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TELNO 2

OF 021810Z JANUARY 91

INFO PRIORITY RIYADH, BAGHDAD, LUXEMBOURG, GULF POSTS, ACTOR
INFO PRIORITY OTHER EC POSTS, WASHINGTONRIYADH TELNO 14 TO FCO : EC DISCUSSION AT LUXEMBOURG - MITTERRAND'S
NEW YEAR MESSAGE

SUMMARY

1. MITTERRAND'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE BALANCES FRENCH READINESS FOR USE
OF FORCE WITH NEED TO GO ON WORKING FOR PEACE.

2. PRINCE SAUD'S ALLUSION TO MITTERRAND'S 1 JANUARY SPEECH IS A
REFERENCE TO THE PRESIDENT'S TRADITIONAL NEW YEAR'S EVE MESSAGE TO
THE FRENCH PEOPLE, THE TEXT OF WHICH APPEARED IN TODAY'S 'LE
MONDE'. THIS WAS IN LARGE PART AN ATTEMPT TO INSPIRE CONFIDENCE IN
THE FRENCH PEOPLE IN THE ROLE OF FRANCE IN THE WORLD TODAY. IT
CONTAINED NOTHING NEW ON THE GULF BUT CONSOLIDATES THE THEMES
MITTERRAND HAS DEVELOPED SINCE THE CRISIS BEGAN, INCLUDING FRENCH
READINESS TO RESORT TO FORCE IF NEED BE.

2. FOLLOWING WERE MITTERRAND'S MAIN POINTS ON THE GULF :-
- IF IRAQ WERE ALLOWED TO VIOLATE THE RIGHTS OF A PEOPLE TO SELF-
DETERMINATION, NOTHING WOULD PREVENT THE STRONG FROM CRUSHING
THE WEAK ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD:
 - FRANCE WOULD APPLY THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING
BY RESORT TO FORCE IF NEED BE:
 - BUT 'I STILL BELIEVE IN THE CHANCES OF PEACE'. FRANCE WOULD
WORK FOR THIS TO THE END, WHILST STANDING FIRM ON THE
PRINCIPLES:
 - IRAQ SHOULD REALISE THAT WHILST KUWAIT REMAINED OCCUPIED NOTHING
WAS POSSIBLE: ONCE KUWAIT WAS EVACUATED EVERYTHING WOULD BECOME
POSSIBLE : A TIME OF DIALOGUE WOULD THEN OPEN UP. 'I FAVOUR THE
ORGANISATION THEN OF ONE OR SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
FROM WHICH NOTHING WOULD BE EXCLUDED - NEITHER ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO
RECOGNITION AND SECURITY, NOR THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIANS TO
POSSESS THEIR OWN COUNTRY, NOR THE RIGHT OF LEBANON TO ITS
INTEGRITY, NOR THE RIGHT OF ALL, INCLUDING IRAQ AND KUWAIT, TO
LIVE IN PEACE.....'
 - IN THIS WORK OF PEACE FRANCE - BECAUSE SHE HAD BEEN PRESENT AT
THE DIFFICULT TIME - WOULD PLAY HER DUE ROLE (AS SHE HAD FOR

INSTANCE LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AGO WHEN SHE HOSTED THE CSCE CONFERENCE).

LLEWELLYN SMITH

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