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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 H-01 NSC-01 NSAE-00 HA-08 L-03 PM-08
PA-02 OMB-01 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01 /077 W
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R 141349Z OCT 83
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0568
INFO DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

RELEASED IN FULL

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 2331

DEPT FOR ARA/CAR; ALSO FOR INR/B:M. SLOTNICK

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, SHUM, PINR, NS

SUBJECT: MAJOR DEFENDANT IN HORB COUP PLOT SENTENCED

REFS: (A) PARAMARIBO 2055; (B) PARAMARIBO 1961

1. OCTOBER 12TH DAILY GOS-CONTROLLED NEWSPAPER REPORTED FORMER MINISTER JOHN HARDJOPRAJITNO, A DEFENDANT IN THE ALLEGED PLOT OF LATE MAJ. ROY HORB TO ASSASSINATE COMMANDER BOUTERSE, (REFS A AND B), WAS SENTENCED TO TWO YEAR JAIL TERM BY CIVIL COURT. HARDJOPRAJITNO WAS FOUND GUILTY OF BEING IN POSSESSION OF A RIFLE AND AMMUNITION WHICH HE KNEW WOULD BE USED IN ASSASSINATION PLOT. THE JUDGE FOUND NO CLEAR EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT OTHER CHARGES. EIGHT MONTHS OF SENTENCE WERE COMMUTED BECAUSE OF TIME HARDJOPRAJITNO HAD ALREADY SPENT IN DETENTION.

2. HARDJOPRAJITNO'S LAWYER, JOHN DRAAG, IN PLEADING HIS INNOCENCE, ARGUED THAT HE, LIKE BOUTERSE A MEMBER UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE GROUP OF 16 SERGEANTS WHO OVERTHREW CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT IN 1980, HAD VIA SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS ATTEMPTED TO DISSUADE HORB FROM HIS "IDIOTIC PLAN." WITNESSES AGAINST THE FORMER MINISTER WERE THREE OF HORB'S EX-BODYGUARDS (WHO HAD ALREADY BEEN SENTENCED--REF A).
DUEMPLING

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior Reviewer

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