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PTQ7100

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Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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ACTION SA-01

() Release (x) Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 1/13/04 Exemption 1(a), 1.4(d)

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b1, 1.4(d)

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01
	FBIE-00	H-01	INM-02	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-14	L-01
	ADS-00	M-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SCT-00	SP-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	SNIS-00	NISC-01	PMB-00	PRME-01
	DRL-09	G-00	/038W				

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R 290504Z JAN 95
 FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0345
 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
 AMCONSUL LAHORE
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
 AMCONSUL KARACHI
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
 AMCONSUL JEDDAH
 AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
 AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT
 AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE
 AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
 AMEMBASSY RIYADH
 USMISSION GENEVA

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LONDON FOR POL: TUELLER

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PINS, PREL, MOPS, PK, AF
 SUBJECT: NORTHERN AFGHAN STRONGMAN GENERAL DOSTAM MEETS TALIBAN
 - REPRESENTATIVES

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. [

] RECENTLY TOLD POLOFF OF A REPORTED

MEETING BETWEEN GENERAL ABDUR-RASHID DOSTAM AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TALIBAN IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF. [] SAID SEVERAL TALIBS, ACCOMPANIED BY TWO UNIDENTIFIED PAKISTANIS, CALLED ON GENERAL DOSTAM IN EARLY DECEMBER. [] WHO SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAS EXCELLENT SOURCES WITHIN THE DOSTAM CAMP, REPORTED THAT THE GIST OF THE MEETING WAS THAT DOSTAM WAS TOLD THAT THE TALIBAN HAD NO TERRITORIAL AMBITIONS IN THE NORTH AND THAT DOSTAM SHOULD NOT OPPOSE THEM. SHOULD THE RELIGIOUS STUDENTS SUCCEED IN OPENING THE KANDAHAR-KABUL ROAD, THEIR STATED INTENT WAS TO DECLARE KABUL AN OPEN CITY. IN THAT EVENT, DOSTAM WAS ASKED TO AGREE TO OPEN THE SALANG TUNNEL AND NORTHERN ROAD, AND TO ENSURE THAT HEKMATYAR DOES NOT SEIZE THE CAPITAL.

3. [] SUBSEQUENTLY PROVIDED POLOFF WITH A SIMILAR READ-OUT ON THE TALIBAN-DOSTAM MEETING IN MAZAR. THE [] ADDED THAT DURING DOSTAM'S VISIT TO ISLAMABAD IN DECEMBER, PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY HAD TOLD DOSTAM NOT TO CONSIDER AN ALLIANCE WITH AHMED SHAH MASOOD, AND TO INSTEAD MAINTAIN HIS LINKS WITH HEKMATYAR. UNSPECIFIED SENIOR PAKISTANI OFFICIALS TOLD DOSTAM, [] ALLEGED, THAT

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"HE NEED NOT WORRY ABOUT THE TALIBAN, BECAUSE PAKISTAN CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM." DOSTAM WAS REPORTEDLY ASKED TO AGREE, IN THE EVENT THE TALIBAN OPENED THE KANDAHAR-KABUL ROAD, TO OPEN THE NORTHERN SALANG ROAD, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS "VITAL" TO PAKISTAN'S PLANNED CENTRAL ASIAN TRADE. IN RETURN, [] CLAIMED, PAKISTAN AGREED TO CONTINUE ITS LIMITED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DOSTAM. [] TOLD POLOFF JANUARY 24 THAT SOURCES IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF SHARED [] GIST OF DOSTAM'S MEETINGS WITH PAKISTANI OFFICIALS IN ISLAMABAD, AND ADDED THAT DOSTAM HAD REPORTEDLY AGREED TO THE ALLEGED PAKISTANI REQUESTS.

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