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E24

SECRET

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 SS-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 SSN-02
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-----325056 070841Z /21

O 070820Z DEC 83
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6086

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 3065

LONDON AND PARIS FOR AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S PARTY PASS
TIM MILLER FROM EAGLETON.

EO12356 DECL OADR
TAGS: OVIP, PREL, US, IZ
SUBJ: RUMSFELD VISIT TO IRAQ

REF: STATE 346516

1. SECRET ENTIRE TEXT.
2. WHEN I PROPOSED A RUMSFELD VISIT EVENING DEC 12 AND MORNING DEC 13 TO UNDERSECRETARY SAHHAF AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE REPLIED WITHOUT HESITATION THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE CONVENIENT. WHEN I PROBED FURTHER HE SAID THAT SUCH A VISIT COULD NOT BE SUCCESSFUL "IF EVEN AN UNDER-SECRETARY AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WERE NOT AVAILABLE". I REPLIED THAT THIS WAS AMB RUMSFELD'S VIEW AS WELL, SINCE AS A PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY HE WOULD EXPECT TO SEE THE TOP LEVEL OF THE THE GOVERNMENT. SAHHAF SAID THAT THEY HAD LOOKED CAREFULLY AT POSSIBLE DATES AND THERE WAS NO OPENING BEFORE DEC 18.

3. IF THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY THAT AMB RUMSFELD WILL

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BE IN THE AREA UNTIL DEC 17, I HOPE HE WILL CONSIDER AN
END-OF-TRIP BAGHDAD VISIT. THE IRAQIS WILL BE AWARE
THAT BY MEETING THEIR SCHEDULING NEEDS HE WILL EXPECT TO
SEE SADDAM HUSSEIN. THE ATMOSPHERE FOR SUCH A VISIT SHOULD

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BE POSITIVE. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO BE
ABLE TO TELL THE IRAQIS THAT AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD HOPES TO
VIST BAGHDAD ON HIS NEXT TRIP TO THE AREA.

4. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF YOU ITINERARY AS IT DEVELOPS.
EAGLETON

SECRET

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