

CONFIDENTIAL

FM AMMAN

TO DESKBY 021230Z FCO

TELNO 500

OF 021144Z SEPTEMBER 90

INFO DESKBY 021230Z MUSCAT

INFO IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK

INFO PRIORITY OTHER MIDDLE EAST POSTS, EC POSTS, MOSCOW, PEKING

MUSCAT FOR SECRETARY OF STATES PARTY

MIPT

IRAQ/KUWAIT : VISIT OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL

SUMMARY

1. US AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS REPORT THAT TALKS MADE NO PROGRESS

DETAIL

2. MY AMERICAN COLLEAGUE HAS BRIEFED ME BILATERALLY ON HIS CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE UN SECRETARIAT HERE TRAVELLING WITH THE SECRETARY -GENERAL (DAYYAL, ANNAN, AIME) SEPARATELY THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR PROVIDED A SIMILAR READ-OUT FOR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIVE IN AMMAN.

3. IN BRIEF, THE TALKS GOT NOWHERE ON THE MAIN ISSUE. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN POLITE, EXCEPT WHEN THE SECRETARY -GENERAL ASKED DIRECTLY THAT IRAQ SHOULD IMPLEMENT SCR 660. AZIZ HAD RESPONDED EMOTIONALLY, SAYING THAT IRAQ COULD NOT ACCEPT AN ULTIMATUM AND THAT KUWAIT WAS PART OF IRAQ. IT WAS CLEAR THAT AZIZ HAD NO ROOM FOR MANOEUVRE.

4. ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES, AZIZ STUCK TO THE LINE THAT THE REMAINING QUOTE GUESTS UNQUOTE COULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE UNLESS IRAQ RECEIVED A FORMAL COMMITMENT OF NON-AGGRESSION FROM THE AMERICANS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD SUGGESTED THAT THOSE CATEGORIES ALLOWED TO LEAVE SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE OLD AND SICK PEOPLE AND STUDENTS. HE HAD PROPOSED THAT A JOINT UN/IRAQ COMMITTEE SHOULD BE SET UP TO STUDY THIS FURTHER. AZIZ HAD NOT REJECTED THIS OUTRIGHT AND HAD UNDERTAKEN TO CONSULT HIS GOVERNMENT. THE US AMBASSADOR'S INFORMATION WAS THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD PROPOSED THAT THE CATEGORY OF QUOTE

DEPENDENTS UNQUOTE SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 25. ANNAN WOULD RETURN TO BAGHDAD FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTURE OF THE REMAINING WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

5. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT AIME AND CO HAD INDICATED THAT SOME THANKS TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR HIS EFFORTS OVER THE DETAINED FOREIGNERS WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED. THIS PROMPTED SOME DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S TEAM HAD IN FACT BEEN INFLUENTIAL IN SECURING THE RELEASE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE CONSENSUS SEEMED TO BE THAT GENERAL APPRECIATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS WOULD PRESENT NO PROBLEMS BUT THAT WE SHOULD CERTAINLY NOT WANT TO BE APPEARING TO THANK SADDAM FOR ANYTHING.

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