBERA: DESCRIBED BERBERA AS BEING LIKE "ANOTHER WORLD" WHEN COMPARED TO MOGADISHU. THE SNM HAS SUCCEEDED TO A GREAT DEGREE IN DISARMING THE POPULATION AND HAS ESTABLISHED A RUDIMENTARY JUSTICE SYSTEM WHICH SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING FROM THE OLD WEST: MURDER, ARMED
DEPT FOR AF/E, AF/EX: MOGWOG, RP/AFR AND AID/OFDA

ROBBERY AND CERTAIN OTHER "WEAPONS OFFENSES" ARE CAPITAL CRIMES, AND SEVERAL EXECUTIONS HAVE OCCURRED. THE FRONTIER JUSTICE SEEMS TO BE WORKING --

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DESCRIBED LAW AND ORDER AS "NINETY PERCENT" RESTORED IN BERBERA.

7. TRADE RESUMING: AT THE SAME TIME, TRADE THROUGH BERBERA PORT HAS PICKED UP. THE [ ] TEAM NOTED SEVERAL DOHS BRINGING IN FOOD AND OTHER ITEMS, THEN DEPARTING WITH CAMELS AND LIVESTOCK. A SHIPMENT OF SEVEN MILLION LITERS OF FUEL HAD RECENTLY ARRIVED. (OF IMPORTANCE TO OIL RIG WORKERS, [ ] REPORTS NO BEER OR WINE IN THE TOWN, BUT WHISKEY IS AVAILABLE AT USD 50 A BOTTLE.) MOST OF THE TRADE SEEMS TO BE WITH THE UAE AND ADEN. RESUMPTION OF TRADE WITH DJIBOUTI HAS BEEN SLOW BECAUSE OF THE PRECEDING PERIOD DURING WHICH THE SOMALI-DJIBOUTI MARITIME FRONTIER WAS CLOSED.

8. HARGEISA: [ ] SAID THAT THE DAMAGE IN HARGEISA MAY BE THE WORST HE HAS EVER SEEN IN AFRICA. THEY SHOT A VIDEO, WHICH HE WILL PASS TO THE DEPARTMENT. IT SHOWS A CITY "EIGHTY PERCENT DESTROYED." LANDMINES REMAIN A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM -- THE SNM TOLD [ ] THAT ONE OR TWO PEOPLE A DAY, MAINLY CHILDREN, ARE KILLED BY THE ESTIMATED 300,000 MINES IN THE AREA (NOTE: A BRITISH JOURNALIST WHO HAS SPENT THE LAST EIGHT MONTHS IN SNM TERRITORY TELLS US THE FIGURE MAY BE MORE LIKE TEN DEATHS EACH DAY). THE SNM CLAIMED TO HAVE REMOVED 56,000 THUS FAR, BUT IS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN ASSISTANCE
WITH DISPOSING OF THE REST.


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11. AMERICANS WELCOME: SAID THAT THE SNM WAS ANXIOUS FOR "VISITORS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT" AND THAT ANY AMERICANS TRAVELING TO NORTHERN SOMALIA WOULD BE GREETED "WITH OPEN ARMS." SECURITY COULD BE GUARANTEED BY THE SNM. ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO TAKE DJIBOUTI EMBOFFS, MOGADISHU POLOFF JOHN FOX, OR OTHER AMERICAN OFFICIALS WITH HIM ON HIS NEXT CONFIDENTIAL

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TRIP TO BERBERA.

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12. DELEGATION TO U.S.: [ ], WHO MET WITH SNM PRESIDENT "TUR" IN BERBERA, REPORTED THAT TUR WILL FLY TO LONDON SHORTLY. THERE IS TALK OF SENDING A DELEGATION FROM LONDON TO WASHINGTON TO SEEK MEETINGS AT

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ACTION AF-01

INFO  LOG-00  ADS-00  AID-01  AMAD-01  CIAE-00  COME-00  DODE-00
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INR-01  IO-19  L-03  NEA-01  NSAE-00  NSCE-00  OES-09
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P 141135Z APR 91
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMCONSUL JEDDAH
USMISSION GENEVA 0025

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DEPT FOR AF/E, AF/EX:MOGWOG, RP/AFR AND AID/OFDA

THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THIS DELEGATION MIGHT BE HEADED

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BY FORMER SNM CHAIRMAN SILANYO. SAID TUR CLAIMED TO BE ON GOOD TERMS WITH SILANYO (COMMENT: THIS CONFIDENTIAL)

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PAGE 02 DJIBOU 00976 03 OF 03 141139Z RUNS COUNTER TO CURRENT LOCAL RUMORS OF AN IMPENDING SPLIT. END COMMENT).
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