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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 211700Z OCT 81

TO ROUTINE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1089 OF 21 OCTOBER 1981

INFO ISLAMABAD, KABUL, MOSCOW, TEHRAN, WASHINGTON.

INFO SAVING NEW DELHI, PEKING, PARIS, BONN.

AFGHANISTAN

1. WALDHEIM TOLD MR HURD ON 19 OCTOBER THAT DOST AND AGHA SHAH I HAD AGREED THAT THEIR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES HERE SHOULD START PROXIMITY TALKS THROUGH DIEGO CORDOVEZ ON TWO QUESTIONS OF SUBSTANCE, NAMELY REFUGEES AND NON-INTERFERENCE. WALDHEIM HAD NOMINATED CORDOVEZ IN DE CUELLAR'S ABSENCE. IF ALL WENT WELL, WALDHEIM WOULD SEND DE CUELLAR TO THE REGION AGAIN, PROBABLY IN NOVEMBER.

2. THE SECRETARIAT (PLEASE PROTECT) ARE A LITTLE EMBARRASSED BY WALDHEIM'S INDISCRETION IN REFERRING TO THIS CONTINUATION OF THE INDIRECT CONTACTS HERE AS "PROXIMITY TALKS". PICCO HAS TOLD US THAT THE AGENDA IS ALSO NOT AS CUT AND DRIED AS WALDHEIM INDICATED. THE PAKISTANIS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IF THE AFGHANS RAISE NON-INTERFERENCE THEN THEY WILL RAISE SOVIET WITHDRAWAL. CORDOVEZ'S TACTICS WILL BE TO DRAW OUT BOTH PARTIES THEREBY GRADUALLY WIDENING THE SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION. (THE EARLIER ROUND OF CONTACTS HAD ALREADY, FOR EXAMPLE, BRIEFLY TOUCHED ON THE QUESTION OF GUARANTEES).

3. MEANWHILE, WALDHEIM IS APPARENTLY SITTING ON HIS DRAFT REPORT AND THE SECRETARIAT DO NOT EXPECT HIM TO ISSUE IT BEFORE THE VOTING TAKES PLACE NEXT WEEK ON THE SECRETARY GENERALSHIP.

4. THE SECRETARIAT HAVE KEPT THE NEW IRANIAN REPRESENTATIVE HERE INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE INDIRECT CONTACTS. HE APPARENTLY REFERRED FAVOURABLY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS THE FIRST TIME ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARIAT THAT ANY IRANIAN HAS DONE SO. THE SECRETARIAT DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS IN FACT REPRESENTS THE VIEW OF HIS GOVERNMENT. BUT THEY HAVE NOT GIVEN UP HOPES THAT DE CUELLAR MIGHT INCLUDE TEHRAN IN HIS VISIT TO THE REGION.

F C O PLEASE PASS SAVING TO NEW DELHI, PEKING, PARIS, BONN.

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

PARSONS

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AFGHANISTAN STANDARD

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CABINET OFFICE

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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