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FROM UKMIS NEWYORK 242337Z NOV 80

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1865 OF 24 NOVEMBER

INFO PRIORITY BAGHDAD WASHINGTON MOSCOW PARIS AMMAN STOCKHOLM

UKMIS GENEVA

Iraq

ms

MY TELNO 1833 (NOT TO ALL): IRAN/IRAQ - MR PALME'S MISSION

1. WHEN I SAW WALDHEIM THIS MORNING ABOUT FUTURE SECURITY COUNCIL BUSINESS, HE TOLD ME THAT PALME HAD JUST TELEPHONED HIM FROM GENEVA. HE WILL BE COMING TO NEW YORK TOMORROW AFTERNOON (25 NOVEMBER) AND WILL SEE WALDHEIM AT ABOUT 1700 HOURS.

2. WALDHEIM SAID THAT PALME HAD TOLD HIM THAT HIS MISSION HAD GONE MUCH BETTER THAN THE PESSIMISTIC REPORTS IN THE MEDIA HERE HAVE SUGGESTED. THE ATMOSPHERE IN BOTH TEHRAN AND BAGHDAD HAD BEEN GOOD AND, ALTHOUGH BOTH SIDES TALKED TOUGH ABOUT THEIR MILITARY AIMS, THEY CLEARLY WISHED FOR A POLITICAL SOLUTION. IN HIS DISCUSSIONS THE IRANIANS HAD ATTACKED THE IRAQIS, NOT THE UN. THE IRAQIS HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING AND VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE U N.

3. PALME SAID THAT BOTH SIDES HAD NOW AGREED TO RELEASE THE TRAPPED SHIPS (MY TEL 1786 PARA 5 AND UKMIS GENEVA TELNO 495). INFORMAL ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN ACCEPTED FOR A WEEK'S CEASEFIRE TO ENABLE THE SHIPS TO LEAVE. THE DETAILS WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH IMCO AS WELL AS WITH THE ICRC.

4. PALME SAID THAT MALMIERCA'S MISSION HAD FAILED COMPLETELY AND THAT HE HAD RETURNED TO HAVANA. THE ISLAMIC CONGRESS EMISSARY (MR CHATTY) HAD FARED NO BETTER. NEVERTHELESS, WALDHEIM SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK PALME INTENDED TO RETURN VERY SOON TO THE MIDDLE EAST, THOUGH HE MIGHT HAVE MORE TO REPORT THAN HE HAD SAID ON THE TELEPHONE IF THIS TURNS OUT TO BE THE CASE, I THINK IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO RESIST PRESSURE FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR AN ORAL REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS. AS I POINTED OUT TO WALDHEIM, THE DISADVANTAGE OF THIS IS, OF COURSE, THAT THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ORAL REPORT WILL INEVITABLY LEAK, THUS COMPLICATING PALME'S FURTHER EFFORTS. THE ONLY WAY TO AVOID THIS WOULD BE FOR PALME TO RETURN TO TEHRAN AND BAGHDAD BY THE WEEKEND IN WHICH CASE WALDHEIM MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO HOLD THE LINE BY SAYING THAT HIS GOOD OFFICES WERE CONTINUING AND THAT HE WOULD PREFER TO DEFER HIS REPORT TO THE COUNCIL UNTIL THE NEXT ROUND WAS COMPLETE.

PARSONS

IRAQ/IRAN STANDARD

MED	MAED
NENAD	TRED
NAD	ERD
UND	ECON D
EESD	CONS D
EGD	CONS EM UNIT
WED	CABINET OFFICE
ES&SD	
RID	

ADDITIONAL DISTR.
IRAQ/IRAN

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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