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D3

DEPT OF STATE APPEALS REVIEW PANEL (ARP)

- RELEASE IN FULL
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEASED
- ORIGINAL DECISION UPHELD

Exemptions B1, 1.4(c), 1.4(d), B3, CIA  
 ARP Action Cert LT Date 11-8-05

ENVELOPE

RAASZYUW RUEKJCS3431 0640511-SSSS--RUEALGX.  
 ZNY SSSSS

HEADER

R 050511Z MAR 02  
 FM DIA WASHINGTON DC  
 INFO RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CARA//  
 RUEALGX/SAFE  
 R 042139Z MAR 02  
 FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
 TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0000  
 RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0000  
 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0000  
 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0000  
 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0000  
 RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0000

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir  
 Release  Excise  Deny  Declassify  
 Date 2/17/2004 Exemption (b)(1), 1.4(c), (d)

P B1 1.4(c)(d) B3 (CIA)

BT

CONTROLS

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E.O. 12958: DECL: (3-04-12)

BODY

TAGS: PINR, XA

SUBJECT: INR/AA ANALYSIS FOR FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 3, 2002  
 CLASSIFIED BY JOHN YATES, INR/AA OFFICE DIRECTOR, REASONS  
 1.5 (C) AND (D)  
 FOLLOWING IS INR/AA ANALYSIS PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
 AND/OR COMMENTS.

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NR

NIGER-IRAQ: SALE OF NIGER URANIUM TO IRAQ UNLIKELY - 3/1

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Pages 2-8 are non-relevant.

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~~(S/NF)~~ NIGER: SALE OF URANIUM TO IRAQ IS UNLIKELY  
32. ~~(S/NF)~~ NIGER PROBABLY IS NOT PLANNING TO SELL URANIUM  
TO IRAQ, IN PART BECAUSE FRANCE CONTROLS THE URANIUM  
INDUSTRY IN NIGER AND WOULD TAKE ACTION TO BLOCK A SALE

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PRESIDENT TANDJA NOR KEY OFFICIALS OF HIS GOVERNMENT, WHO UNDERSTAND THE VALUE OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND OTHER AID DONORS, WOULD RISK JEOPARDIZING THEM BY SELLING **URANIUM** TO **IRAQ**. IN ADDITION, THE SALE WOULD VIOLATE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 687.

33. ~~(S)~~ FRANCE, WHICH USES NUCLEAR POWER TO PRODUCE ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF ITS ELECTRICITY, OBTAINS AROUND 40 PERCENT OF ITS **URANIUM** FROM TWO MINES AT ARLIT, DEEP IN THE SAHARA IN NORTHERN **NIGER** -- THE ONLY OPERATING **URANIUM** MINES IN THE COUNTRY. FRANCE AND **NIGER** JOINTLY OWN THE MINES; JAPAN AND SPAIN HAVE A MINORITY INTEREST IN ONE OF THEM. FRANCE UNEQUIVOCALLY CONTROLS THE OVERALL OPERATION; THERE ARE FRENCH MANAGERS AND ENGINEERS AT EVERY POINT IN THE MINING, MILLING, AND TRANSPORTATION PROCESS.

34. ~~(S/NF)~~ A CORRUPT FORMER PRESIDENT MAY HAVE NEGOTIATED WITH **IRAQ**. [

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] AT THAT TIME **NIGER** WAS RULED BY PRESIDENT BARE MAINASSARA, AN UNSOPHISTICATED AND VENAL INDIVIDUAL WHO WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABOVE TRYING TO SELL **URANIUM** TO A ROGUE STATE. BUT BARE'S PRESIDENTIAL GUARD KILLED HIM IN APRIL 1999. THE JUNTA THAT GOVERNED **NIGER** FOR THE NEXT NINE MONTHS RELINQUISHED POWER TO TANDJA'S FREELY ELECTED GOVERNMENT IN DECEMBER 1999.

35. ~~(S/NF)~~ TANDJA NOT LIKELY TO RISK AID FOR SHORT-TERM GAIN. THE REPORT FURTHER STATES THAT **NIGER** AND **IRAQ** SIGNED THE SALES AGREEMENT IN JULY 2000, WITH FULL SUPPORT FROM TANDJA (AND FOLLOWING AN INTERNAL LEGAL REVIEW). IN VIEW OF TANDJA'S [ ] RELUCTANCE TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT ENDANGER HIS RELATIONS WITH WESTERN AID DONORS, IT IS IMPROBABLE ANY SUCH AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE. **NIGER** IS DEPENDENT ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE -- NOT ONLY FOR DEVELOPMENT AID, BUT ALSO FOR FINANCING MUCH OF THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT. A PAYOFF FROM **IRAQ** OF \$50 MILLION OR EVEN \$100 MILLION WOULD NOT MAKE UP FOR WHAT WOULD BE LOST IF THE DONOR COMMUNITY TURNED OFF THE TAPS TO **NIGER**. ]

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36. ~~(S/NF)~~ THE DIFFICULTY OF MOVING SECRETLY 500 TONS OF

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URANIUM. THOUGH THE ALLEGED AGREEMENT WITH IRAQ IS NOT SPECIFIC, IT APPARENTLY CALLS FOR THE 500 TONS TO BE DELIVERED [ ] IN ONE YEAR. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT [ ] 25 HARD-TO-CONCEAL 10-TON TRACTOR-TRAILERS WOULD BE USED TO TRANSPORT THE OFF-THE-BOOKS URANIUM. BECAUSE NIGER IS LANDLOCKED THE CONVOY WOULD HAVE TO CROSS AT LEAST ONE INTERNATIONAL BORDER AND TRAVEL AT LEAST 1,000 MILES TO REACH THE SEA. MOVING SUCH A QUANTITY SECRETLY OVER SUCH A DISTANCE WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THE FRENCH WOULD BE INDISPOSED TO APPROVE OR CLOAK THIS ARRANGEMENT.

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ADMIN

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