<PREC> PR
<DTG>
131041Z SEP 00
<PM>

<TO>
TO DIA WASHINGTON DC/
INFO SECDEF WASHDC/
SECSTATE WASHDC/
CIA WASHINGTON DC/

CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI/

CPAC HONOLULU HI

NSACSS FT GEORGE G MEADE MD/

<CLAS> SECRET

<SERL>
SERIAL: (U)

<TAGS>
COUNTRY: (U) PHILIPPINES (RP).

IPSP: (b)(3):10 USC 424

PAGE 02

<SUBJ>
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ABU SAYYAF

GROUP (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED SECRET

INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
UPDATE ON THE ABU SAYYAF GROUP (ASG)  
(AS OF 13 SEP 2000) 

INTRODUCTION
THE CURRENT SITUATION IN JOLO, INVOLVING THE ABU SAYYAF GROUP (ASG).

A. PANDANAN KIDNAPPING

FOUR ARMED MEN ON 101930 SEP KIDNAPPED FOREIGNERS AT PASIL DIVING RESORT, PANDANAN ISLAND, SEMPUHAIN, MALAYSIA, AND CARTED AWAY STEREO COMPONENTS, TV AND VHS. THE THREE VICTIMS IDENTIFIED AS MOHAMAD NUR SOLAIMAN, MANAGER OF THE DIVING RESORT; JOSEPH DIOQUINO, DIVING INSTRUCTOR; AND KEN WEE CHIONG, CONTRACTOR OF THE DIVING RESORT -- WERE SUBSEQUENTLY BROUGHT TO PATIBULAN, NEW PANAMAO, SULU. THE PERPETRATORS WERE UNDER A CERTAIN LANDASAN OMAR, EX-COUNCILOR OF NEW PANAMAO, SULU. THEY WERE ARMED WITH M16 ARMALITE RIFLES AND FIRED THEIR WEAPONS TO CREATE PANIC TO THE GUEST AND STAFF OF THE RESORT. ACCORDINGLY, THE SAID ARMED MEN WERE ASG MEMBERS AFFILIATED WITH THE GROUP OF ABU SABAYA, A CLAIM WHICH THE LATTER READILY DENIED.

P THE SCHILLING CASE

A DAY AFTER THE RELEASE OF A MALE SOUTH AFRICAN CAPTIVE, THE GROUP OF ASG SPOKESMAN ALDAM TILAO AKA ABU SABAYA KIDNAPPED AMERICAN NATIONAL JEFFREY EDWARD CRAIG SCHILLING ON 28 AUG 00 IN PATIKUL, SULU. INITIALLY, SABAYA RULED OUT ANY RANSOM PAYMENT, THREATENING TO BEHEAD SCHILLING UNLESS THE US GOVERNMENT RELEASE RAMZI AHMED YOUSSEF, SHIEK OMAR ABDEL RAHMAN AND ABU HAIDER FROM US PRISONS. HE ALSO DEMANDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM LIBYA, IRAQ, NORTH KOREA AND CHINA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

SERIAL (U) [b](3):10 USC 424
COUNTRY: (U) PHILIPPINES (RP).
IPSP: (b)(3):10 USC 424
SUBJECT: (b)(3):10 USC 424,(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) UPDATE ON ABU SAYYAF GROUP (U)
INRIS INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
SEP, HOWEVER, SABAYA DEMANDED A USD 10M PAYOFF, THE UNION OF SAUDI ARABIA AND BUSINESSMAN LEPENG WEE IN THE TALKS, AND REQUESTED FOOD AND MEDICINE FOR THE VICTIM. THEN ON 04 SEP, SABAYA DEMANDED THE INCLUSION OF

SECRET

PAGE 05

SECRET

00 OF 06 131043Z

PRESIDENT ESTRADA’S BROTHER-IN-LAW DR. RAUL DE GUZMAN OR BUSINESSMAN EDUARDO COJUANGCO IN THE NEGOTIATING TEAM. ON THE REJECTION OF GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED NEGOTIATOR SULU VICE GOVERNOR MUNIB ESTINO, RECENT INFORMATION REVEAL THAT THIS WAS NOT AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF SABAYA, BUT WAS ONLY A PRONOUNCEMENT BY THE FOLLOWERS OF SULU GOVERNOR ABDUSAKUR TAN.

AS OF 12 SEP, SCHILLING WAS MONITORED BEING GUARDED BY ABOUT 70 COMBINED ASG ARMED PERSONNEL UNDER RADULLAH SAHIRON AND ABU SABAYA IN BARRANGAY TANUM, PATIKUL, SULU. HE WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM UPPER BARRANGAY TANUM, PATIKUL TO BARRANGAY TIMPOOK, PANAMAO, SULU OR CLOSER TO JOLO TOWN PROPER AT VIC KILOMETER MARKER 6 GOING TO PATIKUL, SULU BY THE COMBINED GROUPS OF ASG LEADERS RADULLAH SAHIRON AND ABU SABAYA, IF THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS WERE TO LAUNCH RESCUE OPERATION.

OVER, AL-SHIEK ALBANI REQUESTED FOR ONE BASE RADIO WITH A ROUND ANTENNA/CABLE; FOUR PIECES OF ICOM 02N RADIOS; FOUR PIECES ALCATEL OR ANY BRAND OF CELLULAR PHONES; THREE PIECES OF PARA ORDNANCE CAL. 45 PISTOL; AND TWO MOTORCYCLES. ALBANI AND A CERTAIN SALIPADA DATU HUSSEIN III ARE APPARENTLY THE CONTACT PERSONS UTILIZED BY SABAYA FOR VIDEO AND PHOTO COVERAGE.

IN A LETTER DATED 03 SEP SCHILLING REQUESTED FOR ARABIC BOOKS, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SEMINARY IN IRAN AND OTHER PERSONAL THINGS, SUCH AS DEODORANT, SOAP AND NOODLES. HE ALSO WANTED SOME NEWS ON HIS WIFE, AS HE DOES NOT TRUST THE

SECRET

PAGE 06

SECRET

00 OF 06 131043Z

INFORMATION BEING PASSED TO HIM BY THE ABU SAYYAF.

INRIS

INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
F. WHILE, MOTHER OF JEFFREY SCHILLING ISSUED A PRESS
EMENT ON 01 SEP CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF
HIS SON AND DENYING THAT HE IS A CIA AGENT. MRS.
SCHILLING DESCRIBED HER SON AS A DEVOUT MUSLIM AND IS A
MEMBER OF AN ASSOCIATION OF MUSLIM STUDENTS IN THE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IN BERKELEY WHERE HE FINISHED
NEAR EAST STUDIES. HE WENT TO THE PHILIPPINES TO LEARN
ABOUT FILIPINO MUSLIM CULTURE, AND WAS SET TO RETURN TO
THE UNITED STATES ON 02 SEP.

OTHER INFORMATION ALSO REVEAL THAT SCHILLING ASKED HIS
FRIENDS TO HELP HIM RAISE USD 2,500 Dowry FOR HIS WIFE,
AND HAS BEEN PLANNING TO PURSUE HIGHER STUDIES IN IRAN.

THE SCHILLING CASE HAS PROVIDED THE ASG AN OPPORTUNITY TO
DRAG THE US GOVERNMENT INTO THE HOSTAGE SITUATION. THE
ASG LIKewise TRIES TO GAIN THE APPROVAL AND AMERICANS
TAKING EFFORTS TO RELEASE ITS CITIZEN, THE ASG IS
UNWITTINGLY HELPING DISLODGE THE LIBYAN ROLE IN THE
RANSOM PAYMENT.

MEANWHILE, IN AN INTERVIEW AIRED OVER RMM-DXRZ IN
ZAMBOANGA CITY ON 10 SEP 00, SCHILLING APPEALED TO THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO SEEK LIBYA'S HELP FOR HIS
RELEASE. HE IS ALSO REQUESTING THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT
TO SPARE HIS TWO-MONTH PREGNANT WIFE, IVY OSANI, FROM
BEING USED, AS WITNESS AGAINST THE ASG LEADERS AND DURING
NEGOTIATIONS. HE FURTHER CLAIMED THAT HIS WIFE IS A
FEDERATED ACTIVIST MEMBER OF THE ASG AND IS OPPOSED TO THE
POLICIES OF THE US CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (CIA) THUS
SECRET

SECRET
PAGE 07
(b)(3):50 USC 3024(i) 00 OF 06 131043Z
COULD NEVER BE WORKING WITH THE CIA. IT MUST BE NOTED
THAT IVY OSANI IS UNDER THE PROTECTIVE CUSTODY OF THE RP
GOVERNMENT AND SCHILLING FEARS THAT SHE WILL BE CONVINCED
TO TESTIFY AGAINST THE ASG LEADERS.

C. SIPADAN CASE

THE GROUP OF COMMANDER ROBOT AND MUJIB SUSUKAN WAS LAST
REPORTED AT BARRANGAY TIIS, BANDANG, TALIPAO, SULU.

SERIAL (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

INRISS INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM

SECRET (b)(3):10 USC 424
C TRY: (U) PHILIPPINES (RP).

IPSP: (U)

SUBJECT: (U) UPDATE ON ABU SAYYAF GROUP (U)

THE NEGOTIATION FOR THE RELEASE OF THE TWO JEAN-JACQUES LE GERREC, 46 AND ROLAND MADURA, 49 HAD COME TO A STAND-STILL. THE GROUP’S PRIORITY AT THE MOMENT IS TO GRIEVE FOR THEIR THREE DEAD COMRADES AND THEN RETALIATE AGAINST THE GROUP OF ASG LEADERS NANDI UDDIH AND A CERTAIN COMMANDER PATTA (LNU), WHO AMBUSHED THEM ON 09 SEP 00. BOTH GROUPS HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATING IN BARRANGY KULASI, MAIMBUNG, SULU AFTER THE AMBUSH.

DURING THE AMBUSH ON THE GROUP OF COMMANDER ROBOT AND MUJIB SUSUKAN, SECRETARY ROBERTO AVENJADO IMPELED THE MILITARY NOT TO REACT SO AS NOT TO COMPLICATE THE INTERNAL CONFLICT AMONG THE ASG FACTIONS. HE ADDED THAT MILITARY SHOULD NOT CONDUCT OPERATIONS IN THE NEXT 7 DAYS IN ORDER TO WORK OUT FOR THE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING FRENCH JOURNALISTS.

MEANWHILE, THE FAMILY OF ROLAND ULLAH HAS MANIFESTED ITS GRIEVANCES AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT’S PRIORITY OF DEALING WITH FOREIGN HOSTAGES AND THE APPARENT NEGLECT ON HIS RELEASE. ULLAH WAS ABDUCTED THICE BY THREE DIFFERENT ASG FACTIONS AND RELEASED TWICE. AT PRESENT, HE IS UNDER THE CUSTODY OF THE GROUP UNDER COMMANDER ROBOT.

D. JMC (JESUS MIRACLE CRUSADERS)

IN THE MEANTIME, THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTED ON THE JMC GROUP HEADED BY BRO WILDE ALMEDA. THEY ARE STILL WITH THE GROUP OF COMMANDER ROBOT AND MUJIB SUSUKAN AT BARRANGAY TIIS, BANDANG, TALIPAQ, SULU.

E. RESULTS OF NEGOTIATIONS AND STATUS OF HOSTAGES

INRIS (INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM)
1. FAR, GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATORS FACILITATED THE RELEASE OF TWENTY OUT OF THE 21 SIPADAN HOSTAGES AND FIVE OTHER VICTIMS. OUT OF THE RELEASES, THE ASG REPORTEDLY RECEIVED ABOUT P553.3M OR $12.75M AS RANSOM.

CURRENTLY, THE ASG IS STILL HOLDING 16 VICTIMS CAPTIVE. THEY INCLUDE ONE MALE FILIPINO SIPADAN HOSTAGE, 12 JMC MEMBERS, TWO FRENCH MALE JOURNALISTS, AND ONE AMERICAN.

SCHILLING IS PRESENTLY HELD IN SITIO KAUPITAN, UPPER BARRANGAY TANUM, PATIKUL WHILE THE 12 JMC MEMBERS, ONE FILIPINO SIPADAN HOSTAGE AND TWO FRENCH JOURNALISTS ARE HELD IN KUTA KOH-POH, SITIO TIIS KUTONG, BARRANGAY BANDANG, TALIPAO.

NOTABLY, ON 02 SEP THE THREE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS KIDNAPPED LAST 01 AUG WHILE HAULING SAND IN BARRANGAY KAUNAYAN, PATIKUL, HAD Escaped FROM THEIR ABDUCTORS.

ON THE ALLEGED KIDNAPPING OF ELEVEN JAPANESE AND TAIWANESE FISHERMEN LAST MONTH, THIS REPORT HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.

MEANWHILE, THE INFIGHTING BETWEEN ASG GROUPS CONTINUED TO DEVELOP AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION OF RANSOM MONEY. ON 090900H SEP 00, THE GROUP OF COL FACUNO AKA DRAGON AND DRAGONITO ESCORTED BY THE MEN OF ROBOT WERE AMBUSHED BY THE GROUP OF AKA RANDY, A FORMER FOLLOWER OF ROBOT AT BARRANGAY DALIKS, TALIPAO (6-7 KILOMETERS FROM TAGBAK, INDANAN). THE AMBUSH RESULTED TO THE DEATH OF ONE AND WOUNDING OF FIVE ESCORTS.

F. ASG COMPOSITION/DISPOSITION

THE CURRENT ASG COMPOSITION/DISPOSITION OF FORCES IN SULU ARE AS FOLLOWS:

THE GROUP OF ABU SABAYA AND RADULLAN SAHIRON REMAINS IN THEIR NEW LOCATION AT SITIO KAUPITAN, UPPER BARRANGAY

INRISI

INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
PAGE 10

00 OF 06 131043Z

TANUM, IN PATIKUL. THE GROUP WITH ESTIMATED 120 FOLLOWERS IS EQUIPPED WITH FIVE CREW-SERVED WEAPONS, TWO RECEILLESS Rifles, ONE B-40 ROCKET AND FIVE MORTARS AND UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF M-14, M-16, AND CARBINE Rifles. ON 071300H SEP

SERIAL (U)

COUNTRY: (U) PHILIPPINES (RP).

IPSP: (U)

SUBJECT: (b)(3):10 USC 424

UPDATE ON ABU SAYYAF GROUP (U)

00 SAID GROUPS WERE SEEN FORTIFYING THEIR DEFENSE POSITIONS, AFTER LEARNING THAT THE MILITARY WOULD LAUNCH MASSIVE OPERATIONS IN THE AREA.

MEANWHILE, THE GROUPS OF COMMANDER ROBOT, HAJIB UMMAL SAHIBUL, NADZMI SABTUL AKA GLOBAL AND DR ABU UMBAH JUMDAIL AKA DOCTOR PULA WITH AROUND 150 FOLLOWERS ARE AT BARRANGAY BANDANG, TALIPAQ GRID COORDINATES [51NTG] 855612. THE GROUP IS ARMED WITH THREE RECEILLESS Rifles, S"N MORTARS, TEN GRENADE LAUNCHERS, FOUR MACHINEGUNS I UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF M14, M16, ULTIMAX AND CARBINE Rifles. RECENTLY, THE GROUP PROCURED UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF GALIL Rifles AND UZI MACHINE PISTOLS.

THE GROUP OF MUSIB SUSUKAN AND ESTIMATED 40 ARMED FOLLOWERS REMAINED AT BARRANGAY MABAHAY, TALIPAQ ATTENDING SOME FAMILY PROBLEM SECRET.

PAGE 11

00 OF 06 131043Z

CONCERNING THE DEATH OF HIS BROTHER JAWAWI SUSUKAN WHO DIED IN A MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT LAST 06 SEP 00 IN SULU. THE TERRORISTS ARE EQUIPPED WITH TWO GRENADE LAUNCHERS AND UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF M14, M16 AND CARBINE Rifles.

MOREOVER, THE ASG HAS REPORTEDLY ESTABLISHED FOUR ENCAMPMENTS LOCATED IN MOUNT GASSAM, BARANGAY NANGKA TUNGGOOL, PATIKUL, WHERE SABAYA IS REPORTEDLY BASED; IN
F. ANGAY BANGDAY, PANAMAO MANNED BY THE GROUP OF MOBIN A. RAJAK; AND, IN BARRANGAYS BATO HATEH AND TAU-BATO, BOTH IN MAIMBUNG.

THE ASG HAS INTENSIFIED RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES WHEREIN, MOST OF THE NEW-RECRUITS CAME FROM THE ISLAND MUNICIPALITIES OF SIASI AND PATA AND OTHER ADJACENT ISLANDS OF SULU. AS OF THIS REPORT, THE ASG HAS DEPLOYED NINETY NEW RECRUITS WITH UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF ARMAMENTS IN SIX BARRANGAYS OF TALIPAO AND MAIMBUNG.

G. ASG PLANS/COURSES OF ACTION

IN PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE ATTACK FROM GOVERNMENT FORCES, THE ASG HAS REPORTEDLY PURCHASED A SPEEDBOAT, HIGH-POWERED FIREARMS, RIFLE GRENADES AND ASSORTED AMMUNITION. ON 06 AUG., THE ASG PURCHASED ONE SPEEDBOAT WORTH PLM OR $22,000, POWERED WITH TWO 75 OUTBOARD ENGINES THAT CAN ACCOMMODATE 50 PASSENGERS.

MOREOVER, EFFORTS TO PROCUREMENT FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION CONTINUE, TARGETING PRIVATE ARMED GROUPS, GUNRUNNERS AND RELATIVES WHO ARE ACTIVE MILITARY AFP/PNP PERSONNEL. THE

INTENSIFIED RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES ARE CURRENTLY LAUNCHED IN SULU AND BASILAN TARGETING YOUNG AND ABLE BODIED MUSLIMS WITH THE PROMISE OF SALARY RANGING FROM PESOS 10,000 AND PESOS 30,000 AND ONE FIREARM EACH. THE ASG ALSO UTILIZES THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY AND SULU STATE COLLEGE AS THEIR RECRUITMENT GROUNDS.

RECENTLY, SEVEN ASG COMMANDERS WERE ORDERED TO ORGANIZE AND TRAIN A SUICIDE SQUAD COMPOSED OF TEN MEMBERS EACH. AN ESTIMATED 350 ASG MEMBERS WILL BE DEPLOYED TO THE DIFFERENT STRATEGIC PLACES IN BARRANGAYS BOMBON, TIMPOOK, IGASAN, PANSOL AND LANGKUASAN, ALL IN PATIKUL. THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS OF BARRANGAY BANDANG, TALIPAO HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN PLANTED WITH ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES AND ANTI-TANK EXPLOSIVES, WITH TWENTY COMBAT POSITIONS ESTABLISHED ALONG SAMAK HIGHWAY. ON THE OTHER HAND, ASG

INRISS

INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
TERRORISTS UNDER SAHIRON AND SABAYA ARE ESTABLISHING HIJACKED BUNKERS IN THEIR ENCAMPMENTS IN PATIKUL.

FURTHERMORE, SOME ASG LEADERS AGREED TO FIGHT THE GOVERNMENT FORCES BEFORE ESCAPING POSSIBLY TOWARDS SABAH, AND/OR THE SLOPE OF MOUNT TALIPAO. ALTERNATIVE WITHDRAWAL ROUTES ARE BARRANGAY SUNGKAL, TALIPAO, AND THE SLOPE OF MOUNT DAOHO AND MOUNT TONGGOL, BOTH IN PATIKUL.

IN A RECENT MEETING BETWEEN RADUILLAN SAHIRON, KHADAFFY+++++++++

SECRET SECTION 05 OF 06

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 13
SERIAL: (U)
COUNTRY: (U) PHILIPPINES (RP).
IPSP: (U)
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ABU SAYYAF GROUP (U)

AJANI AND ABOUT 200 OF THEIR FOLLOWERS, THE GROUP DISCUSSED THE PLAN TO TRANSFER THE NEWLY-KIDNAPPED VICTIMS TO THE FORMER ASG CAMP IN PUNOH MOHADJI IN BARRANGAY UPPER MAHAYAHAY, MALUSO, BASILAN IF THE GOVERNMENT CONDUCT AN OPERATION TO RESCUE THE HOSTAGES. THE ASG'S OTHER ALTERNATIVE IS TO TRANSFER ALL THEIR HOSTAGES EITHER IN BARRANGAY LIMPAPA IN ZAMBOANGA CITY, OR IN THE HINTERLANDS OF SIBUCO OR SIRAWAI IN ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE.

IN ANOTHER MEETING IN BARRANGAY BANDANG, TALIPAO, NADZMI SABTULA AKA GLOBAL, GALIB ANDANG AKA ROBOT AND MUJID SUSUKAN DISCUSSED THE PLAN TO ESCAPE FROM JOLO THEN JOIN THE GROUP OF NICC CHAIRMAN MELHAM ALAM IN THE ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA.

H. ASSESSMENT

THE ASG WILL MOST LIKELY HOLD ON TO THEIR REMAINING HOSTAGES AS A DETERRENCE TO MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE HOSTAGE CRISIS SITUATION.

INRISS

INR INFORMATION SUPPORT SYSTEM
Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1), (b)(3) 10 USC 424, (b)(3) 50 USC 3024(j), (b)(6), Sec. 1.4(c), Sec. 1.4(d)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act
Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1),(b)(3)-10 USC 42 USC 3024(i),(b)(6), Sec. 1.4(c), Sec. 1.4(d)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act
Withheld pursuant to exemption
(b)(1),(b)(3) 10 USC 424.1 4 (c)
of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act