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TO FLASH FCO

TELNO 1060

OF 221836Z AUGUST 90

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M. Jehn

YOUR TELNO 437: IRAQ/KUWAIT: NEXT STEPS

SUMMARY

1. DISCUSSION AMONG THE FIVE LEADS TO PRODUCTIONS OF SLIGHTLY MODIFIED TEXT (SEE MIFT). CHINESE (AND EVEN RUSSIANS) MAY BE COMING ROUND, BUT WANT TO REFER EVIDENCE OF SANCTIONS-BUSTING TO THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS COMMITTEE. REQUEST FOR INSTRUCTIONS DESKBY 221915Z.

DETAIL

- 2. AMBASSADORS OF THE FIVE MET AT 1430Z ON 22 AUGUST. LI (CHINA) AND LOZINSKIY (SOVIET UNION) WERE STILL WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS. WE ALSO DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS: YOUR TUR DID NOT ARRIVE IN TIME.
- 3. WE WORKED ON THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO BRING IT AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO A DRAFT THAT COULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL THE FIVE. THE RESULTS ARE IN MIFT. TWO MINOR AMENDMENTS TO OPERATIVE PARAS 1 AND 4 HAD BEEN SUGGESTED TO THE AMERICANS BY THE MALAYSIANS, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE NON-ALIGNED COLLEAGUES. AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, THE TEXT AS IT STANDS IS ACCEPTABLE.
- 4. DURING A TWO-HOUR MEETING THE SIGNIFICANT POINTS WERE:

 (A) WE, THE AMERICANS AND THE FRENCH PRESSED FOR ACTION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
 - (B) THE CHINESE AND THE RUSSIANS EMPHASIZED THAT EVIDENCE OF SANCTIONS-BUSTING MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS COMMITTEE, WHO WOULD THEN REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, BEFORE A RESOLUTION COULD BE ADOPTED. NOT ONLY DID THEY WANT THIS PROCEDURE FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES, BUT THEY THOUGHT THIS WOULD HELP WITH THE NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

 (C) THE AMERICANS DID NOT ASK FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING
 - (D) ALL AGREED THAT IT WAS VITAL TO TAKE THE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS WITH US.
- 5. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE TERM 'MINIMUM

PAGE 1 CONFIDENTIAL FORCE'' PICKERING (UNITED STATES) AND I EXPLAINED THIS CONCEPT AS BEST WE COULD TO TRY AND BRING LOZINSKIY AND LI ROUND. LI STILL MAINTAINED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT TO USE FORCE AT THIS STAGE. LOZINSKIY SAID THE SOVIET UNION WAS PREPARED TO USE FORCE TO STOP SHIPS IN ORDER TO CHECK THEIR CARGOES, BUT STILL REFERRED TO THE NEED FOR A GRADUATED APPROACH. BUT RUSSIAN THINKING ABOUT THE PRACTICAL MILITARY STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN IS MUDDLED. IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE FURTHER DISUCSSION ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF MINIMUM FORCE WHEN AMBASSADORS MET ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR MILITARY ADVISERS FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE (MSC) AT 1730Z.

- 6. THE FIVE AGREED TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS, IF POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE MSC, ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE SAID THEY WOULD NOT GET THEIRS UNTIL LATER. THE PLAN IS THAT AS SOON AS A TEXT IS AGREED AMONG THE FIVE (EVEN IF IT IS AD REFERENDUM) THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WOULD BE BRIEFED AND THEIR COMMENTS SOUGHT. THIS MAY EVEN HAPPEN IN PARALLEL WITH CONSULTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE MSC THIS AFTERNOON, 22 AUGUST. IT WAS AGREED THAT AN ATTEMPT TO BOUNCE THE OTHER MEMBERS, AS ON THE NIGHT OF 20/21 AUGUST, WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.
- 7. IN PRACTICE I DO NOT THINK THAT IN SUBSTANCE THE SOVIET POSITION IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN. EVEN THE CHINESE ARE COMING ROUND. BUT IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO GO THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF REFERRING EVIDENCE TO THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS COMMITTEE (WHICH CAN BE SUMMONED VERY QUICKLY) BEFORE A RESOLUTION CAN BE ADOPTED.
- 8. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS DESKBY 221915Z.

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MR PRIDDLE, DEPT OF ENERGY MR APPLEYARD CABINET OFFICE (BY TUBE H29) MR W D REEVES CABINET OFFICE (BY TUBE H29) MR D J GOWAN CABINET OFFICE (BY TUBE H29) MR BARRASS, CABINET OFFICE (BY TUBE H29) PS/NUMBER 10 DOWNING ST SIR P CRADOCK, (NO 10 DOWNING ST) CABINET OFFICE DIO (BY TUBE H29) SIR ROBIN BUTLER, CAB OFFICE AUS (C) MODUK HD/SEC (0) (C) MODUK MR LS SMITH BANK ENGLAND (2) EMERGENCY UNII RESIDENT CLERK