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E91

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B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B6

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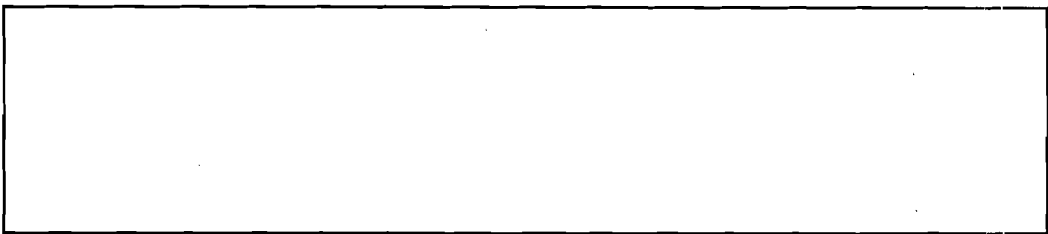
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

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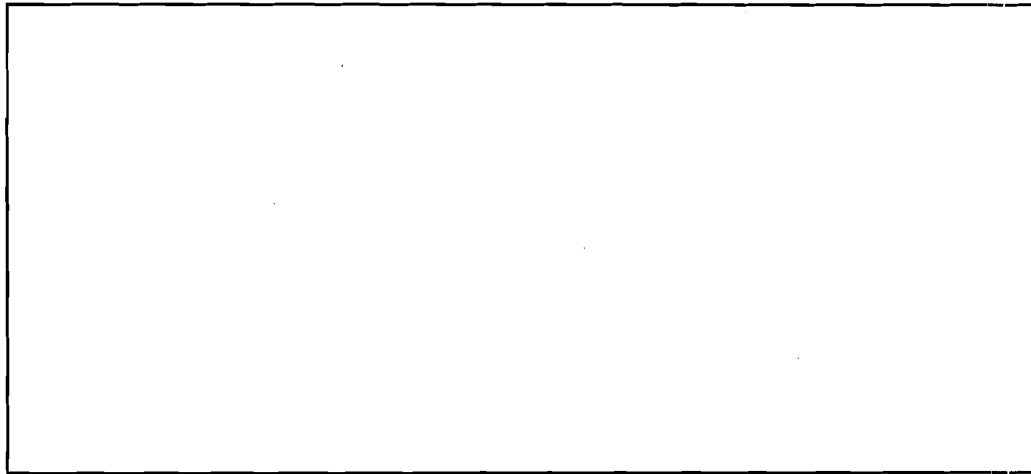
FOR AMBASSADOR/DCM FROM TOM MILLER

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: AMGT, AG
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL, 92/22



B1

2. (U) PERSONNEL MATTERS:



B6

3. (C) ARCO INVESTMENT: THANKS FOR THE HEADS UP

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REGARDING ARCO'S INTEREST IN ALGERIAN INVESTMENTS.

(ALGIERS 1102) WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM [REDACTED] YET. IF YOU HAVE A U.S. PHONE NUMBER PLEASE SEND IT AND WE'LL CALL HIM.

B6

4. (S) IN LIGHT OF ALL THE PUBLICITY ABOUT THE "AFGHANS" IN ALGERIA WE ASKED INR TO DO A BIT OF RESEARCH. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH INFORMATION AVAILABLE BUT WE PASS ALONG THE FOLLOWING FYI ONLY:

"VARIOUS AFGHAN FUNDAMENTALIST INSURGENT GROUPS HAVE BEEN TRAINING MUSLIMS FROM ACROSS THE ISLAMIC WORLD FOR SEVERAL YEARS TO UNDERSCORE THEIR SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC MOVEMENTS AND TO ATTRACT FUNDING FROM SUCH GROUPS. AT ANY ONE TIME THERE PROBABLY ARE 1,000 FOREIGN MUSLIMS FIGHTING WITH OR RECEIVING TRAINING FROM THE MUJAHIDIN. THIS PROGRAM PROBABLY HAS TRAINED NO MORE THAN A FEW HUNDRED ALGERIAN FIS MEMBERS OVER THE PAST EIGHT YEARS. TRAINING INCLUDES MARTIAL ARTS, GUERRILLA TACTICS, SMALL ARMS FAMILIARIZATION, EXPLOSIVES AND IN SOME CASES

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THE USE OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. COURSES CAN LAST FROM SEVERAL WEEKS TO THREE YEARS, DEPENDING ON THE GROUP CONDUCTING THE TRAINING. MOST STUDENTS ARE THEN SENT TO MUJAHIDIN UNITS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS TO GAIN COMBAT EXPERIENCE.

B1

[REDACTED]

THERE IS STILL SOME CONFUSION CONCERNING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE EXTREMIST HIJRA WA TAKFIR GROUP AND THE AFGHANS WHO HAVE BEEN FINGERED IN RECENT ATTACKS ON SECURITY FORCES. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ALGERIAN "AFGHANS" AND MEMBERS OF HIJRA WA TAKFIR COULD ATTEMPT JOINT OPERATIONS IN THE FUTURE."

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