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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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TEXT
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SG
SUBJECT: WADE CHARGED WITH THREATENING INTERNAL
- SECURITY, SENT TO PRISON PENDING TRIAL

REF: (A) DAKAR 0697, (B) FBIS AB0412 02 MAR

1. ABDOULAYE WADE AND THE OTHER OPPOSITION LEADERS
ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE VIOLENCE WHICH BROKE OUT
AT THE END OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN HAVE BEEN SENT BEFORE
THE COURT AND CHARGED WITH ENDANGERING THE NATION'S
SECURITY. ACCORDING TO A CLERK IN HIS OFFICE, WADE
APPEARED IN COURT WEDNESDAY MORNING MARCH 9, ACCOMPANIED
BY PDS DEPUTY BOUBACAR SALL, HIS LAW PARTNER OUSMANE
NGOM (ALSO A SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE
ELECTIONS) AND IDRISSE SECK, WADE'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER,
AS WELL AS AMATH DANSOKO, NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE

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INDEPENDENCE AND LABOR PARTY (PIT). SEVERAL OTHERS FROM THE PDS ALSO APPEARED; ALL WERE CHARGED WITH THE SAME OFFENSE. WADE AND THE OTHERS HAVE ALL BEEN IMPRISONED PENDING TRIAL, AND ARE BEING HELD IN THE REUBEUSS PRISON ADJACENT TO CENTRAL DAKAR. NO TRIAL DATE HAS BEEN SET.

3. WADE'S CLERK TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE ACCUSED WILL BE DEFENDED BY "THE ENTIRE BAR OF DAKAR", PLUS SEVERAL FRENCH LAWYERS. AMONG THE LATTER ARE JACQUES SPITZNER, WHO DEFENDED EX-EMPEROR BOKASSA LAST YEAR IN BANGUI, AND ELIMANE KANE, A SENEGALESE PRACTISING IN PARIS. THERE IS ALSO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE DEFENSE WILL BE REINFORCED BY JACQUES VERGER, THE FRENCH LAWYER WHO DEFENDED **KLAUS BARBIE** AND PARTICIPATED IN THE BOKASSA DEFENSE, THE CLERK SAID.

4. COMMENT: EVEN BEFORE HE CHOSE HIS LAWYERS, WADE'S TRIAL WAS CERTAIN TO BE THE FOCUS OF GREAT MEDIA ATTENTION. THE PROSPECT OF MAITRES SPITZNER AND VERGER IN A POLITICAL SHOW TRIAL IN OPEN SESSION BEFORE THE STATE SECURITY COURT MUST BE SOMEWHAT DAUNTING TO THE GOS, AS IT IS TO US. WALKER

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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