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FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY POLICY (Mira Ricardel)

NOV 8 2004

SUBJECT: NATO Secretary General de Hoop Scheffer Speech

- NATO Secretary General de Hoop Scheffer spoke at a Conference on "Global NATO" hosted by the Clingendael Institute at the Hague on 29 October.
  - DASD Brzezinski gave the keynote address on 28 October.
- De Hoop Scheffer stated that four conditions need to be met in order to sustain NATO's new out-of-Europe role:
  - Clear understanding of the nature of the threats the Alliance is confronting;
  - New military capabilities;
  - Closer links with other international organizations, such as the UN and European Union; and,
  - NATO should be a central forum for political debate and decision-making.
- During the question and answer period, de Hoop Scheffer argued that NATO must be able to undertake missions even if there is no UN mandate.
- He also criticized Allies (France, Germany) who are imposing national caveats on the NATO training and equipping mission in Iraq.

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