LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01  MONROV 01703  311748Z

46
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01  AF-06  ISO-00  EB-07  OIC-02  SS-15  NSC-05  CIAE-00

COME-00  DODE-00  DOTE-00  FMC-01  INR-07  NSAE-00  CG-00

OFA-01  DLOS-03  PA-01  USIA-06  PRS-01  SP-02  EUR-12  L-02

TRSE-00  ARA-06  EA-06  NEA-09  OES-03  OMB-01  /107 W
---------------------     047024
R 311620Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5125

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 1703

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, IMCO, US, LI
SUBJECT: LIBERIAN CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON IMCO COUNCIL

REF: (A) STATE 226167 OF OCTOBER 14, 1974
    (B) MONROVIA 5806 OF OCTOBER 8, 1974
    (C) MONROVIA 0811

1. SUMMARY: GOL HAS AGAIN REQUESTED USG TO SUPPORT GOL CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON IMCO COUNCIL. NOTWITHSTANDING GENERAL POLICY OF MAKING SUCH DECISIONS AT CONFERENCE SITE IN LIGHT OF ALL CANDIDACIES, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS PROMPT DECISION TO INFORM GOL THAT USG WILL SUPPORT GOL CANDIDACY. GOL'S ARGUMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP ARE STRONG, AND USG INTERESTS WOULD BE BETTER SERVED BY PROMPT ESPOUSAL OF GOL POSITION RATHER THAN BY TEMPORIZING BUT COMING TO SAME DECISION IN LONG RUN ANYWAY. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NOTE RECEIVED MARCH 28 FROM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

BEGIN QTE: THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HAS THE HONOUR TO INFORM IT OF THE DECIS-
SION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA TO PRESENT ITS CANDIDATURE FOR ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO), DURING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IMCO THIS AUTUMN.

LIBERIA'S DECISION TO SEEK ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL IS BASED ON SEVERAL REASONS. FIRST, LIBERIA IS THE LARGEST MARITIME NATION IN THE WORLD, HOLDING MORE THAN 2,500 SHIPS OR 60 MILLION TONS. SECONDLY, LIBERIA PAYS AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS TO INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS TO IMCO. HER 1975 CONTRIBUTION TO IMCO IS 511,918 WHICH IS 5.8 PERCENT OF THE ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET AND THE LARGEST SINGLE CONTRIBUTION. THIRDLY AND FINALLY, LIBERIA IS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF IMCO. SHE HAS PARTICIPATED IN THE WORKS OF MOST OF IMCO BODIES, PRESENTLY ALL EXCEPT ONE OR TWO. IN ADDITION, SHE HAS RATIFIED MOST OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME CONVENTIONS. BUT SINCE HER MEMBERSHIP IN IMCO ABOUT SIXTEEN YEARS AGO, SHE HAS NEVER BEEN ELECTED TO THE COUNCIL.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA BELIEVES THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT, WITH THE PRECEDING REASONS, THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL AGREE THAT LIBERIA SHOULD BE ELECTED TO THE COUNCIL OF IMCO AND HOPES THAT IT CAN RELY ON THE VALUABLE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA WISHES TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ASSURANCES OF ITS KIND CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM. END QTE.

3. ABOVE NOTE, ALTHOUGH DIFFERENT IN LANGUAGE, IS IDENTICAL IN IMPORT TO GOL'S AUGUST 31, 1973, NOTE (MONROVIA 4816 OF AUGUST 31, 1973) REQUESTING US SUPPORT FOR LIBERIAN CANDIDACY FOR IMCO COUNCIL AT 8TH SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD IN LONDON IN NOVEMBER 1973. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, GOL FELT USG HAD BEEN UNRESPONSIVE TO GOL'S REQUEST FOR SUPPORT (MONROVIA 5806 AND STATE 226167).

4. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS GENERAL USG POLICY RE ADVANCE COMMITMENTS OF SUPPORT IN ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN GOVERNING BODIES OF UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (STATE 226167). NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT PRESENT REQUEST BE TREATED AS EXCEPTIONAL CASE:

A. GOL'S OWN ARGUMENTS (LIBERIA AS GREAT MARITIME NATION BASED ON TONNAGE AND SHIPS, GOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO IMCO, FACT GOL IS FOUNDING MEMBER OF IMCO YET HAS NEVER BEEN ON COUNCIL) STRONGLY SUGGEST GOL ENTITLEMENT TO MEMBERSHIP ON COUNCIL. FROM
THIS VANTAGE POINT IT SEEMS UNLIKELY ANY OTHER CANDIDATE WOULD HAVE STRONGER ARGUMENTS FROM USG POINT OF VIEW. MOREOVER, ON MAJOR MARITIME ISSUES, IN IMCO CONTEXT, GOL AND USG INTERESTS AND POSITIONS RUN PARALLEL. THERE COULD WELL BE POSSIBLE FAVORABLE SPINOFFS IN LOS CONTEXT, SINCE SAME LIBERIAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN BACKSTOPPING LOS AS IMCO.

B. IF USG CANNOT BACK GOL IN THIS MATTER, WE HAD BETTER STOP TALKING ABOUT SPECIAL OR HISTORIC OR TRADITIONAL RELATIONS ALTOGETHER. EITHER LIBERIA GETS ONLY THE STANDARD TREATMENT OR, WHERE WE CAN AND AT SMALL COST, WE GIVE HER AN EDGE. IMCO CONCIL MEMBERSHIP IS SURELY A CASE IN WHICH WE CAN GIVE GOL AN EDGE.

C. USG NEEDS AND URGES GOL SUPPORT IN VARIOUS FORA ON VARIETY OF ISSUES, SUCH AS GRUNK AND PRG REPRESENTATION. FONMIN DENNIS HAS FLATLY STATED THAT GOL WANTS CONSIDERATION IN RETURN FOR ITS SUPPORT ON SUCH ISSUES, WHICH OFTEN ARE OF SMALL IMPORT TO GOL. US SUPPORT FOR GOL CANDIDACY FOR IMCO COUNCIL WOULD NOT ONLY INCREASE CHANCES FOR GOL SUPPORT FOR US POSITION ON SUCH ISSUES AS MENTIONED, BUT WOULD ALSO TEND TO DEFLECT GOL FROM SEEKING REWARD FOR SUCH SUPPORT IN LARGER AREA OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE (MONROVIA 0811).

D. BY SAME TOKEN, HOWEVER, SUPPORT FOR GOL IN THIS INSTANCE SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS GAINING MERE BROWNIE POINTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY, BUT WOULD SHOW USG SUPPORT JUST WHERE IT MEANS MOST, IN FINANCE MINISTRY.

5. WITH SOME RESERVATION EMBASSY IS CONSTRAINED TO REMARK A DEFICIENCY I PAST WAY OF DEALING WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS' REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT RE VACANCIES IN GOVERNING BODIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. TWO IMPORTANT PARTIES WERE LEFT UNINFORMED OF USG SUPPORT FOR GOL CANDIDACY FOR IMCO COUNCIL LAST TIME: GOL AND THIS EMBASSY. LEAVING DECISION ON US SUPPORT TO LAST MINUTE BY USDEL AT CONFERENCE HAS POTENTIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MONROV 01703 311748Z

FOR GETTING IMPORTANT BILATERAL CONSIDERATIONS LOST IN SHUFFLE, AND, AS IN B, ABOVE, IN CASE OF GOL THERE IS AN IMPORTANT BILATERAL CONSIDERATION THAT USDEL COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO KNOW ABOUT. IN INSTANT CASE, GOL FOR ABOUT A YEAR NURSED AN UNNECESSARY FEELING OF GRIEVANCE. WE ACCEPT THAT COOPER WAS INFORMED AT CONFERENCE SITE, BUT OBVIOUSLY HE LOST TRACK OF THAT FACT. SMALL OVERWORKED DELEGATIONS, WITH POOR COMMUNICATIONS, RECORDS KEEPING AND FILING SYSTEMS WILL DO THAT. NET LOSER WAS USG, FOR IT DID SUPPORT GOL BUT LOST CREDIT FOR THAT SUPPORT AGAINST WHICH TO BALANCE OUR REQUESTS FOR GOL SUPPORT IN OTHER CONTEXTS.

6. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE INSTRUCTED PROMPTLY TO INFORM MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THAT USG WILL SUPPORT GOL'S CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON IMCO COUNCIL.
MANFULL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN
Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAR 1975
Decaaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MONROV01703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750111-0468
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975032/aaaaabna.tel
Line Count: 170
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 226167, 75 OF OCTOBER 14, 75 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERIAN CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON IMCO COUNCIL
TAGS: EWWT, PGOV, US, LI, IMCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006