



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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INFO OCT-00 EUR-12 ADS-00 PA-02 INR-10 /039 R

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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TO AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO IMMEDIATE

INFO MEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

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REVIEWED by RH2 DATE _____

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.

FOL, EO or PA exemptions _____

TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C, OADR

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FIRST "A" LINE 16 OMITTED)
E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PINT, SN

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE : FEBRUARY 28

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE DEPARTMENT
SPOKESMAN:

Q. CAN YOU GIVE US AN UPDATE ON SURINAME?

A. THE SITUATION APPEARS TO HAVE STABILIZED. SURINAME
IS CALM AND NORMAL BUSINESS AND DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES
HAVE BEEN RESUMED. THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HAS REOPENED
AND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT SERVICES ARE BEING RESTORED.
PRESIDENT FERRIER, THE RESPECTED CHIEF OF STATE (AN

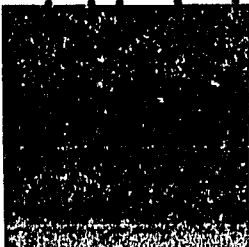
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IMPORTANT BUT BASICALLY NON-POLITICAL POSITION), HAS

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REPORTEDLY AGREED TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. HOWEVER, MOST MINISTERS OF THE PREVIOUS CABINET ARE UNDER DETENTION. THE NATIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL (NMC) HAS ASKED ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES BELOW CABINET RANK TO STAY ON. THE NMC ALSO ANNOUNCED IT WILL HONOR ALL PREVIOUS INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT WHILE WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE INITIAL STATEMENTS OF THE NMC REGARDING ITS RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HONORING OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS, WE CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED THAT A FRIENDLY DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN REMOVED BY FORCE. WE ARE LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS CONCERNING THE INTENTIONS OF THE NMC TO RETURN THE COUNTRY TO CONSTITUTIONAL NORMS.

Q. IS THERE ANY FURTHER ON THE QUESTION OF U.S. RECOGNITION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT?

A. THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS REGARD. OUR ANSWER OF YESTERDAY TO THIS QUESTION STANDS. VANCE

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