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READ AHEAD FOR SECRETARY RUMSFELD
Principals' Committee Meeting on Vice President's Trip

From: Mr. Peter W. Rodman, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs

March 1, 2:00-3:30 P.M., White House Situation Room.

Attendees: Interagency Principals.

Objectives of Meeting:

- Discuss Vice President's 10-20 March 2002 trip to the Middle East.

Key Tasks for the Vice President

- ~~(S/NF)~~ There are **six** key tasks that reflect DoD priorities we believe the Vice President should focus on during his trip:

1. **Appreciation for Support:** Show U.S. appreciation for support for war on terrorism.
2. **Magnitude of Effort:** Emphasize war against terrorism a global effort.
3. **Regional Security:** Express U.S. commitment to regional security and stability in Middle East, and emphasize our desire to consult with friends and allies on regional issues.
4. **Axis of Evil:** Reiterate President's focus on "axis of evil."

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(U) Tasks and Talking Points

- Next under is a list of tasks for all stops and tasks for specific countries.

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- We are providing, under separate cover, proposed talking points for each task.

Attachments: As stated

Coordination: Tab C.

Prepared by:

(b)(6)

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COORDINATION

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

Mr. Douglas Feith _____

PDASD for International Security Affairs

Mr. Peter C.W. Flory _____

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Near Eastern and South Asian Region

Dr. William J. Luti _____

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