

CONFIDENTIAL
FM UKMIS NEW YORK
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 1748

OF 261400Z OCTOBER 90

INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW, WASHINGTON, PARIS, PEKING, MIDDLE EAST POSTS
INFO IMMEDIATE ROME, UKREP BRUSSELS, HAVANA, BOGOTA, OTTAWA
INFO IMMEDIATE HELSINKI, BUCHAREST, KUALA LUMPUR, KINSHASA, ABIDJAN
INFO IMMEDIATE ADDIS ABABA, ESC LONDON

MY TELNO 1683 (NOT TO ALL): IRAQ/KUWAIT: SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

SUMMARY

1. DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS RESOLUTION AMONG THE FIVE AND WITH CO-SPONSOR OF 'PEACE OFFENSIVE' DRAFT. PROLONGED FILIBUSTER BY CUBA AND YEMEN IN WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS THE TWO TEXTS.

DETAIL

2. ON THE MORNING OF 25 OCTOBER MEMBERS OF THE FIVE BRIEFED THE NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON THEIR PROPOSED NEXT STEPS RESOLUTION. AS ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS BLANC (FRANCE) BRIEFED THE THREE NON-NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS: THE UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION BRIEFED THE NON-ALIGNED (RICHARDSON TOOK MY PLACE IN VIEW OF MY POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL): AND THE CHINESE DID NOT TAKE PART.

3. LATER IN THE MORNING AMBASSADORS OF THE FIVE MET TO COMPARE NOTES. BLANC REPORTED THAT THE NON-NON-ALIGNED HAD REACTED FAVOURABLY TO THE TEXT. PICKERING (UNITED STATES) REPORTED THAT THE FOUR CO-SPONSORS OF THE 'PEACE OFFENSIVE' RESOLUTION (CUBA, YEMEN, MALAYSIA AND COLOMBIA) REMAINED VERY ATTACHED TO THEIR OWN TEXT. THERE HAD BEEN RESISTANCE AMONG THE FOUR TO MOVING TO INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL LATER IN THE DAY: BUT THEY WERE PREPARED TO DO SO PROVIDED THAT THE TWO DRAFT TEXTS WERE BOTH DISCUSSED. PICKERING JUDGED THAT THEIR RESOLUTION WOULD PROBABLY NOT RECIEVE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF VOTES. BUT THAT WAS NONETHELESS AN EVENTUALITY TO BE AVOIDED. HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO GET A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE WEEKEND. TO DO THIS HE WAS PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON THE FORM IF THE TWO RESOLUTIONS COULD BE MERGED: FOR EXAMPLE THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS COULD BE DEMARCATED BY THE USE OF ROMAN NUMERALS. I SAID THAT MY AUTHORITIES TOO WISHED US TO PROCEED RAPIDLY.

4. IT WAS AGREED AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION THAT THE NEXT STEP SHOULD

BE FOR ME AS PRESIDENT TO HOLD AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION WHICH WOULD BRING TOGETHER THE MAIN PROPONENTS OF THE RESOLUTION OF THE FIVE (PICKERING AND VORONTSOV) AND THOSE OF THE DRAFT OF THE FOUR NON-ALIGNED (THE CO-SPONSORS, NOW JOINED BY ZAIRE). THEREAFTER A BRIEF SESSION OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE HELD TO TAKE STOCK OF THE POSITION REACHED.

5. WHEN THE GROUP DISCUSSION WAS HELD LATER IN THE DAY THE NON-ALIGNED PRODUCED A REVISED DRAFT OF THEIR RESOLUTION, CONSIDERABLY TONED DOWN IN COMPARISON WITH ITS PREDECESSOR. AL-ASHTAL EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE TWO SIDES WERE QUITE CLOSE. HE HOPED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE TWO DRAFTS TO BE PRESENTED TOGETHER AND PASSED SIMULTANEOUSLY. HE WAS ECHOED BY PENALOSA (COLOMBIA). PICKERING SUGGESTED THAT WAYS SHOULD BE SOUGHT OF INTEGRATING THE TWO TEXTS. WE WOULD BE SENDING AN UNFORTUNATE SIGNAL TO SADDAM HUSSEIN IF ONE TEXT DEALT WITH ''PEACE'' AND THE OTHER WITH FURTHER MEASURES AGAINST IRAQ. IN EFFECT SADDAM HUSSEIN COULD CHOOSE WHICH SIGNAL TO HEED. I SUPPORTED HIM.

6. AL-ASHTAL QUESTIONED WHETHER SADDAM HUSSEIN COULD MISTAKE THE SENSE OF THE COUNCIL, GIVEN THAT IT HAD ALREADY PASSED NINE RESOLUTIONS ON KUWAIT. HE HOPED OTHERS WOULD NOT INSIST ON INTEGRATION: BUT YEMEN WAS READY TO VOTE ON BOTH TEXTS AT THE SAME TIME, IF IT WAS POSSIBLE BY ONE VOTE ON TWO RESOLUTIONS. THIS SHOULD BE ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD VOTE UNANIMOUSLY ON BOTH.

7. BAGBENI (ZAIRE) SUGGESTED THAT IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHAT PORTION IN THE TWO TEXTS COULD BE COMBINED, AND WHERE DUPLICATION COULD BE REMOVED. THEN THE TWO MIGHT BE PUT TOGETHER WHILE KEEPING THE ELEMENTS SEPARATE. IT WAS AGREED THAT COUNSELLORS WOULD WORK ON THAT BASIS LATER IN THE EVENING. THEY WOULD WORK THROUGH EACH TEXT IN TURN, ELIMINATING OVERLAP AND PREPARING FOR THE TWO TO BE JOINED.

8. I SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED ON THIS BASIS TO INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE COUNCIL. TORNUDD (FINLAND) AND FORTIER (CANADA) SPOKE STRONGLY IN FAVOUR OF AMALGAMATING THE TWO TEXTS.

9. FOLLOWING THIS MEETING COUNSELLORS FROM THE UNITED STATES, THE SOVIET UNION, FRANCE, YEMEN, MALAYSIA, CUBA AND ZAIRE MET UNDER UK CHAIRMANSHIP TO WORK ON THE NON-ALIGNED TEXT AND THE TEXT OF THE PERMANENT FIVE WITH A VIEW TO THEIR AMALGAMATION ON 26 OCTOBER. THE OPTIMISM EVIDENT AT THE EARLIER MEETINGS WAS QUICKLY DISSIPATED AS THE YEMENIS AND CUBANS ENGAGED IN A PROLONGED FILIBUSTER. THEY

HAGGLED OVER PROCEDURE AND OVER MAJOR AND MINOR ASPECTS OF BOTH TEXTS. THE MALAYSIANS ALSO HAD CONSIDERABLE AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSE, SOME DESIGNED TO BE HELPFUL AND SOME NOT. AS A RESULT THE MEETING WENT ON FOR TEN HOURS THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT AND ENDED AT 0615 LOCAL ON 26 OCTOBER. THE END RESULT WAS TWO TEXTS RIDDLED WITH PASSAGES IN SQUARE BRACKETS. THEY ARE BEING FAXED TO EMERGENCY UNIT AND UND. AMBASSADORS OF THE FIVE AND OF THE NON-ALIGNED SPONSORS OF THE ''PEACE OFFENSIVE'' DRAFT WILL WILL MEET LATER ON 26 OCTOBER TO DECIDE HOW TO TAKE MATTERS FORWARD.

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