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RELEASE IN FULLPAGE 01 PARAMA 00453 120114Z
ACTION ARA-16INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 SS-10 OPR-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 H-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 SY-05 HA-06
L-03 PM-09 PA-01 MCT-02 CCO-00 OMB-01 INRE-00
OCS-06 CA-01 ANAE-00 ACDA-12 A-02 USSS-00 ICAE-00
SYE-00 SP-02 OC-06 PLE-00 SPRS-02 /104 W
-----160370 120119Z /62O 112350Z MAR 82 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8511
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CURACAO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HGTS PN
DIA WASHDC
USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 0453

PORT OF SPAIN FOR ADMIRAL TRAIN'S PARTY

E.O. 12065: GDS 3/11/88 (LA ROCHE, RICHARD R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT NS
SUBJECT: SURINAME COUP SITREP 6: MILITARY SITUATION

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. WE HAVE PIECED TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF THE
MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 2000 LOCAL FROM SOURCES OF VARYING
RELIABILITY.
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PAGE 02 PARAMA 00453 120114Z

3. BOUTERSE APPEARS TO BE INSIDE OLD FORT ZEELANDIA (BEHIND
STURDY THOUGH ANCIENT STONE WALLS) WITH A DEFENSE LINE DRAWN UP
ON LAND SIDE (FORT IS ON POINT OF LAND JUTTING SLIGHTLY INTO
SURINAME RIVER BEND). WE DO NOT KNOW COMPOSITION OR STRENGTH
OF HIS DEFENDING TROOPS. TWO NAVY PATROL CRAFT HAVE BEEN
CONTINUALLY STANDING OFF WITHIN EASY GUN RANGE OF FORT
AND APPROACHES. BOTH ARE BELIEVED TO BE UNDER COMMAND OF PRO-
BOUTERSE GROUP. RAMBOCUS/HAWKER ATTACKING FORCE, WHOSE STRENGTH
IS ALSO UNKNOWN, IS IN PLACE NEARBY AND POSITIONED TO BLOCK ANY**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer**

REENFORCEMENT. ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, TWO ATTEMPTS TO TAKE THE FORT BY ARMORED CAR FRONTAL ATTACKS DURING AFTERNOON FAILED. IN SECOND IT APPEARS ONE ARMORED CAR WAS HIT AND CREW FORCED TO ABANDON IT WERE CAPTURED BY BOUTERSE'S MEN.

4. AT MAIN BARRACKS, RAMBOCUS/HAWKER PEOPLE APPEAR TO REMAIN IN CONTROL BUT RUMORS ARE THAT MANY TROOPS FROM BOTH SIDES ARE SLIPPING AWAY.

5. THERE HAS NOT BEEN SIGNIFICANT FIRING SINCE ABOUT 1530 LOCAL WHEN WE BELIEVE SECOND ATTACK AT FORT ZEELANDIA TOOK PLACE. AMBASSADOR HOEKMAN, WHOSE EMBASSY IS ON INDEPENDENCE SQUARE AND IN SIGHT OF PALACE AND FORT ZEELANDIA ENTRANCE CLOSED OFFICE AT 1800 AND SENT ALL EMPLOYEES HOME. THE SQUARE WAS QUIET AT THAT TIME.

6. NIGHT ACTION IS LIKELY BUT WE HAVE INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION ON WHICH TO BASE A PREDICTION OF ANY OUTCOME.
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