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FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 180136Z OCT 80

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1540 DATED 17 OCTOBER 80

INFO PRIORITY BAGHDAD, WASHINGTON, ROUTINE MOSCOW, PARIS, BONN,
UKMIS GENEVA, TEL AVIV, AMMAN, KUWAIT, JEDDA, CAIRO, DAMASCUS,
ISLAMABAD, NEW DELHI, ROME, BELGRADE, DACCA.

MY TELNO 1521: SECURITY COUNCIL: IRAQ/IRAN

1. IN THE MOST CROWDED SECURITY COUNCIL CHAMBER ANYONE COULD REMEMBER, PRIME MINISTER RAJAIE SPOKE FOR OVER AN HOUR THIS EVENING. IT WAS A TOTALLY UNYIELDING PERFORMANCE WHICH, OFFERED NO HOPE OF AN EARLY CESSATION OF THE HOSTILITIES, OR REASON TO BELIEVE THAT ANY BREAKTHROUGH ON THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES WAS IMMINENT.
2. IN HIS HARANGUE AGAINST SADDAM HUSSEIN, THE US, ISRAEL, JORDAN, AND, IN PASSING, EGYPT, THE SOVIET UNION, MOROCCO, AND THE REST OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION, HE ONLY BRIEFLY REFERRED TO THE STRONG POINT OF THE IRANIAN CASE, IE THE PROVISION IN ARTICLE 6 OF THE 1975 TREATY FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES WITHOUT RESORT TO FORCE.
3. RAJAIE SAID THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN HAD COMMITTED HIS AGGRESSION BASED ON RIDICULOUS PRETEXTS, AND HIS FORCES, LIKE HITLER'S, HAD ACTED WITHOUT MERCY. ACCUSING THE IRAQI FORCES OF PLUNDER, RAPE AND TORTURE, HE APPEALED TO THE CONSCIENCES OF THE PEOPLES OF THE ENTIRE WORLD, AND IN PARTICULAR, THE MOSLEM PEOPLES, TO SIT IN JUDGEMENT. IT WAS SURPRISING THAT THOSE WHO PROFESSED BELIEF IN HUMAN DIGNITY, REMAINED ALGORE AND DECLARED THEIR

SIT IN JUDGMENT. IT WAS SURPRISING THAT THOSE WHO PROFESSED BELIEF IN HUMAN DIGNITY, REMAINED ALCOE AND DECLARED THEIR NEUTRALITY IN THE FACE OF OPEN AGGRESSION. THE RESISTANCE OF THE IRANIAN ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE HAD STUPEFIED THE WORLD. THEY WERE PREPARED TO FIGHT A PROLONGED WAR UNTIL THE IRAQI PEOPLE BECAME AWARE OF THE TYRANNICAL AND "DEPENDENT" NATURE OF SADDAM'S REGIME AND BY OVERTHROWING THE REGIME, COULD DEAL A LETHAL BLOW TO US IMPERIALISM WHICH DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WAS HELPING IRAQ. ALL WHO HELPED SADDAM, AND HE HIMSELF, WOULD DIE IN THE DESTRUCTION. US AWAC'S AND RUSSIAN TUPOLEVS WOULD NOT WIN. GOOD WOULD TRIUMPH OVER EVIL AND THE DAY WOULD COME WHEN THE CRIMINAL, SADDAM, WOULD BE JUDGED BY A REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL IN IRAQ. IRAQ'S AIM WAS TO TOPPLE THE IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY REGIME AND IT HAD BLINDLY FOLLOWED THE INSTRUCTIONS OF ITS MASTERS, THE SUPERPOWERS. ITS ACTIONS NOW SHOULD BE COMPARED WITH ITS FAILURE EVER TO FIGHT AGAINST THE INVADERS OF JERUSALEM.

4. IRAQ HAD GIVEN ASYLUM AND SUPPORT TO THE LACKEYS OF THE US AND THE PAHLAVI HENCHMEN. IRAQ CLAIMED TO BE FIGHTING THE US, BUT NEVER ATTACKED THE SHAH'S US-DOMINATED ARMY. THEIR CURRENT ACTION WAS "A US MISSION WITHOUT A US APPEARANCE." THE US SAW IN THIS ATTACK AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THEIR HOSTAGES TO BE FREED. PUPPET REGIMES OF THE US, EG JORDAN, EGYPT AND MOROCCO, WERE PRIMARY SUPPLIERS OF EQUIPMENT TO IRAQ VIA THE PORT OF AQABA. EGYPTIAN PILOTS AND CREWS, AND UNITS OF THE JORDANIAN ARMY, WERE ACTIVE IN IRAQ. THERE WAS A BUILD-UP OF SUPERPOWER FORCES AND FLEETS IN THE AREA, AND MILITARY AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED BETWEEN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AND MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES. THE US, WHICH HAD REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OLYMPICS BECAUSE OF THE SOVIET AGGRESSION AGAINST AFGHANISTAN, NONETHELESS WAS TAKING PART IN THIS WAR AND AT THE SAME TIME, ENGAGING IN SALT TALKS. HENCE SOVIET WEAPONS COULD BE SENT VIA THE US LACKEY, JORDAN, TO IRAQ.

5. IN AN ATTEMPT TO DECEIVE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION , THE IRAQIS NOW SAID THEY WANTED A CEASEFIRE. OTHER COUNTRIES UNFORTUNATELY SUPPORTED THAT REQUEST. IRAN HEREBY DECLARED THAT A FAIR SETTLEMENT COULD ONLY BE FOUND IF THE AGGRESSOR WAS CONQUERED AND PUNISHED - "THAT IS OUR FINAL POSITION." IRAN RELIED ON GOD AND THE PEOPLE'S WILL. HE WAS NOT HERE TO ASK THE COUNCIL TO DO ANYTHING. HE WAS HERE TO EXPOSE WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN IRAN. THE SECURITY COUNCIL WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO HELP OPPRESSED PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE VETO. EVEN WHEN IT ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS, IT COULD NOT IMPLEMENT THEM EG. ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA. HE HAD COME TO REMIND THE MAJOR POWERS AND FORCES OF EVIL THAT AN END MUST BE PUT TO THEIR PLOTS AGAINST THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTION WHICH WOULD NEVER BE VANQUISHED. NO DECISION OF THE COUNCIL WOULD CHANGE IRAN'S POSITION. THEY WOULD FIGHT

WITH THEIR BARE HANDS. THEY WOULD WIN.

6. AFTER RAJAIIE HAD WALKED OUT SAADOUN HAMMADI (IRAQ) SPOKE AT GREAT LENGTH, DRAWING LARGELY ON HIS STATEMENT OF 15 OCTOBER, IN AN ATTEMPT TO REBUT RAJAIIE'S ARGUMENTS. HE ARGUED INTER ALIA THAT IRAN HAD VIOLATED THE PACKAGE DEAL ENSHRINED IN ARTICLE 4 OF THE 1975 TREATY AND THAT THE WHOLE TREATY HAD THEREFORE CAME TO AN END. HENCE ARTICLE 6 (PROCEDURES FOR THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES CONCERNING THE INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF ITS TERMS) NO LONGER APPLIED. IRAQ THEREFORE HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO "ACT IN SELF-DEFENCE".
7. MCHENRY (US) THEN SPOKE BRIEFLY ON THE HOSTAGES, FOR OBVIOUS DOMESTIC REASONS. HE SPOKE OF THEIR PLIGHT AND OF THE NEED FOR THEM TO BE RELEASED IMMEDIATELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE DECISION OF THE ICJ. TAKING UP A RHETORICAL QUESTION BY RAJAIIE AS TO HOW THE AMERICANS THOUGHT THE WAR WAS GOING TO HELP THE HOSTAGES, MCHENRY SAID THAT IT WAS THE VERY PRINCIPLES WHICH RAJAIIE HIMSELF HAD EXPOUNDED THAT SHOULD OBLIGE IRAN TO RELEASE THEM. IT WAS IRONICAL THAT RAJAIIE HAD REFERRED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S INABILITY TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE OF THE SUPERPOWERS, WHEN IT WAS IRAN WHICH HAD FOR MONTHS BEEN IN BLATANT DEFIANCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS.
8. THERE WAS THEN AN EXCHANGE OF INCREASINGLY STERILE RIGHTS OF REPLY BETWEEN IRANIAN AND IRAQI REPRESENTATIVES, THE PRINCIPALS HAVING LEFT. MCHENRY WAS TEMPTED TO JOIN IN BUT SENSIBLY DID NOT DO SO.
9. RAJAIIE'S STATEMENT APPEARS TO LEAVE THE COUNCIL COMPLETELY BLOCKED. EVEN A CALL ON THE COUNCIL TO CONDEMN IRAQI AGGRESSION AND DEMAND IRAQI WITHDRAWAL WOULD HAVE BEEN LESS DISCOURAGING THAN HIS TOTAL REJECTION OF ANY ROLE FOR THE COUNCIL. IN FACT, HIS POINT WAS NOT SO MUCH THAT THE IRAQIS SHOULD WITHDRAW, BUT THAT THE AGGRESSOR SHOULD BE CONQUERED AND PUNISHED. MY FIRST REACTION IS THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL HAVE TO SLOG IT OUT FOR SOME TIME TO COME BEFORE EITHER OR BOTH BECOME AMENABLE TO MEDIATION BY ANY INTERNATIONAL BODY.
10. RAJAIIE IS SAID TO BE LEAVING HERE TOMORROW (18 OCTOBER) AND TO BE SPENDING TWO DAYS IN ALGIERS ON HIS WAY HOME.

PARSONS

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