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FROM

(b)(2),(b)(3):10 USC 424

CONTROLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 03 (b)(2)

PASS: (b)(2)

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SERIAL: (U) IIR (b)(2),(b)(3):10

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

BODY

COUNTRY: (U) AFGHANISTAN (AF); PAKISTAN (PK).

SUBJ:

SUBJECT

IIR (b)(2),(b)(3):10 TALIBAN CAPTURE CHARASIAB (U)

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

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- DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 950215.

REQS: (U) (b)(2)

(b)(2)

SOURCE: A. ~~(C/NF)~~ (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: ~~(C)~~ THE TALIBAN HAVE CAPTURED CHARASIAB, WHICH
IS 15 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF KABUL.

(b)(1),1.4
(c),1.4 (d)

TEXT: 1. ~~(C/NF)~~ 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. ~~(C/NF)~~ (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. ~~(C/NF)~~ (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

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BAGHE BAR AND GUZAR GAH, TWO STRATEGICALLY LOCATED DISTRICTS IN KABUL.

4. ~~(C/NF)~~ (b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d) THAT BEGINNING ON 950213, AFGHAN GOVERNMENT FORCES ATTACKED HEZB-I-ISLAMI FORCES SOUTH OF KABUL AT TAPPA ZAMBURAK, SHEENA, KAMRI, TAPPA KHAIRABAD, 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. ~~(C/NF)~~ (b)(1),1.4 RECEIVED A MESSAGE 950214 THAT PAGHMAN STRONGMAN ABDUL RASUL ((SAYYAF)), LEADER OF THE RADICAL WAHHABIST 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 (b)(1),1.4 THE TROOPS WERE DISARMED BY GOVERNMENT FORCE, HOWEVER NONE WERE PLACED IN CONFINEMENT.

(b)(1),1.4
(c),1.4 (d)

(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).

(b)(1),1.4
(c),1.4 (d)

6. ~~(C/NF)~~ ADDITIONALLY, THE MESSAGE RECEIVED BY (b)(1),1.4 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. ~~(C/NF)~~ (b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d) 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. ~~(C/NF)~~ (b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d) THAT GOVERNOR ((ABDULLAH)) OF LAGHMAN MET A IKHWANI (MUSLIM BROTHERS) KABUL DELEGATION IN JALALABAD WHICH INCLUDED LT GEN YOUNIS ((QANUNI)) AND PROFESSOR ((SAYYAF)) ON 950211-12. DURING THE MEETING ABDULLAH, WHO IS THE COMMANDER OF HEZB-I-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

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WOULD LIKE TO RETURN THE TWO HELICOPTERS WHICH WERE FLOWN TO LAGHMAN BY GOVERNMENT DEFECTORS FOUR MONTHS AGO.

(b)(1),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

10. ~~(C/NF)~~ [REDACTED] 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.

(b)(1),(b)(2),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

11. ~~(C/NF)~~ CONCERNING NORTHERN AFGHANISTAN, SOURCE A INFORMED RO THAT GOVERNMENT FORCES FROM BADA KHSHAN'S CAPITAL, FEYZABAD, HAD DRIVEN ((DOSTAM)) FORCES FROM KUNDUZ TOWARDS BAGHLAN AND Kholm. ADDITIONALLY GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE SEIZED SHIR KHAN LOCATED ON THE TAJIKISTAN BORDER. (EMBASSY COMMENT: GOVERNMENT STATEMENTS OF MILITARY VICTORIES IN THE NORTH RECENTLY HAVE BEEN NOTORIOUSLY EXAGGERATED).

COMMENTS: ~~(C)~~ (b)(1),(b)(2),1.4 (c),1.4 (d)

ADMIN

PROJ: (U)

INSTR: (U) US NO.

PREP: (U) (b)(2)

ENCL: (U)

ACQ: (U) (b)(2)

DISSEM:

WARNING: (U) REPORT CLASSIFIED

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NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

~~DECL: OADR~~

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(b)(2)

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