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FM ANKARA

TO DESKBY 081700Z FC0

TELNO 502

OF 081550Z NOVEMBER 90

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, MODUK, MOSCOW, MIDDLE EAST POSTS

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VISIT OF SECRETARY BAKER TO TURKEY



SUMMARY

1. BAKER AND OZAL AGREE THERE CAN BE NO PARTIAL SOLUTION TO THE GULF CRISIS AND STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS. BAKER DECLARES US INTENT TO GO FOR A FURTHER UNSCR. HE TAKES FAVOURABLE LINE ON INCREASED US TEXTILE QUOTAS. CYPRUS AND CFE ALSO DISCUSSED.

DETAIL

- 2. US SECRETARY OF STATE BAKER VISITED TURKEY ON 6/7 NOVEMBER. HE SAW PRESIDENT OZAL (FOR 2 HOURS), FOREIGN MINISTER ALPTEMOCIN (FOR 1 HOUR) AND PRIME MINISTER AKBULUT (FOR 30 MINUTES).
- 3. SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW, BAKER SAID THAT HE AND TURKISH LEADERS HAD DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF INSISTING THAT THERE COULD BE NO PARTIAL SOLUTION TO THE GULF CRISIS. (A TURKISH GOVERNMENT SOURCE IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT RECENT AND ONGOING VISITS BY FORMER PRIME MINISTERS OF WESTERN COUNTRIES ONLY GAVE A FALSE IMPRESSION THAT THE COALITION WAS IN DISARRAY). BAKER NOTED THAT WE WOULD ALL PREFER TO SEE A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION, BUT IT WAS THE VIEW OF PRESIDENT BUSH THAT WE COULD NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBLE USE OF FORCE. THE TURKISH PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN TOLD THE PRESS THAT OZAL AND BAKER HAD BEEN IN FULL AGREEMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS FULLY AND THERE IS SPECULATION THAT OZAL MAY BE TAKING A MESSAGE ON SANCTIONS TO IRAN, WHICH HE VISITS FROM 10 NOVEMBER.
- 4. WE HAVE BEEN BRIEFED ON BAKER'S VISIT BY AUSTRIAN (US EMBASSY)
 AND OGUT (HEAD OF NORTH AMERICAN DEPT, MFA). FOLLOWING ARE THE MAIN
 POINTS:

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(A) GULF: OGUT, (WHO WAS PRESENT FOR THE MEETINGS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER, BUT ADMITTED TO BEING UNSIGHTED ON THE MEETING WITH OZAL) SAID THAT BAKER HAD TOLD THE TURKS OF THE AMERICANS' DESIRE FOR A FURTHER UNSCR, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH WOULD BE TO SIGNAL TO SADDAM HUSSEIN THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS DETERMINED TO PURSUE EFFORTS FOR A SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS. HE HAD ALREADY FLOATED THIS WITH THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER IN CAIRO AND THE LATTER HAD INDICATED THAT PEKING WOULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF SUCH A RESOLUTION. BAKER HAD STRESSED THAT THE US PREFERENCE WAS STILL FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, BUT SAID THAT THEY WERE 'GROWING MORE AND MORE PESSIMISTIC' AS TO WHETHER A CONCLUSIVE RESULT COULD BE OBTAINED BY THESE MEANS. HE HAD REITERATED THE US VIEW THAT ANY SOLUTION MUST BE FULLY IN LINE WITH PREVIOUS UNSCRS AND THAT SADDAM SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO GET AWAY WITH ANY GAIN. THE TURKISH SIDE HAD AGREED THAT A PARTIAL SOLUTION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE, BUT HAD INDICATED THEIR VIEW THAT A CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO AND ACCOMPANYING POLITICAL PRESSURES REMAINED THE BEST WAY FORWARD. OGUT SAID THAT BAKER HAD NOT SPELT OUT THE PRECISE DETAILS OF A FURTHER BUT HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT IT WOULD NOT AIM TO SET UP A FORCE UNDER UN COMMAND, NOR THAT IT WOULD EVEN AUTHORISE THE USE OF FORCE. AS FAR AS HE KNEW, THERE HAD BEEN NO TALK OF PASSING A MESSAGE TO IRAN ON SANCTIONS, NOR HAD BAKER EXPRESSED ANY DISSATISFACTION ABOUT IRANIAN ADHERENCE. THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF THE USE OF US BASES IN TURKEY IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILITIES.

AUSTRIAN (WHO BASED HIS BRIEFING ON AN ACCOUNT BY HIS AMBASSADOR, WHO WAS PRESENT FOR ALL MEETINGS) CONFIRMED THE GIST OF THE ABOVE. HE SAID THAT THE AIM OF THE PLANNED UNSCR WAS TO BRING ALL PREVIOUSLY AGREED SOLUTIONS UNDER ONE UMBRELLA: IT WOULD BE WORDED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO SANCTION THE POSSIBLE USE OF FORCE. THE TWO SIDES HAD AGREED THAT SANCTIONS MUST BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO WORK, BUT THAT OTHER OPTIONS MUST NOT BE RULED OUT. THE TURKS HAD, HE CLAIMED, TACITLY AGREED THAT THE CURRENT BUILD UP OF FORCES IN THE GULF WAS NECESSARY TO SHOW SADDAM THAT THERE WAS A SERIOUS POSSIBILITY OF A MILITARY OPTION.

(B) HELP FOR TURKEY: BOTH OGUT AND AUSTRIAN SAID THAT BAKER HAD STRESSED THAT THE US WAS DOING ITS UTMOST TO ACHIEVE HELP FOR THE FRONT LINE STATES. HE HAD INDICATED THAT THE US WOULD RESPOND FAVOURABLY TO THE TURKISH REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE IN TEXTILE QUOTAS. OGUT SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO MENTION OF FREE SAUDI OIL. BUT BAKER HAD ASSURED PRIME MINISTER AKBULUT THAT THEY WERE PUTTING PRESSURE ON EVERYONE (ESPECIALLY THE SAUDIS) TO DELIVER ON THEIR

PAGE 2 RESTRICTED UNDERTAKINGS.

- (C) CFE: ALPTEMOCIN HAD TRIED TO RAISE CFE, BUT BAKER HAD RESPONDED THAT THIS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BY EXPERTS OWING TO LACK OF TIME. EXPERTS HAD DULY MET AND THE TURKS HAD EXPLAINED THEIR CONCERNS ON PARAMILITARY FORCES AND THE KIEV MILITARY DISTRICT. OGUT SAID THAT BAKER HAD PROMISED THAT THESE CONCERNS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN HE SAW SHEVARDNADZE.
- THAT THE AMERICANS HAD EXPLAINED THAT THEIR PRIMARY CONCERN WAS TO KEEP THE PROCESS MOVING. LEDSKY'S EFFORTS WERE TO BE SEEN IN THIS CONTEXT AND WERE NOT INTENDED TO RUN COUNTER TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL'S INITIATIVE. THE TURKS HAD NOT COMMENTED IN DETAIL ON LEDSKY'S IDEAS BUT HAD CONFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE UNSG'S EFFORTS.

COMMENT:

5. IT IS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE ON THE BASIS OF THESE RATHER SKETCHY ACCOUNTS WHETHER ANY IMPORTANT NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN. PROBABLY NOT. BUT THE ATMOSPHERICS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN GOOD AND THE AMERICANS WERE IMPRESSED BY THE FACT THAT ALL THREE OF BAKER'S INTERLOCUTORS SPOKE WITH THE SAME VOICE. CLEARLY US/TURKEY RELATIONS ARE STILL IN A GOOD STATE OF REPAIR AND THERE IS NO SIGN OF ANY BACKSLIDING ON THE TURKISH PART.

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