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FM UKMIS NEW YORK

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 1228

OF 112105Z SEPTEMBER 90

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, PARIS, PEKING, MOSCOW, BAGHDAD

INFO IMMEDIATE UKDEL NATO, UKMIS GENEVA, ESC LONDON

INFO IMMEDIATE TOKYO, BELGRADE, CAIRO, COLOMBO, MANILA, ISLAMABAD

INFO IMMEDIATE NEW DELHI, RIYADH, AMMAN, ANKARA, UKREP BRUSSELS

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MOSCOW FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

MY TELNO 1222 (NOT TO ALL): IRAQ/KUWAIT

1. WHEN I PRESENTED MY LETTER OF APPOINTMENT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON 11 SEPTEMBER I SAID THE PRIME MINISTER HAD ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO HIM HER GOOD WISHES, AND IN PARTICULAR HER ADMIRATION OF HIS FIRM HANDLING OF TARIQ AZIZ AT HIS RECENT MEETING IN AMMAN.
2. PEREZ DE CUELLAR EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION. HIS TALK WITH TARIQ AZIZ HAD BEEN VERY DIFFICULT. THE MINISTER'S INSTRUCTIONS HAD CONTAINED NO FLEXIBILITY. HE HAD OFFERED TO PURSUE THEIR DISCUSSIONS AFTER TARIQ AZIZ HAD RETURNED TO BAGHDAD FOR FRESH INSTRUCTIONS: THIS COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE EITHER IN AMMAN OR IN GENEVA AFTER THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ENGAGEMENTS IN PARIS. BUT TARIQ AZIZ HAD DECLINED. PEREZ DE CUELLAR HAD WARNED HIM THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO TELL THE WORLD THAT HE WAS COMING AWAY FROM THEIR DISCUSSIONS EMPTY HANDED.
3. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SAID HE WAS DEEPLY WORRIED ABOUT THE POSITION OF FOREIGNERS IN IRAQ AND KUWAIT, IN PARTICULAR THE LARGE ASIAN COMMUNITIES WHO DID NOT HAVE ADEQUATE ACCESS TO FOODSTUFFS. HE HAD NOW RECEIVED A REQUEST FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE THAT HE SHOULD SEND A TEAM TO DRAW UP A REPORT ON THE FOOD SITUATION. BUT AT PRESENT HE HAD NO-ONE IN BAGHDAD WHO COULD PERFORM THAT TASK. IT WOULD REQUIRE A SIZEABLE MISSION WITH THE RIGHT TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. HE DID NOT KNOW HOW THE IRAQIS WOULD REACT. THEY HAD NOT YET RESPONDED TO HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL THAT HIS REPRESENTATIVE CURRENTLY IN BAGHDAD (ANNAN) SHOULD VISIT KUWAIT TO MAKE AN INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF CONDITIONS THERE. CONTACTS WITH IRAQ, IN PARTICULAR OVER KUWAIT, OF COURSE HAD A PARTICULAR POLITICAL

SENSITIVITY. FOR THAT REASON HE WAS ANXIOUS TO HAVE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR BACKING FROM THE SECURITY COUNCIL: HE WOULD ASK FOR THAT IN HIS REPLY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE WHICH WAS AT PRESENT BEING DRAFTED.

4. I SAID THAT WE SHARED THE CONCERN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF FOREIGN NATIONALS IN IRAQ AND KUWAIT, AND WERE WORKING URGENTLY IN THE SANCTIONS COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH AN AGREED FRAMEWORK FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. BUT THE CENTRAL ISSUE SHOULD NEVER BE OVERLOOKED. IRAQ HAD THE FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FEEDING FOREIGN NATIONALS ON ITS TERRITORY. IT WAS MAKING CYNICAL USE OF THE SUFFERINGS OF THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY TO EXERT LEVERAGE OVER THE REST OF THE WORLD. WHILE FOOD SHOULD OF COURSE BE PROVIDED IN HUMANITARIAN CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WAS RIGHT THAT CLEAR GUIDELINES SHOULD BE DRAWN UP TO CONTROL ITS DISTRIBUTION AND ENSURE THAT IT REACHED THOSE WHO WERE IN NEED.

5. ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES SEE MIFT.

HANNAY

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MOSCOW FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

MIPT AND YOUR TELNO 538: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES

1. ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES I SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED IN TUR, URGING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO APPOINT A HIGH-PROFILE AND EXPERENCED PERSON WHO COULD COORDINATE THE RELIEF EFFORT ON THE BORDERS OF IRAQ.
2. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SAID HE HAD IT IN MIND TO APOINT JUST SUCH A PERSON. HE HAD MADE HIS CHOICE AND THIS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY. HE ENTIRELY AGREED THAT AN EXPERIENCED AND HIGH LEVEL COORDINATOR SHOULD BE PUT IN PLACE. HE COULD ASSURE ME ALSO THAT PLANS WERE GOING AHEAD VERY QUICKLY FOR A MAJOR COORDINATED RELIEF EFFORT WHICH COULD BE SET IN MOTION AS SOON AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TOOK UP HIS APPOINTMENT.
3. THIS TELEGRAM CONSTITUTES THE TRIGGER REFERRED TO IN PARA 4 OF TUR FOR ACTION IN NEW DELHI, CAIRO, BELGRADE, ISLAMABAD, COLOMBO, MANILA AND UKMIS GENEVA.

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