Message Text

1. DURING FIVE MONTHS SINCE USUN MET WITH GROUP 1 CONTRIBUTORS AND INDICATED VIEW UNFICYP COULD BE REDUCED WITHOUT ALTERING MANDATE, WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS THIS VIEW AS INSTRUCTED BY DEPT. SECRETARIAT AND ALL CONTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING CYPRUS) ARE FULLY AWARE OF US POSITION. CYPRUS MISOFF VOLUNTEERED THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO REDUCTIONS; NO OTHER CONTRIBUTOR SHOWS ANY WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT OPENLY VIEW THAT UNFICYP COULD AND SHOULD BE REDUCED.

2. DESPITE ALL EFFORTS, ACCORDING TO SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL SHEPPY, SYG’S REPORT (TO BE CIRCULATED 4 JUNE), WILL APPARENTLY RECOMMEND ONLY MINOR ECONOMY MEASURES (E.G., CLOSING FIELD HOSPITAL). WHILE CONCERNED ABOUT FINANCING 6&’S CONCENTRATION APPEARS TO BE ON CYPRUS POLITICAL SITUATION AND UNFICYP ROLE AS PK OPERATION. SECRETARIAT CONFIDENTIAL.
SHERRY. APART FROM ECONOMY MEASURES REFERRED TO, APPARENTLY NO OTHER INITIATIVES WILL BE RECOMMENDED OTHER THAN RENEWED PLEAS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, PARTICULARLY FROM CYPRUS AND TURKEY. (NICOSIA'S 113, SUGGEST GREATER MOVEMENT THEN IS APPARENT HERE IN NY.)

3. CANADA AND UK MISSIONS REPEATEDLY CITE LACK OF INSTRUCTIONS ON SUPPORTING US IN APPROACHING SYG TO INITIATE STUDY LOOKING TOWARDS REDUCTION. IMPRESSION WE ARE GETTING FROM STAFF LEVEL IS RELUCTANCE TO BE OUT IN FRONT BUT UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT THAT "SOMETHING" SHOULD BE DONE. COMPLEX REASONS FOR THIS ARE BEST DESCRIBED IN MIXED VIEWS EXPRESSED IN CAPITALS (REFTELS A AND B). CANADIANS HAVE INDICATED APPREHENSION THAT CUTS IN UNFICYP MIGHT AFFECT WILLINGNESS OF SOME TROOP CONTRIBUTORS TO STAY IN GAME AT ALL. IN INFORMAL GENERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SWEDISH AND AUSTRIA MISSIONS IMPRESSION GIVEN IS LACK OF CONCERN OTHER THAN WHAT US WILL PROPOSE NEXT AS FOLLOW-UP TO LAST DECEMBER'S MEETING OF CONTRIBUTORS.

4. IN SHORT, WE SEE INTERESTED PARTIES HERE WAITING FOR OTHER US SHOE TO DROP. THEY SEE US AS MAJOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTOR WITH INSIDE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CONSEQUENCES OF OUR ACTIONS AND, ASSUMING NO SERIOUS DRAWBACKS ARE OBVIOUS, THEY MAY NOT SERIOUSLY OPPOSE ANY REASONABLE PLAN TO REDUCE FORCE. THEREFORE, UNLESS SYG ADDRESSES SUBJECT OF REDUCTIONS IN HIS REPORT, USUN RECOMMENDS THAT, FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH GROUP I CONTRIBUTORS, US DELEGATE AT JUNE SC MEETING:
   A) EMPHASIZE DEFICIT, STRESS THAT APPEALS BY SYG FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AND REVIEW NON-YEAR HISTORY OF FORCE;
   B) EXPRESS VIEW THAT LANGUAGE OF MANDATE EMPOWERS SYG, TO DETERMINE SIZE OF FORCE; AND
   C) ASSESS SITUATION IN CYPRUS EXPRESSING US VIEW THAT TIME HAS COME TO ADJUST FORCE TO OBSERVER STATUS AND URGE SYG TO CONSIDER THIS VIEW AND ADVISE SC AS TO ITS FEASIBILITY BY DEC 1973. WE MIGHT ADD THAT OUR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFICYP IN 1974 WILL BE PROPORTIONATE TO OUR EVALUATION OF NEED FOR CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SEVERAL THOUSAND TROUPS.

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OF NEED FOR CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SEVERAL THOUSAND TROUPS. SCALI

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