

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *********/

BODY

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SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF

FOR 15 OCTOBER

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1. HAITI: DEVELOPMENTS



SITUATION IN PORT-AU-PRINCE DETERIORATING

POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN THE CAPITAL ESCALATED SHARPLY TODAY, A GROUP OF ARMED CIVILIANS

SHOT AND KILLED JUSTICE MINISTER MALARY AND SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS YESTERDAY. MALARY, APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT ARISTIDE TO PRIME MINISTER MALVAL'S TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT, WAS THE PRINCIPAL AUTHOR OF AN AMNESTY LAW THAT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATURE. RIGHTIST ARE DEMANDING THE DEPARTURE OF THE UN CIVILIAN MISSION AS WELL AS MALVAL'S RESIGNATION, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. YESTERDAY THEY ASKED HAITIANS TO REFUSE SERVICE, FUEL, OR TRANSPORTATION TO UN PERSONNEL. POLICE CHIEF FRANCOIS HAS PUBLICLY REPEATED HIS DETERMINATION TO STAY IN HAITI.

REPORTS FRANCOIS AND COMPANY COMMANDERS ALLIED WITH HIM ARE FULLY PREPARED FOR RENEWED UN SANCTIONS.

COMMENT: RIGHTWING EXTREMISTS ALMOST CERTAINLY HOPE TO RAISE THE RISKS THAT FACE THE PLANNED UN MISSION IN ORDER TO PERSUADE THE US

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AND THE UN TO BACK AWAY FROM ARISTIDE. THE MILITARY AND THE RIGHT

PROBABLY HOPE THE ASSASSINATION AND OTHER ACTS OF INTIMIDATION WILL

PROMPT MALVAL TO RESIGN IMMEDIATELY. HE PROBABLY WILL STEP DUWN SOON

UNLESS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OFFERS TO PROTECT HIS GOVERNMENT.

IN ADDITION, THE MILITARY AND THE RIGHT PROBABLY BELIEVE VIOLENCE

WILL LEAD ARISTIDE TO DEFER HIS RETURN. THE RIGHT MAY ALSO HOPE TO

EXPLOIT THE MOUNTING VIOLENCE TO SEIZE POWER.

MILITARY RESISTANCE TO UN PLANS

ARMY CHIEF CEDRAS IS UNLIKELY TO RESIGN UNLESS THE LEGISLATURE PASSES AN AMNESTY LAW, ARISTIDE PRESENTS A NOMINEE FOR COMMANDER IN CHIEF TO THE LEGISLATURE FOR CONFIRMATION, AND THE UN LETS CEDRAS APPROVE THE STATUS OF MISSION AGREEMENT AND ENSURES THAT UN TROOPS CARRY ONLY SIDEARMS.

COMMENT: CEDRAS'S CONDITIONS ALMOST CERTAINLY ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO ARISTIDE.

