DTG
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FROM
(b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC 424
CONTROLS
CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 03 (b)(2)
PASS: (b)(2)
NOFORN
SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(2), (b)(3):10

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

BODY
COUNTRY: (U) AFGHANISTAN (AF); PAKISTAN (PK).
SUBJ:
IIR (b)(2),(b)(3):10 TALIBAN CAPTURE CHARASIAB (U)
WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE. REPORT CLASSIFIED

- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 950215.
REQUISITION: (U) (b)(2)
SOURCE: A. (CNF) (b)(1),(b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC 424, 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)
B. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "THE NEWS", ISLAMABAD/LAHORE/KARACHI, PAKISTAN, 950215 (U), IN ENGLISH. FOLLOWS A MIDDLE OF THE ROAD EDITORIAL POLICY.
C. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "THE MUSLIM", ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN, 950215 (U), IN ENGLISH. AT TIME VERY CRITICAL OF THE U.S., ESPECIALLY U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.
D. (U) DAILY NEWSPAPER, "FRONTIER POST", PESHAWAR/LAHORE, PAKISTAN, 950215 (U), IN ENGLISH. FOLLOWS A MIXED POLICY WITH REGARD TO THE U.S.

SUMMARY: (G) THE TALIBAN HAVE CAPTURED CHARASIAB, WHICH IS 15 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF KABUL.

TEXT: 1. (CNF) (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d) HAVE CONFIRMED THAT CHARASIAB, WHICH WAS HEZB-I-ISLAMI ((HEKMATYAR))'S HEADQUARTERS FOR HIS AREA COMMAND SOUTH OF KABUL, FELL TO TALIBAN FORCES ON 950214.
2. (CNF) (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d) HEKMATYAR'S FORCES ABANDONED HEAVY WEAPONS, TANKS, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND SEVERAL HELICOPTERS IN THEIR HASTY RETREAT FROM CHARASIAB.
3. (CNF) (b)(1), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d) AFTER THE TALIBAN CAPTURED MAIDAN SHAHR ON 950210, AFGHAN GOVERNMENT FORCES MOVED IN TO FILL THE VACUUM OF THE AREAS BEING EVACUATED BY ((HEKMATYAR)) FORCES. GOVERNMENT FORCES NOW CONTROL
BAGHE BAR AND GUZAR GAH, TWO STRATEGICALLY LOCATED
DISTRICTS IN KABUL.
4. (CONFIDENTIAL) THAT BEGINNING ON
950213, AFGHAN GOVERNMENT FORCES ATTACKED HEZB-ISLAMI
FORCES SOUTH OF KABUL AT TAPPA ZAMBURAK, SHEENA, KAMRI,
TAPPA KHAIKABAD, CHEHL SATOON, AND DARUL AMAN WHICH ARE
STRATEGIC POINTS LEADING TO CHARASYAB. GOVERNMENT FORCES
ARE NOW ON THE NORTHERN OUTSKIRTS OF CHARASYAB AND HAVE
HAD CONTACT WITH TALIBAN FORCES. PRESENTLY THERE ARE
CONFLICTING REPORTS STATING THAT MINOR ENGAGEMENTS HAVE
TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THE TWO FORCES.
5. (CONFIDENTIAL) RECEIVED A MESSAGE 950214 THAT
PAGHMAN STRONGMAN ABDUL RASUL ((SAYYAF)), LEADER OF THE
RADICAL WAHABIST FACTION ITTEHAD-I-ISLAMI SURRENDERED
BOTH HIMSELF AND HIS FORCES TO MASOOD AT ABI GHOWR BAND,
WHICH IS WEST OF CHARIKAR (BAGRAM AIRFIELD) ON 950214.
ACCORDING TO THE TROOPS WERE DISARMED BY
GOVERNMENT FORCE, HOWEVER NONE WERE PLACED IN
CONFINEMENT.
(b)(2) THIS INFORMATION IS SUSPECT.
(b)(1), (1.4) STATE THAT SAYYAF HAS INSTRUCTED HIS COMMANDERS
TO SURRENDER TO THE TALIBAN. PERHAPS UNDER THESE
CIRCUMSTANCES MASOOD MAY HAVE DECIDED TO REACT
PRE-EMPTIVELY.
6. (CONFIDENTIAL) ADDITIONALLY, THE MESSAGE RECEIVED BY
A STATED THAT RESHKHORE, APPROX 10 KMS SOUTH OF KABUL
AND WHICH WAS ONE OF HEKMATYAR'S DIVISION HEADQUARTERS HAS
FALLEN TO THE GOVERNMENT FORCES.
7. (CONFIDENTIAL) ON
950214 THAT APPROX 200-300 OF DOSTAM'S TROOPS HAVE JOINED
ALI AKBAR ((MAZARI)) AND HIS HEZB-I-WAHDAT FORCE IN
WESTERN KABUL, IN THE AREA OF THE OLD RUSSIAN EMBASSY.
HEZB-I-WAHDAT FORCES HAD DEPENDED HEAVILY ON LOGISTICAL
SUPPORT FROM HEKMATYAR. SINCE THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES
THAT MAZARI IS TRAPPED, THEY ARE PUTTING PRESSURE ON HIM
TO SURRENDER.
(b)(1), (1.4) (c), (1.4) (d)

9. (CONFIDENTIAL) THAT GOVERNOR
((ABDULLAH)) OF LAGHMAN MET A IKHWANI (MUSLIM BROTHERS)
KABUL DELEGATION IN JALALABAD WHICH INCLUDED LT GEN
YOUonis ((QANUNI)) AND PROFESSOR ((SAYYAF)) ON 950211-12.
DURING THE MEETING ABDULLAH, WHO IS THE COMMANDER OF
HEZB-ISLAMI TROOPS IN LAGHMAN, STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO
COOPERATE WITH CONSERVATIVE ISLAMIST ELEMENTS AGAINST
HEKMATYAR. AS A SIGN OF GOOD FAITH ABDULLAH SAID HE
WOULD LIKE TO RETURN THE TWO HELICOPTERS WHICH WERE FLOWN TO LAGHMAN BY GOVERNMENT DEFCETORS FOUR MONTHS AGO.

10. [CNF] CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT THE PRICE OF PRODUCE IN KABUL HAS BEEN DROPPING SINCE THE FALL OF MAIDAN SHAHR TO THE TALIBAN AND HE FURTHER STATED THAT PRICES SHOULD CONTINUE TO DROP SINCE ALL OF THE SOUTHERN ROUTES ARE OPEN NOW THAT HEKMATYAR HAS BEEN FORCED OUT OF THOSE AREAS.


COMMENTS: [CNF] (b)(1), (b)(2), 1.4 (c), 1.4 (d)