GREY ARMS MARKET
FOR MANPADS IN AFGHANISTAN (U)

/******* THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE ********/

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) AFGHANISTAN (AF), RUSSIA (RU), CHINA (CH), PAKISTAN (PK), UNITED KINGDOM (UK)

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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Withheld pursuant to exemption
(b)(1); Sec. 1.4(a); Sec. 1.4(c); Sec. 1.4(d)
of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act
MANPADS AND OTHER RELATIVELY PORTABLE WEAPONS SYSTEMS ARE SOMETIMES USED AS CURRENCY IN AFGHANISTAN. WHERE DECADES AGO A MAN'S WEALTH MAY HAVE BEEN MEASURED IN THE NUMBER OF WIVES AND CAMELS HE OWNED, IN TODAY'S AFGHANISTAN, WEALTH CAN OFTEN BE MEASURED IN THE NUMBER OF WEAPONS SYSTEMS A MAN OWNS. IN A COUNTRY WHERE THERE IS NO BANKING SYSTEM TO SPEAK OF, TRADE IN WEAPONS IS WIDESPREAD.

3. (U) ADDRESS FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS TO DIA OFFICER AT

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