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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-01 SS-10
CIAE-00 H-01 IO-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 SY-06
HA-08 L-03 TRSE-00 PM-09 PA-01 MCT-02 CCO-00
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AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
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AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 0285

USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: DECL: 01/31/02
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, NS
SUBJ: REPORT OF ASSASINATION ATTEMPT ON BOUTERSE

REF: NETTLES/MOREFIELD TELCON, 1/31

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. STATE RADIO ANNOUNCED IN BRIEF NEWS ITEM AT 0900
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JANUARY 31, THAT MAJOR ROY HORB, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE J.K. SARIMAN, AND MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH, SPORTS, AND PEOPLE'S MOBILIZATION CAPTAIN JOHN HARDJOPRAJITNO ARE AMONG GROUP OF 15 PERSONS ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTED ASSASINATION ATTEMPT ON BOUTERSE OVER PAST WEEKEND. THIS NEWS ITEMS WAS FIRST PUBLIC MENTION OF ALLEGED ASSASINATION ATTEMPT (NO PRECISE TIME WA GIVEN). AMONG THOSE ARRESTED WERE SEVERAL OF HORB'S BODYGUARDS.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior Reviewer

3. OTHER PERSONS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED, ADDITIONAL TO THE 15 DESCRIBED PARA 2, ARE REPORTED TO BE UNDER HOUSE ARREST.

4. REPORT SAID A LARGE NUMBER OF WEAPONS WERE ALSO SEIZED.

5. JAN 31, 1000 HOURS, LOCAL NEWS BULLETIN JUST MONITORED REPEATED INFORMATION OF 0900 HOURS BROADCAST WITH ONLY ADDITIONAL DETAILS THAT ARMY DISCOVERED WEAPONS AT 2300 HOURS, JAN 30 AND THAT ARRESTS OCCURRED AFTER THAT TIME.

6. PARAMARIBO WAS QUIET OVER WEEKEND WITH NO INDICATION OF ARRESTS. PARAMARIBO REMAINS QUIET AND WITH NO OVERT REACTION TO NEWS OF ARRESTS.

7. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO MONITOR DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY.
NETTLES

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