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FM F C O 250856Z SEP 80  
TO IMMEDIATE BELGRADE  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 210 OF 18 SEPTEMBER

FOR ALEXANDER  
FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF PRIVATE OFFICE  
WAS RECEIVED FROM BAGHDAD AS TELEGRAM NUMBER 428 OF 24 SEPTYEMBER.

AND IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK  
INFO ROUTINE PARIS, BONN, WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW.

IRAQ/IRAN

1. DICKSON WAS CALLED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THIS MORNING. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF CHINA AND BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR WERE ALSO PRESENT. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WITH WHOM THE MEETING HAD BEEN ARRANGED, AND THE UNDER SECRETARY, AL QAIS, HEAD OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, SAID THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ WISHED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS RELATING TO THE CALL FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER EVENTS BETWEEN IRAQ AND IRAN

2. IRAQ ACCEPTED THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD THE POWER UNDER ARTICLE 99 TO CONVENE SUCH A MEETING. BUT IRAQ WISHED TO MAKE ITS POSITION CLEAR AND STRESSED THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(1) AS ALREADY COMMUNICATED TO GOVERNMENTS THROUGH THEIR MISSIONS IN BAGHDAD, IRAQ HAD TERMINATED THE 1975 ALGIERS AGREEMENT ON 17 SEPTEMBER. THIS WAS DONE UNDER PARA 4 OF THE AGREEMENT BECAUSE IRAN ITSELF CONSIDERED THE AGREEMENT INVALID. THE DETAILED EVIDENCE OF THIS HAD BEEN SENT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN A LETTER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER WITH A REQUEST THAT THE LETTER SHOULD BE CIRCULATED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(2) OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS IRAQ HAD EXHAUSTED ALL PEACEFUL MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO GET IRAN TO HONOUR THE 1975 AGREEMENT. BECAUSE IRAN HAD NOT RESPONDED IRAQ HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW. IRAQ HAD NO EXPANISIONIST TERRITORIAL DESIGNS AGAINST IRAN.

(3) IRAQ HAS CLEARLY STATED THAT IT IS NOT (NOT) INTERESTED IN ESCALATING THE CONFLICT. UNFORTUNATELY IRAN HAD DONE SO AND ITS INDISCRIMINATE ACTION AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF IRAQ, THE REGION AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY LEFT IRAQ WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT IN SELF-DEFENCE.

(4) IRAQ HAS NOTHING TO HIDE AND IS FULLY PREPARED TO PRESENT ITS POINT OF VIEW BEFORE THE COUNCIL AS SPECIFICALLY STATED IN THE LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL. IRAQ HAS TOLD THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT IT CONSIDERS IT WOULD BE HIGHLY IRREGULAR AND UNFORTUNATE IF THE COUNCIL WERE TO ARRIVE AT ANY CONCLUSIONS BEFORE IRAQ WERE GIVEN ITS RIGHTFUL HEARING.

2. AL QAIS IN ASKING US TO PUT THESE FOUR POINTS TO OUR GOVERNMENTS REPEATED POINT 4 WITH GREAT EMPHASIS.

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