

E/D

CHANNEL 17A
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT A 03766 01 OF 02 061801Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 HA-09 TEDE-00 INR-00
ADS-00 NSAE-00 PA-01 /011W
-----442372 061801Z /38

O 061759Z MAY 94
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3750
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0448

~~SECTION 01 OF 02 PORT AU PRINCE 03766~~

STATE FOR ARA, PA-CHRISTINE SHELLEY, ARA/CAR, ARA/P
USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, PREL, PHUM. HA
SUBJECT: EMBASSY CABLE LEAKED TO NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE:
- TALKING POINTS

1. ON MAY 5, PAO SCHRAGER RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM
PETER KATEL, MIAMI NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT, WHO
INFORMED PAO THAT HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION A
CONFIDENTIAL CABLE FROM PORT-AU-PRINCE (PORT-AU-PRINCE
02973) CONCERNING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN
HAITI. AFTER DISCUSSION, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THIS
CABLE HAD BEEN SENT TO KATEL BY SOMEONE IN THE U.S.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PAGE 02 PORT A 03766 01 OF 02 061801Z
EMBASSY IN PORT-AU-PRINCE.

2. KATEL SAID THAT HE INTENDED TO "QUOTE EXTENSIVELY"
FROM THE CABLE FOR AN ARTICLE ON HAITI TO APPEAR IN
MONDAY'S ISSUE OF NEWSWEEK. AS IS THE CASE WITH
NEWSWEEK, HIS NOTES ARE SENT TO NEW YORK FOR FINAL
EDITING, SO KATEL CANNOT BE CERTAIN HOW MUCH OF THE
CABLE'S CONTENTS WILL ACTUALLY APPEAR IN THE ARTICLE.

3. TALKING POINTS: KATEL ALSO SAID THAT IT IS
ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT HE IS NOT THE ONLY PERSON TO
HAVE THAT CABLE AND THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO
OTHER JOURNALISTS AS WELL. WE HAVE NO INDICATION AT
THIS TIME THAT THIS IS THE CASE, BUT PROVIDE THE
FOLLOWING SUGGESTED GUIDANCE TO DEPARTMENT
SPOKESPERSON SHOULD QUESTIONS ARISE ABOUT THE CABLE
AND ITS CONTENTS. PAO HAS ALREADY SPOKEN TO KATEL

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
POLA Exemptions
CLASSIFY as () S or () C Sec.
DOWNGRADE IS to () S or () C
18 authority to
CLASSIFY
DECLASSIFY
IN PART
EO 13526
9706420
10/11/97

UNCLASSIFIED

ALONG THE LINES DESCRIBED BELOW WHICH WE SUGGEST AS CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESPERSON:

-- THE CABLE IN QUESTION REPRESENTS ONE IN A SERIES OF CABLES FROM OUR PORT-AU-PRINCE EMBASSY ON HUMAN RIGHTS INTENDED TO GIVE A BALANCED TREATMENT OF A COMPLEX HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. AS IN SUCH DOCUMENTS, CERTAIN PORTIONS TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT COULD BE READ BY SOME AS BIASED OR MISINTERPRETED.

-- THE CABLE CLEARLY POINTS OUT THAT THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IS THE ARMY AND ITS ALLIES.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PAGE 03 PORT A 03766 01 OF 02 061801Z

-- THIS WAS AN ACTION CABLE RECOMMENDING AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF UN/OAS INTERNATIONAL CIVILIAN MISSION (ICM) HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVERS TO MONITOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.

4. ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS: ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY OUR EMBASSY IN PORT-AU-PRINCE TO HIGHLIGHT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING, WHICH WE OFFER ALSO AS ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS:

-- U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE OFFICER WHO DRAFTED THE CABLE IN QUESTION, HAVE SHELTERED HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN THEIR HOMES, OFTEN AT PERSONAL RISK, AND SEVERAL U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY THREATENED BY THE VIOLENT, RIGHT-WING ORGANIZATION FRAPH WHICH HAS BEEN GUILTY OF MANY OF THE ABUSES REPORTED.

-- THE EMBASSY HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT HAS CONSISTENTLY HIGHLIGHTED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND HAS CLEARLY LABELED THE POLICE AND ARMY PERPETRATORS OF MANY OF THESE VIOLATIONS.

-- THE U.S. EMBASSY IS THE ONLY DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN HAITI TO PRESENT AN ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD TO A HAITIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST. IN THIS FOUNDING YEAR OF THE AWARD, SLAIN JUSTICE MINISTER GUY MALARY WAS POSTHUMOUSLY RECOGNIZED FOR HIS WORK IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND JUDICIAL REFORM BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS JOHN SHATTUCK, WHO WAS IN

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 PORT A 03766 01 OF 02 061801Z
PORT-AU-PRINCE FOR THE CEREMONY AT THE AMBASSADOR'S
INVITATION.

-- AMBASSADOR SWING HAS INVITED ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SHATTUCK TO MAKE A RETURN VISIT TO PORT-AU-PRINCE THIS
MONTH TO HIGHLIGHT PUBLICLY OUR CONTINUING CONCERN FOR
THE WORSENING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN HAITI.

-- GIVEN THE DETERIORATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS
SITUATION, THE EMBASSY, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
DEPARTMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS BUREAU, HAS DECIDED TO START

NNNN

PAGE 01 PORT A 03766 02 OF 02 061801Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO LOG-00 CIAE-00 OASY-00 DODE-00 HA-09 TEDE-00 INR-00
ADS-00 NSAE-00 PA-01 RPE-01 /012W
-----442395 061802Z /38

O 061759Z MAY 94
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3751
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0449

SECTION 02 OF 02 PORT AU PRINCE 03766

STATE FOR ARA, PA-CHRISTINE SHELLEY, ARA/CAR, ARA/P

USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, PREL, PHUM. HA
SUBJECT: EMBASSY CABLE LEAKED TO NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE:

ISSUING BI-WEEKLY HUMAN RIGHTS REPORTS ON HAITI

-- WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE ICM, THE EMBASSY SUPPORTS
EACH ICM COMMUNIQUE ON HUMAN RIGHTS WITH A COORDINATED

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

EMBASSY STATEMENT SUPPORTING AND EMPHASIZING THE ICM'S CONCLUSIONS.

-- AMBASSADOR SWING PERSONALLY WRITES TO GENERAL

[REDACTED]

PAGE 02 PORT A 03766 02 OF 02 .061801Z
CEDRAS IN THE CASE OF EACH SPECIFIC REPORT OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, EXPRESSING HIS CONCERN AND THAT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE MILITARY'S COMPLICITY IN THESE ABUSES AND CALLING ON CEDRAS AND THE MILITARY TO TAKE ACTION TO STEM THESE VIOLATIONS, SUCH AS THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THESE ABUSES, INCLUDING THE RECENT MASSACRE AT RABOTEAU/GONAIVES.

-- THE AMBASSADOR AND THE USAID MISSION DIRECTOR HAVE REQUESTED AID WASHINGTON TO CREATE A SPECIAL HUMAN RIGHTS FUND TO PERMIT THE EMBASSY TO ASSIST THE VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND VIOLENCE, AND THEIR FAMILY, AND TO SUPPORT NGO/PVO HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES.

-- BESIDES SENDING EMBASSY TEAMS TO MAKE AN ON-THE-SCENE INVESTIGATION OF THESE VIOLATIONS, THE AMBASSADOR HIMSELF VISITED GONAIVES FOLLOWING THE MASSACRE, IS IN CITE SOLEIL OFTEN, AND WILL BE TRAVELLING TO LE PETIT BOURG DU BORGNE IN THE REMOTE NORTHWEST OF HAITI TO INFORM HIMSELF ABOUT THE RECENT KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS THERE BY THE ARMY.

5. IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH PAO, KATEL CALLED THE CABLE "BALANCED, OFTEN ELOQUENT," BUT NOTED THAT HE INTENDED TO FOCUS ON ALLEGATIONS THAT ARISTIDE AND HIS SUPPORTERS ON OCCASION "MANIPULATE AND FABRICATE" HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES FOR POLITICAL AND PROPAGANDA ENDS. KATEL NOTED THAT THE OVERALL THRUST OF THE CABLE IS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT "THINGS ARE AS BAD AS PEOPLE THINK THEY ARE," BUT WONDERED ALOUD WHY,

[REDACTED]

PAGE 03 PORT A 03766 02 OF 02 .061801Z
IN THAT CASE, ARISTIDE OR HIS SUPPORTERS WOULD FEEL THE NEED TO EXAGGERATE THE SITUATION. "THIS APPEARS TO BE ONE COUNTRY WHERE YOU DON'T NEED TO FABRICATE ANYTHING." KATEL ALSO CRITICIZED THE REPATRIATION POLICY IN THE LIGHT OF WHAT THE EMBASSY "CLEARLY DESCRIBES AS AN APPALLING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION." PAO EMPHASIZED THE IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING CENTERS, BUT KATEL SAID HE THOUGHT THAT SUCH A SOLUTION WAS, IN LIGHT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION,

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

"INADEQUATE."

6. AS NOTED, WE DO NOT KNOW HOW WIDELY THE CABLE HAS BEEN LEAKED. IF IT IS JUST NEWSWEEK, AND THE CABLE'S COMMENTS ARE INCORPORATED INTO A LARGER STORY, DAMAGE MIGHT BE LIMITED. WE WOULD NOTE HERE WHAT KATEL SAID: THAT THE CABLE CLEARLY POINTS OUT THE ENORMITY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES WHICH EXIST TODAY IN HAITI, AND EQUALLY CLEARLY STATES THAT THE MILITARY AND ITS ALLIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE VIOLATION.

7. MEANWHILE, ON AN IF ASKED BASIS, EMBASSY NOTES THAT WE ARE TAKING ALL APPROPRIATE ACTIONS LOCALLY TO ATTEMPT TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT SUCH A LEAK DOES NOT RECUR. (FYI: ACTIONS INCLUDE RSO INTERVIEWS CONCERNING THE LEAK; SPECIAL COUNTRY TEAM MEETING MAY 6 ON THE MATTER; PLACING GREATER RESTRICTIONS ON ATTENDING COUNTRY TEAM MEETINGS; AND ENFORCING STRICER LIMITS ON CABLE DISTRIBUTION. END FYI.)

SWING

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PAGE 04

PORT A 03766 02 OF 02 061801Z

[REDACTED]

NNNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED