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 FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9567
 INFO RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0950
 RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 1042
 RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1588
 RUEHCR/AMCONSUL CURACAO 0752
 RUESON/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN 2569
 RUDKGPQ/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1670
 RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 0650
 RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 1544
 RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//
 RUEOEHA/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
 RUEBBGA/COMUSFORCARIB
 RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 0448
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 0294
 PASS USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: DECL: 01/31/02
 TAGS: PGOV, NS
 SUBJ: ROUTERSE NAMES PALU LEADER AS FORMATEUR

REF: A) PARAMARIBO 0288; B) PARAMARIBO 0285

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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State Dept. review completed

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2. AT 1430 TODAY (JANUARY 31), BOUTERSE MADE BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT OVER STATE-OWNED RADIO (SRS) THAT ERROL ALIBUX, A KEY LEADER OF LEFTIST PROGRESSIVE WORKERS AND FARMERS UNION (PALU) WILL ACT AS FORMATEUR. HE SAID THAT ALIBUX WILL HELP COUNTRY MEET "CHALLENGES TO REVOLUTION" AND SHAPE A NEW SOCIETY VIA GOVERNMENT HE SELECTS. (COMMENT: BOUTERSE MADE NO MENTION OF ALLEGED ASSASSINATION-COUP PLOTTERS WHOSE ARREST WAS BROADCAST ON MORNING NEWS. (REF 8). END COMMENT)

3. SELECTION OF ALIBUX (FORMER MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC HOUSING IN CHIN A SEN GOVERNMENT), SURPRISED MANY WHO EXPECTED THAT AMBASSADOR TO HOLLAND, HERRENBURG WOULD GET JOB FOLLOWING HIS RECENT EFFORT AS INFORMATEUR--EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES OF FORMING A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO MILITARY AUTHORITY'S POLICIES. (COMMENT: HOWEVER, HERRENBURG MAY WIND UP WITH KEY FOREIGN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO. END COMMENT).

4. COMMENT: ALIBUX' SELECTION INDICATES THAT PALU'S INFLUENCE WITH BOUTERSE MAY BE GROWING (PRINCIPALLY AT EXPENSE OF REVOLUTIONARY PEOPLE'S PARTY--RVP). IN THIS CONNECTION, COMPOSITION OF CABINET WILL BE SIGNIFICANT AS IT WILL PROBABLY BE SELECTED PRIMARILY, IF NOT ENTIRELY, BY BOUTERSE HIMSELF. END COMMENT. NETTERLS

END OF MESSAGE

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