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FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 011733Z JUN 82

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 903 DATED 1 JUNE 82

INFO PRIORITY BAGHDAD, WASHINGTON, PARIS, JEDDA, TEHRAN
STOCKHOLM, CAIRO, AMMAN

MY TELNO 896: IRAN/IRAQ

1. I HAVE NOW SEEN BAGHDAD TELEGRAM NO 334. IF AND WHEN IRAN/IRAQ COMES FORMALLY TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, AND IF THE IRAQIS ADVANCE THE POLICY ON WITHDRAWAL SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF BAGHDAD TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE, I CANNOT SEE HOW WE CAN SUPPORT IT WITHOUT EXPOSING OURSELVES TO CHARGES OF HYPOCRISY AND DOUBLE STANDARDS. ADMITTEDLY, WE HAVE A CLEAR AND MANDATORY DEMAND FOR ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL FROM THE FALKLANDS, AND THE ONLY SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION SO FAR ADOPTED ON IRAN/IRAQ (SCR 479) IS FUZZY AND NON-MANDATORY. BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE IRAQIS ARE OCCUPYING WHAT IS UNQUESTIONABLY IRANIAN TERRITORY. WE HAVE RIGHTLY REFUSED TO CONSIDER ARGENTINE WITHDRAWAL FROM OUR TERRITORY AS PART OF A PACKAGE INVOLVING GENERAL PRINCIPLES, AND WE WOULD BE VERY EXPOSED IF WE TOOK A DIFFERENT ATTITUDE REGARDING IRAQI WITHDRAWAL. FOLLOWING IRAQI WITHDRAWAL, IF IT TOOK PLACE WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS, THIS PROBLEM WOULD OF COURSE CEASE TO EXIST FOR US, AND WE WOULD BE FREE TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT BY SAMARRAI.

2. THE SAME PROBLEM APPLIES TO A SLIGHTLY LESSER EXTENT TO KING HUSSEIN'S FORMULATION IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF AMMAN TELEGRAM NO 218. THE PROBLEM WOULD OF COURSE BE TRANSFORMED IF THE IRANIANS OCCUPIED IRAQI TERRITORY. THEN WE WOULD BE ON SAFE GROUND TO SUPPORT CALLS FOR MUTUAL WITHDRAWAL.

13

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3. I REALISE THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT DOING ANYTHING TO MAKE LIFE MORE DIFFICULT FOR KING HUSSEIN, AND I AM CONSCIOUS OF THE INVALUABLE SUPPORT HE GAVE US OVER SCR 502. BUT I HAVE TO SAY THAT THE INITIATIVE HE LAUNCHED WHICH LED TO THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL YESTERDAY (31 MAY) WAS A LEAD BALLOON. A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WERE FURIOUS AT BEING DRAGGED BACK ON A PUBLIC HOLIDAY WHEN THEY KNEW THAT NEITHER IRAQ NOR IRAN NOR THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, NOR, SO FAR AS THEY COULD SEE, ANYONE EXCEPT JORDAN WANTED THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONVENE IMMEDIATELY. THEY WERE THEN TREATED TO A RAMBLING DISSERTATION BY HAZEM NUSEIBEH, THE CONTENT OF WHICH WAS WORTHY OF MR PECKSNIFF, ALTHOUGH THE LATTER WOULD HAVE DONE BETTER STYLISTICALLY.

PARSONS

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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IRAQ/IRAN

2

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