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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL BELFAST

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL NAPLES

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

AMEMBASSY TIRANA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 177929

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OFFICIAL INFORMAL

E.O. 12958: DECL: (09/21/09)

TAGS: AMGT

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SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL EUR DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT FOR  
09/21/99

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY EUR STAFF ASSISTANT ELIZABETH STRANG  
FOR REASONS 1.5 (D) AND (E)

2. (C) UK: POTENTIAL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DIEGO GARCIA  
FILES

THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER IN MAURITIUS WARNED  
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS THAT HISTORIC BRITISH GOVERNMENT  
FILES CONCERNING THE FORCED REMOVAL IN THE EARLY 1960'S OF  
NATIVE ISLANDERS, "THE ILOIS," FROM THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO  
(SITE OF THE U.S. BASE ON DIEGO GARCIA) WERE OBTAINED BY  
LAWYERS REPRESENTING ILOIS SUING TO RETURN TO THE ISLANDS.

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(DEAN, PORT LOUIS 2013)

3. (C) NETHERLANDS: RETOOLING BILATERAL AID PROGRAMS  
IN JUNE, DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MINISTER EVELINE  
HERFKENS' PROPOSAL TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES  
RECEIVING STRUCTURAL BILATERAL AID FROM 80 TO 17, WAS  
APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT. THE LIST OF COUNTRIES RECEIVING  
BILATERAL AID WAS REDUCED USING THREE CRITERIA: THE DEGREE  
OF POVERTY (PER CAPITA INCOME OF LESS THAN \$925), SOLID  
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY, AND SOUND GOVERNANCE. THIS  
WEEK, THE DUTCH EMPLOYED THESE CRITERIA AGAIN, FREEZING  
AID TO SURINAME BECAUSE THE COUNTRY FAILED TO MEET THE  
CRITERIA OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SOUND POLICIES. IN  
ADDITION, THE GON HAS MADE NO NEW COMMITMENTS TO ETHIOPIA  
REGARDING RENEWAL OF ITS \$35 MILLION ANNUAL AID PACKAGE.  
THE GON IS RELUCTANT TO MAKE A COMMITMENT DUE TO THE ON-  
GOING BORDER CONFLICT BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA. IF  
THE CONFLICT CONTINUES, IT IS LIKELY THAT THIS AID WILL BE  
REALLOCATED TO OTHER PLACES. IF THE FUNDS ARE  
REALLOCATED, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE DUTCH AID TO ETHIOPIA  
WOULD RESUME IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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GON HAS MAINTAINED ITS COURSE TO EMPLOY AID AS A FOREIGN  
POLICY TOOL UTILIZING THE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED IN  
HERFKENS' JUNE PROPOSAL. (REINKE, THE HAGUE 2405, ADDIS  
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ABABA 6035, THE HAGUE 3211, DUTCH PRESS)

4. (U) AUSTRIA: DECISION IN SCHIELE PAINTINGS CASE  
THE NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS TODAY RULED IN FAVOR  
OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (MOMA) AND GRANTED ITS MOTION  
TO QUASH THE SUBPOENA ISSUED BY THE NEW YORK COUNTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. THIS MEANS THAT THE STATE  
CASE INVOLVING THE TWO SCHIELE PAINTINGS IS OVER, BUT  
THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE,  
ON BEHALF OF U.S. CUSTOMS, WILL SEIZE THE PAINTINGS. THE  
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAS DECLINED TO DIVULGE WHAT  
ACTION, IF ANY, IT PLANS TO TAKE. THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S

OFFICE WILL HAVE TO DECIDE SOON -- MOMA IS READY TO SHIP  
THE PAINTINGS BACK TO AUSTRIA. (GROSS, TELCONS)

5. (U) FRANCE: HILL APPROVE TOULOUSE AND RENNES  
SENATOR JUDD GREGG AND REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD ROGERS,  
CHAIRMEN OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUB-  
COMMITTEE (COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND STATE) RESPECTIVELY, HAVE  
APPROVED THE OPENING OF AMERICAN PRESENCE POSTS (APPS) IN  
TOULOUSE AND RENNES. THE FIRST APP WORLDWIDE WAS OPENED  
IIN LYON EARLIER THIS YEAR FOLLOWING AN ANNOUNCEMENT LAST  
DECEMBER BY SECRETARY ALBRIGHT. (SULLIVAN-HUDSON 9/21  
TELCON)

6. (SBU) VATICAN: U.S. BISHOPS MAY JOIN POPE IN IRAQ  
MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CATHOLIC CONFERENCE TOLD A P STAFFER  
THAT THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS HAVE BEEN INVITED BY  
THEIR IRAQI COUNTERPARTS TO VISIT IRAQ. ARCHBISHOP  
MCCARRICK HAS ADVISED NSC STAFFERS OF THAT INVITATION.

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RATHER THAN MAKE TWO SEPARATE EVENTS, THE ARCHBISHOP IS  
INCLINED TO RECOMMEND TO HIS FELLOW BISHOPS THAT THEY  
TRAVEL TO IRAQ AT THE SAME TIME AS THE POPE. WHILE THE  
BISHOPS HAVE DECIDED TO GO IN PRINCIPLE, BUT ARE NOT YET  
ACTIVELY IN GEAR BECAUSE THEY ARE WAITING TO SEE IF THE  
POPE ACTUALLY GOES. (YOUTH)

7. (U) TIRANA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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