

115/23/37

Your file:

Our file: 186/1/1

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FROM: LONDON	C04012/LON	21-Jun-1994
TO: WELLINGTON	WGTN UNSC	Priority
CC: NEW YORK		Priority
PARIS	MOSCOW	Routine
BEIJING	BONN	Routine
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MFAT (MEA, UNC, LGL, HRU, ISAC, EUR, DP3, DSP3, EAB)

P/S MFA

DEFENCE HQNZDF (DSIA, OPS, DDI)

DEFENCE MOD (GENTLES)

Subject

U05213: SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA, GEORGIA

Your U52265 and New York's C04649.

Summary

Our FCO contact thinks it a good idea to get the UNAMIR Force Commander to brief the Council and for the Council to hold consultations with troop contributors. He asks whether we had thought of suggesting that humanitarian agencies be asked to brief the Council on the impact on their work of the French initiative. British do not, however, think the French are stoppable.

Implications of the French initiative for Russian role in the "Near Abroad" are disturbing. Russians have produced draft resolution on Georgia which is "awful" - no time limit for CIS presence, no clarity about its relationship with UNOMIG. British expect Sec-Gen to issue a report on Georgia about 27 June after consultations between the Russians and the Secretariat. As UNOMIG mandate expires on 30 June, a rollover resolution will be necessary.

Action required

For information only.

Report

Willberg	
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When we spoke today to Clarke, Assistant Head, UN Dept, FCO, he clearly regretted that, for the sake of the bilateral relationship, UK is supporting the French initiative. He commented that while UK cannot echo our reservations in the Council, they would be happy if our doing so held back the French. We said we would be proposing that the UNAMIR Force Commander brief the Council, and consultations be held with present and potential troop contributors. Clarke thought this useful, and asked whether we had thought of suggesting a briefing from humanitarian agencies - the effect on their work was likely to be quite profound. Nevertheless, he did not think the French were stoppable, given the political capital they had invested to date.

2 Clarke agreed that the French initiative had disturbing implications for Russia's role in the "near abroad" (Moscow's C02842). In this context, he said that instructions had yesterday been sent to UKMIS in New York on a Russian draft resolution on the CIS force and the expansion of UNOMIG. Clarke described the Russian resolution as "awful". Inter alia, there is no time limit for the presence of the CIS force, and no clarity about its relationship with UNOMIG. There were still difficulties about guarantees for UNOMIG's freedom of movement.

3 We touched base later on with Eastern Dept (Fisher). She said that since the Russian Federation Council's refusal a couple of weeks ago to deploy peacekeeping troops to Georgia, Russian troops already on the ground had undertaken some mine clearing and started to deploy along the Inguri River. The Russian Federation Council today approved deployment of peacekeeping troops for up to six months. They should be able to be deployed (mainly in the Gali region) relatively quickly.

4 On the Russian draft resolution, Fisher said that as might be expected, its focus was very much on welcoming the CIS forces and highlighting that if they were not deployed, instability would spread etc. It also proposed the expansion of UNOMIG to 150 and the establishment of a voluntary fund for contributions to the CIS operation. Fisher said instructions to UKMIS had been that the resolution would need to be toned down, but that UK would not in any case be in a position to take a decision until discussions between Russia and the UN Secretariat on interoperability and transparency between CIS and UNOMIG had been completed and the Secretary-General had issued his report. In response to our question, Fisher said that she had not had a recent report on the talks, but she understood the S-G's report would be issued about 27 June. She noted that UNOMIG's mandate was due to expire on 30 June, and that it would need to be rolled over by a technical resolution for a couple of weeks while the S-G's report was considered. We asked Fisher about the UK position on expansion of UNOMIG (bearing in mind the Foreign Secretary's difficulties). She said the UK was willing to consider expansion, but wanted to see first what

the update would be for the CIS force and clarification of UNOMIG's role.

End Message