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OF 221845Z AUGUST 90
AND TO DESKBY 221930Z PARIS, PEKING, MOSCOW, UKDEL NATO
INFO DESKBY 22193Z UKMIS NEW YORK

YOUR TELNO 473 TO UKMIS NEW YORK: IRAQ/KUWAIT: NEXT STEPS IN THE
UN

SUMMARY

1. US INSTRUCTIONS TO PICKERING SIMILAR TO YOURS. SHEVARDNADZE TOLD BAKER AT 5 PM GMT IF IT WAS SHOWN IRAQIS WERE BREACHING SANCTIONS THE RUSSIANS WOULD IMMEDIATELY VOTE FOR A RESOLUTION.

DETAIL

2. I GAVE BOLTON AN ACCOUNT OF THE INSTRUCTIONS IN YOUR TELNO 473. HE CONFIRMED THAT STATE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS TO PICKERING WERE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE LINE THAT WE WOULD TAKE. THE AMERICANS ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO ACHIEVING A VERY EARLY, AND FIRM, RESOLUTION. ADMIRAL KELLY WOULD BE BRIEFED TO GIVE THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE A COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF IRAQI SHIP MOVEMENTS.

3. BOLTON SAID THAT BAKER HAD SPOKEN TO SHEVARDNADZE AT NOON (EDT). SHEVARDNADZE HAD SAID THAT IF HE COULD BE SHOWN ONE FACT DEMONSTRATING THAT THE IRAQIS WERE IN BREACH OF SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS RESOLUTIONS THE RUSSIANS WOULD GIVE IMMEDIATE SUPPORT TO THE FAST PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION ON THE LINES NOW UNDER DISCUSSION. THEY ATTACHED THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUING TO WORK TOGETHER THROUGH THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THEY RECOGNISED US RIGHTS UNDER 661 TOGETHER WITH ARTICLE 51. THEY THOUGHT THAT IF ENFORCEMENT HAD TO TAKE PLACE IT WOULD BE BETTER DONE UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF A FRESH RESOLUTION.

4. BOLTON SAID SHEVARDNADZE KNEW THERE WERE FURTHER IRAQI TANKERS AT SEA. IT FOLLOWED THAT THE RUSSIANS KNEW THE IRAQIS WERE IN BREACH OF 661. BAKER HAD IMPRESSED ON SHEVARDNADZE THAT IF NO FRESH RESOLUTION WERE TO BE ADOPTED TODAY, 22 AUGUST, THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACT ANYWAY, UNDER ARTICLE 51, EVEN THOUGH THAT WOULD JEOPARDISE THE POSSIBILITIES OF AGREEMENT ON WIDER UN AUTHORITY. BOLTON ADDED THAT ANYTHING WE COULD DO TO HELP REINFORCE THE LATTER POINT WITH THE RUSSIANS WOULD BE WELCOME.

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COMMENT

5. WE HAVE OF COURSE BEEN NEAR THIS POINT BEFORE AND I WOULD NOT NECESSARILY TAKE BOLTON'S ASSERTION OF US DETERMINATION TO STOP THE NEXT TANKER WITH OR WITHOUT FRESH UN AUTHORITY AS GOSPEL. BUT THE AMERICANS MUST BE CONSCIOUS OF THE DANGERS OF CRYING WOLF, AND WE HAVE HAD OTHER INDICATIONS THEY MAY BE DETERMINED THIS TIME.

WOOD

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