CDS
CDSN = LGX608 MCN = 89136/07331 TOR = 891360539
RTTCZYUW RUEKJCS5554 13605034 CCCC - RUEALGX.
ZNY - CCCC
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INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC
RUEAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEACMC/CMC WASHINGTON DC
(b)(3):10 USC 3024d)

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
(b)(3):10 USC 3024d)

R 151213Z MAY 89
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC
(b)(3):10 USC 3024a)

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
(b)(3):10 USC 424

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CONFIDENTIAL NOFORN SECTION 01 OF 05 (b)(3):10 USC 424
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/ ********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/

- BODY
COUNTRY: (U) SOMALIA (SO).


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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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- DOI: (U) 890509 - 890510.

(b)(3):10 USC 424
BERBERA AND HARGEISA ON 9-10 MAY 1989, STATED THAT THE U.S. CONTRIBUTED DISASTER HOSPITAL WAS NOT BEING UTILIZED CURRENTLY. THERE WAS NO DOCTOR THERE THAT SOME OF THE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PRESENTLY SITTING IN THIS HOSPITAL SHOULD BE MOVED TO THE MILITARY HOSPITAL AT HARGEISA. THE HARGEISA HOSPITAL NOW HAS ABOUT 200 MILITARY PATIENTS. THERE ARE THREE SOMALI DOCTORS THERE, ONE PERMANENT, AND TWO OTHERS WHO ROTATE. IT HAS AN URGENT NEED FOR SURGICAL GOWNS, BED SHEETS, AND AN ANESTHESIA MACHINE THAT SOME OF THE U.S. DONATED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WAS BEING SOLD IN PHARMACIE IN BERBERA. COTS THAT HAD BEEN GIVEN FOR USE BY PATIENTS HAD BEEN CONFISCATED BY THE SOMALI ARMY AND WERE BEING USED BY THE SOLDIERS. THE BERBERA HOSPITAL AND IN FACT FOUND ALMOST NO ACTIVITY. THE WARDS WERE EMPTY EXCEPT FOR ABOUT 10 PATIENTS. MOST OF THE ROOMS WERE LOCKED AND THERE WERE NO MEDICAL PERSONNEL SEEN.

HOSPITAL JUST ADJACENT TO THE U.S. DONATED HOSPITAL. THERE WERE ICRC PERSONNEL BUSILY TRYING TO ORGANIZE THE FACILITY FOR AN ICRC OPERATION SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON 1 JULY 1989. STAFF WILL CONSIST OF ABOUT 120 PERSONNEL 100 OF WHICH WILL BE SOMALIS AND 20 ICRC MEDICAL AND ADMIN PEOPLE. IT IS INTENDED TO TREAT UP TO 80 PEOPLE THERE, MILITARY OR CIVILIAN, SNM OR GOVERNMENT. NORWAY HAS DONATED A FULL MEDICAL FACILITY WHICH WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE EXISTING STRUCTURES AND SOME NEW
BUILDINGS TO BE CONSTRUCTED.

3. SOME STATISTICS SINCE JUNE 1988, 1521 WOUNDED SOMALI MILITARY HAD BEEN MOVED TO THE MILITARY HOSPITAL LOCATED IN THE NORTHWEST SECTION OF MOGA DISHUR OFF VIA LENIN. THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS: 850 FROM HARGEISA; 516 BURAO; 70 MANDERA; 76 BERBERA; AND 9 ERIGAVO. OF THESE 1521 PATIENTS, 70 HAD DIED WHICH HAVE EXACT STATISTICS ON MARTINI HOSPITAL BUT ESTIMATED ABOUT 3000 PATIENTS HAD BEEN TREATED THERE.

4. IF ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE ON THE Mysterious DEATHS IN BERBERA HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INFORMATION. NEVER SEEN ANY BODIES, HAD NEVER BEEN CONSULTED OR EVEN INFORMED OF THE DEATHS BY ANYONE OTHER THAN DID ACKNOWLEDGE THAT AFTER THE RAINS, THERE WAS EXTENSIVE MALARIA AND THE GOVERNMENT HAD RESPONDED TO THIS BY SENDING UP TO BERBERA A MALARIA TEAM. ATTEMPT TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE DEATHS MET WITH ALMOST NO PROGRESS THAT THE ONSET OF DEATH AFTER FIRST SYMPTOMS WAS ABOUT THREE DAYS. ON 9 MAY, FOUR MORE HAD DIED THAT SAME DAY, THREE MEN AND A WOMAN THAT HIS INFORMATION AS FIRST REPORTED WAS ACCURATE, I.E., 15 TO 20 PER DAY DYING HAD NOT SEEN ANY BODIES. THE SOMALI AIR FORCE COMMANDER DID CONFIRM THAT PEOPLE WERE DYING BUT HIS NUMBERS TOTALLED ONLY 20 AND HE TOO DIDN'T KNOW THE REASON.

5. BERBERA CITY AND PORT ON 9 AND 10 MAY. THERE ARE PEOPLE IN THE TOWN, TO INCLUDE WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ARMED AND UNARMED SOLDIERS, AND SOMALI MALES. THE NUMBER IS ABOUT THE SAME AS SEEN ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS THE WAR STARTED, THE MARKET PLACE WAS OPEN, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NOT A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONDUCTING
BUSINESS. IMPRESSION THAT PEOPLE WERE IN A HOLDING PATTER, TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO. THE CITY OF BERBERA WAS FAR FROM NORMAL AS PRIOR TO PRE-INSURGENCY DAYS. THE PORT WAS QUIET WITH A FEW SOMALI SOLDIERS LYING AROUND. A SOMALI FLAG SHIP WAS LOADING DANISH EQUIPMENT WHICH WAS DESTINED FOR MERCA. THE DANES WERE SUPPOSED TO START BUILDING A POWER PLANT IN MERCA. AROUND THE PORT THERE WERE ABOUT 200 TO 300 55 GALLON DRUMS OF MOTOR OIL. SEA, CALTEX WHICH HAD ARRIVED FROM DUBAI APPROXIMATELY 2 TO 3 MONTHS PRIOR. THERE WERE ALSO SACKS OF U.S. DONATED CORN PILED ON THE PORT BUT NOT IN A VERY LARGE AMOUNT. JUST OUTSIDE OF BERBERA THERE WAS A HASTILY CONSTRUCTED REFUGEE CAMP WHICH CONTAINED FROM 500 TO 700 REFUGEES RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM BIYOLLEY. THAT THESE REFUGEES WERE LOOKING FOR FOOD, BUT UNHCR OFFICIALS SAID THEY WOULD NOT BE FED UNTIL THEY RETURNED TO BIYOLLEY.

6. ON THE MORNING OF 10 MAY, HEAVILY ARMED MILITARY CONVOY JUST AT THE MAIN GATE OF BERBERA POINTED IN THE DIRECTION OF HARGEISA INCLUDED IN THE CONVOY WAS A BM21 (STALIN'S ORGAN) PLUS A TRAILER LOADED WITH ROCKETS, TOWED ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY, AND ABOUT FIFTY ARMED SOMALI SOLDIERS. A TOTAL OF ABOUT 10 TRUCKS WAS SEEN. SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION REVEALED THAT THE CONVOY WAS HEADED TOWARDS ZEILA. ALSO SEEN WERE ABOUT FIVE DOUBLE TRAILER TRUCKS LOADED WITH HOUSEHOLD BELONGINGS. ON 11 MAY THAT THESE CIVILIAN TRUCKS HAD HEADED SOUTH FROM BERBERA ON 11 MAY.

7. WHILE AT BERBERA EIGHT SOMALI AIR FORCE PERIMETER PERSONNEL HAD NOT BEEN KILLED WHILE ON GUARD DUTY AT BERBERA. THAT THE AIR FORCE BASE COMMANDER HAD REQUESTED ON 27 APRIL ASSISTANCE BECAUSE 8 TO 10 OF HIS PERSONNEL HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN A SERIOUS TRUCK ACCIDENT. THAT DURING THE LAST FEW WEEKS THERE HAD BEEN VERY LITTLE FIRING FROM SOMALI GUARDS ON THE PERIMETER. ON THE EVENING OF 9-10 MAY ANY FIRING AT ALL IN BERBERA REPORTED THAT ON FRIDAY, 5 MAY AND SATURDAY, 6 MAY, FLIGHTS HAD TAKEN AMMUNITION TO BERBERA. ESPECIALLY ON SATURDAY, THE LOAD WAS EXTENSIVE WITH A SEMI-TRAILER TRUCK BEING COMPLETELY FILLED WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE MOSTLY GREEN COLORED AMMO CRATES ABOUT 3 1/2 FEET LONG AND 8 INCHES HIGH.
DEPARTED FOR HARGEISA ON 10 MAY AND ARRIVED UNANNOUNCED AT THE AIRPORT. THE AIRPORT WAS EXTREMELY QUIET AND HARGEISA CITY ITSELF WAS QUIET BUT THE ENTIRE REGION WAS NOT. THE REMAINING SOMALI NATIONAL MOVEMENT (SNM) STRENGTH AT ABOUT 3000. HE SAID THE F6S WERE NOT FLYING BUT THE MARCHETTI 260'S HAD BEEN FLYING RECON MISSIONS IN THE BORAMA-ZEILA AREA JUST ADJACENT TO THE AIRPORT. ONE MARCHETTI FLEW ON A RECON MISSION TOWARDS BORAMA AROUND 1115 HOURS. A SECOND MARCHETTI FOLLOWED SOON AFTER. ALSO PRESENT

THE F6S IN HARGEISA WERE IN "SAD SHAPE." THE PRIMARY PROBLEM WITH THE F6S WAS HYDRAULIC SYSTEM AND LACK OF SPARE PARTS.

HE SAID THAT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE LIFE IN HARGEISA. HE LAMENTED THE LACK OF HELICOPTERS WHICH HE FELT WERE THE ONLY WEAPONS NEEDED TO DEFEAT THE SNM. STATED THAT THE SNM ARE DISPERSED IN THE MOUNTAINS AND ONLY HAVE WITH THEM 2 OR 3 ZU 23S. THAT COL ((OMAR)) GES WAS NO LONGER THE CHIEF OF STAFF, 26TH SECTOR HOS AND WAS PRESENTLY WITHOUT A JOB. HE DIDN'T APPEAR TOO ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS OMAR GES. HE SAID THAT THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND A DELEGATION HAD VISITED HARGEISA ON 8 MAY. HE DENIED THAT MORGAN WAS INCLUDED IN THE DELEGATION AND SAID IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR THE MINISTER AND VICE-MINISTER TO ABSENT THEMSELVES FROM MOGADISHU AT THE SAME TIME. A SECOND VEHICLE, WERE TOLD THAT HARGEISA WAS PRESENTLY A GHOST TOWN. HE CONFIRMED THE MEDICAL NEEDS IN HARGEISA MEN TIONED THAT CASUALTIES IN HARGEISA HOSPITAL WERE ALL WAR-RELATED. ALSO TOLD CIRCUITOUS ROUTE AROUND THE CITY TO THE SECTOR HOS WAS BEING TAKEN BECAUSE THE MILITARY DOES NOT LIKE "OUTSIDERS" TO SEE THE DAMAGE IN HARGEISA ITSELF.

MATAN HAD BEEN UP ON 8 MAY BUT ALSO WAS NEGATIVE ON THE VISIT BECAUSE "MATAN DOES NOT UNDERSTAND MILITARY MATTERS NOT GETTING THE LOGISTICAL SUPPORT HE
NEEDS AND NO ONE IN MOGADISHU UNDERSTANDS THE PROBLEMS

ACKNOWLEDGED HE WAS HAVING DIFFICULTIES IN GENERAL AND PLANNED TO GO TO BORAMA ON 11 MAY TO DISCUSS TRIBAL ISSUES

THAT THE CONVOY SEEN IN BERBERA WAS HEADING TOWARDS ZEILA.

CONFIRMED THAT COL OMAR GES HAD BEEN REMOVED AS CHIEF OF STAFF ABOUT 20 DAYS AGO AND WOULD BE REPLACED BY COL SHUKRI. SAID OMAR GES WAS STILL IN HARGEISA BUT WITHOUT A POSITION, GES IS SUPPOSED TO BECOME CHIEF OF STAFF (COS) AT THE 21ST SECTOR TO HARGEISA SAYING HE WOULD DO A LOT OF THINGS BUT NOW HE IS SUFFERING FROM A LACK OF COURAGE, THE OGADENIS ARE STILL ARMED AND ARE STILL A PROBLEM. IF THE PROBLEM WOULD BECOME GREATER NOW THAT OMAR GES HAS BEEN RELIEVED

A PRIVATE 8 PAX PLANE WAS COMMANDEERED BY ((HUSEIN)), MATAN, DEFENSE MINISTER.

FIRST TIME THAT THIS PLANE WAS COMMANDEERED. THE ENTIRE GROUP WAS EXTREMELY AGITATED AND INVOLVED IN A SPIRITED CONVERSATION ALL THE WAY TO HARGEISA.

APPROACH INTO HARGEISA FROM ABOUT 10 MILES OUT. UPON ARRIVING AT HARGEISA, TO GO TO BERBERA AND WAIT, HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE BECAUSE HE WASN'T SURE HOW BAD THE SITUATION WAS. WHEN THE PLANE LANDED TWO VEHICLES PULLED UP TO THE PLANE EVEN BEFORE IT STOPPED TAXING AND THEN ALL FOUR PAX GOT ON THE VEHICLES AND LEFT, PROBABLY FOR SECTOR HQS.

WAS TOLD THAT THE FOKKER HAD ALSO BEEN COMMANDEERED AND HAD TAKEN UP TO HARGEISA THAT SAME MORNING ABOUT 20 SOMALI SAW A FULLY ARMED F6 DEPART HARGEISA AIRPORT AND 15 TO 20 MINUTES LATER RETURN WITHOUT ANY ORDNANCE. TOLD THAT THE F6 PILOTS ARE REFUSING TO FLY. HE DIDN'T KNOW THE REASONS.
13. THAT ON THE MORNING OF 11 MAY, FOKKER LEFT MOGADISHU WITH A LARGE CONTINGENT OF MILITARY PERSONNEL OF A CERTAIN RANK. 13 MAY THERE ARE SOME PROBLEMS WITH OMAR GES REFUSING TO RELIN-

QUISH HIS POSITION AS CHIEF OF STAFF. THAT OMAR GES IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MILITARY OF ADEN IN THE SOMALI ARMED. MORGAN COULD BE UP NORTH ABOUT A WEEK. HE ALSO SAID THAT UPON HIS RETURN TO MOGADISHU, MORGAN WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE HIS PLANS OF GOING TO ITALY, SWITZERLAND, AND THE UNITED STATES. MORGAN'S WIFE INTENDS TO GIVE BIRTH TO THEIR FOURTH CHILD IN SWITZERLAND.

CONFIRMED THAT ON FRIDAY, 12 MAY, A SOMALI 707 DEPARTED MOGADISHU LOADED WITH TROOPS. IT LANDED IN BERBERA A FEW HOURS LATER. ALSO ON SATURDAY, 13 MAY, ANOTHER SOMALI 707 WAS BEING LOADED WITH TROOPS (ABOUT 160 ALMOST ALL UNARMED) AND MILITARY CARGO HEADING FOR BERBERA. PORTED THAT ON 11 MAY 1989, A SOMALI ARMY VEHICLE HIT A LAND MINE BETWEEN BERBERA AND SHEIKH AND 12 GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS WERE KILLED.

CANNOT AT THIS TIME, CONNECT THESE DEATHS IN ANY WAY WITH THE INDISCRIMINATE USE OF POISONS OR CHEMICAL AGENTS BY EITHER THE GOVERNMENT OR SNM SIDE. ALSO THE RINDEREPH ARMED ASSERTION IS VERY UNCERTAIN SINCE THIS VIRUS COMMON TO EAST AFRICA, SUPPOSEDLY DOES NOT HURT HUMANS. IF

2. BERBERA IS QUIET BUT

12/1/2015
COULD QUICKLY CHANGE. RAMADAN IS OVER, THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSURGENCY IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING, THE GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO SHOW IT CAN CONTROL THE REBELS AND THE REBELS APPEAR AS COMMITTED AS EVER. CLEARLY CONCERNED. THE REFUDDTE PROBLEM IS NOT SETTLED AND WILL PROBABLY GET WORSE. OMAR QES, A HIGHLY RESPECTED OGADENI, IS OUT OF A JOB. RUMORS ARE CIRCULATING IN MOGADISHU THAT OMAR QES IS OPENLY RESISTING LEAVING HARGEISA. THE SPECIAL FLIGHT BY FOUR PROMINENT OGADENIS ON 8 MAY 1989 MAY HAVE BEEN AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THIS. 

ALSO, MORGAN'S SUDDEN TRIP TO BERBERA AND BORAMA IS A SIGNAL THAT ALL IS NOT WELL IN THE NORTHWEST. SUPPOSED TO BE IN BORAMA ON 11 MAY. TROOPS ARE BEING MOVED TO THE NORTH IN LARGE NUMBERS. THE MARCHETTIS ARE RECONNING THE BORAMA-ZEILA AREA. FIGHTING IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO INCREASE.

DIDN'T SEE INNER HARGEISA ON 10 MAY, BUT WAS TOLD IT WAS A GHOST TOWN. IF THIS IS TRUE, THE POPULATION MUST SUSPECT SOMETHING BIG WILL HAPPEN IN HARGEISA VERY SOON. ABSENCE OF LIVESTOCK ON THE TRIP BACK AND FORTH TO HARGEISA AIRPORT ON 10 MAY TOLD THAT IF THE PEOPLE LEAVE THEY TAKE THEIR LIVESTOCK WITH THEM! A CULTURAL SHORTFALL!
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