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TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCES - NOV 03, 2000 PARIS

PASS TO USOECD

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND

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APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND  
OTHER SELECTED BUREAUS HANDLING ISSUES OF INTEREST  
TO EUR POSTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS  
SHOULD BE REFERED TO PHIL FRAYNE, KATE BYRNES, OR  
TOM SWITZER (BALKANS), EUR PRESS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

FRANCE: FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE SPY CASE  
GREECE/TURKEY: PAPANDREOU/CEM MEET IN BUDAPEST  
UK: DIEGO GARCIA  
SERBIA: KOSTUNICA AND U.S. TALKS  
NATO: UN RESOLUTION ON ELIMINATION  
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

2. FRANCE: FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE SPY CASE

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE SPY CASE OF  
FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE MARC WOOD?

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A: -- WE DO NOT COMMENT ON ALLEGED INTELLIGENCE MATTERS. I  
REFER YOU TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR FURTHER  
INFORMATION.

3. GREECE/TURKEY: PAPANDREOU/CEM MEET IN BUDAPEST

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE RECENT MEETING  
BETWEEN GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PAPANDREOU AND  
TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER CEM IN BUDAPEST?

A: -- GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PAPANDREOU AND TURKISH FOREIGN  
MINISTER CEM MET IN BUDAPEST ON OCTOBER 31.

-- WE UNDERSTAND THAT THEY AGREED TO PURSUE NEW CONFIDENCE  
BUILDING MEASURES BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, BOTH UNDER NATO  
AUSPICES AND BILATERALLY.

-- WE WELCOME THE IMPORTANT PROGRESS THAT GREECE AND TURKEY  
-- OUR FRIENDS AND NATO ALLIES -- HAVE MADE SINCE LAST YEAR  
TO IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS.

4. UK: DIEGO GARCIA

Q: ANY COMMENT ON THE DECISION IN THE COURT CASE BROUGHT BY  
SOME FORMER RESIDENTS OF THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO (DIEGO  
GARCIA)?

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A: -- WHILE THE U.S. OF COURSE HAS STRATEGIC INTERESTS ON DIEGO GARCIA, THIS IS A MATTER BETWEEN BRITISH AUTHORITIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE BROUGHT THE CASE. I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE  
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FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, WHICH ADMINISTERS THE  
BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY (BIOT), FOR COMMENT.

5. SERBIA: KOSTUNICA AND U.S. TALKS

Q: ANY COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT KOSTUNICA'S REPORTED  
HESITANCY ON TALKS WITH THE U.S.? IS THE U.S.  
PRESSING HIM ON BILATERAL VISITS?

A: -- WE UNDERSTAND PRESIDENT KOSTUNICA'S HIGHEST PRIORITY  
IS TO FORM HIS OWN GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS STILL BEING  
CONSOLIDATED.

-- WE DO EXPECT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE  
NEAR FUTURE. THIS IS ACCOMPLISHED BY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS  
BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS.

-- HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT PRESSING FOR ANY SPECIFIC MEETINGS  
BETWEEN SENIOR LEADERS.

IF PRESSED:

Q: HAVE PRESIDENT CLINTON AND SECRETARY ALBRIGHT SENT  
FEELERS TO KOSTUNICA SUGGESTING THAT HE VISIT  
WASHINGTON?

A: -- BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY SENT LETTERS  
CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT KOSTUNICA AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL RELATIONS.

Q: WHAT IS THE TIMETABLE FOR ESTABLISHING  
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DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS?

A: -- WE ARE ADDRESSING THE TECHNICAL ISSUES AT THIS POINT.  
PRESIDENT KOSTUNICA IS FORMING A GOVERNMENT INCLUDING A NEW  
FOREIGN MINISTER.

-- ON OUR SIDE, WE ARE WORKING OUT THE ARRANGEMENTS OF  
FUNDING, STAFFING, SECURITY AND BUILDING SPACE IN BELGRADE.  
WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS AND EXPECT THAT WE WILL BE IN A  
POSITION TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN THE VERY NEAR

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FUTURE.

6. NATO: UN RESOLUTION ON ELIMINATION  
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Q: FACTS AND COMMENT ON AP REPORT THAT A COALITION  
OF COUNTRIES PRESSING FOR TOTAL NUCLEAR  
DISARMAMENT WON VOTES FROM THE U.S. AND NATO  
COUNTRIES FOR A RESOLUTION SEEKING TO CUT NUCLEAR  
ARSENALS.

A: -- THE U.S. AND ALMOST ALL OUR ALLIES SUPPORTED THE  
RESOLUTION ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT SPONSORED BY THE "NEW  
AGENDA COALITION." WE ALSO SUPPORTED A NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT  
RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY JAPAN.

-- FOR US, THE KEY FACTOR WAS THAT THESE RESOLUTIONS  
MAINTAINED THE CAREFULLY BALANCED OUTCOME OF THE APRIL-MAY  
NONPROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) REVIEW CONFERENCE.

IF ASKED:

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-- THE NEW AGENDA RESOLUTION URGES ADOPTION OF OTHER STEPS ON  
NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND NONPROLIFERATION THAT THE U.S.  
STRONGLY SUPPORTS, INCLUDING UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE NPT,  
SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR  
TEST-BAN TREATY (CTBT), AND NEGOTIATION OF A TREATY BANNING  
THE PRODUCTION OF FISSILE MATERIAL FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

-- TAKEN AS A WHOLE, IT SUPPORTS U.S. OBJECTIVES AND  
OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE NPT.

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