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Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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4656

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ROS-00 AF-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-06  
RP-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 NA-05  
/133 W

P 251450Z JUL 86  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6395  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
AMEMBASSY SANTI DOMINGO

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E.O. 12958: 7/24/86 (CHESLAV, IRVING G.) OR-H  
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, UNSC, XL, TO, US  
SUBJECT: PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS IN THE CARIBBEAN:  
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

REF: STATE 121642

1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: DURING 1-1/2 HOUR PRE-UNGA CONSULTATION JULY 24 WITH AMBASSADOR MCCALL, AMBASSADOR AND USUN MICOFF, FOMIN DONALDSON HEARD U.S. POSITIONS ON KEY UNGA ISSUES AND SPOKE AT CONSIDERABLE LENGTH ON TRINIDAD'S PERSPECTIVES ON THE UNGA. DONALDSON INDICATED SUPPORT FOR THE FREEDING OF THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES IN IRAN, OPPOSITION TO THE SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN, A SOMEWHAT MIDDLE OF THE ROAD POSITION ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUES, AS WELL AS INTEREST IN THE KAMPUCHEAN SITUATION, MICRONESIA AND THE CUBAN REFUGEES. HE HAD SOME FIRM IDEAS ON THE NEED FOR A PERMANENT THIRD WORLD REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH HE BELIEVED WAS AT THE BASIS OF DEMANDS FOR EXPANSION OF THE SC. END SUMMARY.

3. AMBASSADOR MCCALL, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR AND USUN NISOFF STRASSER, MET JULY 24 WITH MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DONALDSON. ALSO PRESENT FROM HIS STAFF WERE ACTING PERSEC COREEN BAPTISTE, TREVOR SPENCER, POLITICAL SECTION, AND CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, CHIEF OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIT. ATMOSPHERE OF DISCUSSION OF ISSUES EXPECTED TO COME BEFORE THE 35TH UNGA WAS QUITE CORDIAL AND PROCEEDED FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR AND A HALF.

4. DONALDSON, WHO DID MOST OF THE TALKING FOR THE TRINIDAD SIDE, APPEARED GENUINELY INTERESTED IN THE ISSUES DISCUSSED AND WAS AT PAINS TO EXPRESS AND JUSTIFY HIS COUNTRY'S TRADITIONALLY LOW-KEY ROLE IN THE UN. ADMITTING THAT TRINIDAD'S ROLE HAD NOT BEEN THAT OF SOME OF ITS CARIBBEAN NEIGHBORS, DONALDSON EMPHASIZED THAT HIS COUNTRY HAD FOCUSED ON THE AREAS IN WHICH IT FELT IT COULD BE MOST USEFUL, PARTICULARLY THE DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE OF 24 AND IN BUDGETARY MATTERS. TRINIDAD HAD NEVER SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND HAD NO INTEREST IN DOING SO.

5. MIDDLE EAST: AMB. MCCALL EXPRESSED CONTINUED IMPORTANCE THE U.S. GIVES TO THE CAMP DAVID PEACE PROCESS, AND SAID HE APPRECIATED THAT TRINIDAD HAD ABSTAINED ON THE PALESTINE RESOLUTION LAST YEAR CONDEMNING THE CDA. HE SAID HE EXPECTED NOTHING USEFUL TO EMERGE FROM THE EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION ON PALESTINE. DONALDSON SAID HE HAD DELIBERATELY MADE NO REFERENCE TO THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS IN LAST YEAR'S UNGA GENERAL DEBATE SPEECH, BELIEVING THAT THIS WOULD BE THE MOST HELPFUL POSITION HE COULD ASSUME. HE BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE RESPECTED. (SPENCER

LATER REMINDED THE U.S. SIDE THAT ALTHOUGH T&T HAD ABSTAINED ON RES 34/65B, IT HAD VOTED IN FAVOR OF RES 34/65A WITH RESPECT TO PARTICIPATION OF THE PLO IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.) WITH REGARD TO THE EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION, DONALDSON SAID THAT TRINIDAD STOOD FOR BASIC PRINCIPLES WHICH HAD NOT CHANGED. AMB. MCCALL POINTED OUT THAT TO OUR UNDERSTANDING, THE DRAFT RESOLUTION BEING DISCUSSED AT THE ECUNGA IGNORED SUCH BASIC PRINCIPLES AS REFERENCE TO SC RES 242.

6. IRAN: DONALDSON EXPRESSED A STRONG PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES, PARTICULARLY DIPLOMATIC HOSTAGES, WAS UNACCEPTABLE, ACHIEVED NOTHING AND MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONDUCT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AMONG STATES. WHEN AMB. MCCALL POINTED OUT THAT IRAN WAS SEEKING THE ASIAN GROUP SEAT AGAINST JAPAN IN THE SC ELECTIONS IN THE UPCOMING UNGA, DONALDSON SMILED AND SAID THAT WOULD BE "NO PROBLEM," AN INDICATION THAT TRINIDAD WOULD NOT SUPPORT IRAN.

7. AFGHANISTAN: DONALDSON SAID THAT WE SHOULD BE WELL AWARE OF WHERE SMALL STATES STOOD ON THIS ISSUE. (TRINIDAD, OF COURSE, SUPPORTED THE RESOLUTION ON AFGHANISTAN THIS JANUARY.)

8. INDOCHINA/KAMPUCHEA: DONALDSON JOKINGLY SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE VIETNAMESE HAD JUST SENT AN ASTRONAUT UP IN A SOVIET SATELLITE. HE TERMED THE QUESTION OF KAMPUCHEAN CREDENTIALS AS MERELY A "PROCEDURAL" MATTER. DONALDSON SAID HE WANTED US TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE REASON WHY TRINIDAD DID NOT TAKE FORCEFUL POSITIONS ON KAMPUCHEA WAS NOT A LACK OF INTEREST, BUT RATHER LACK OF INFORMATION ON WHICH TO MAKE PRECISE JUDGMENTS.

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NEA-05 NA-05 CIRS-00 DOCE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
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9. CUBAN REFUGEES: DONALDSON BECAME QUITE INTERESTED IN OUR VIEWS ON THIS ISSUE WITH REGARD TO THE NEED TO TREAT IT AS AN INTERNATIONAL CONCERN. HE EXPRESSED SOME DOUBT, HOWEVER, WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE EASIER FOR THE U.S. TO DEAL BILATERALLY WITH CUBA AND WONDERED WHAT THE INTERNATIONAL ROLE COULD BE. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT THE U.S. HAD BEEN PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE BILATERALLY, BUT WANTED TO ESTABLISH ORDERLY PROCEDURES FOR THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES AND THESE HAD BEEN REJECTED BY CUBA. DONALDSON ACCEPTED WITH SOME RESERVATIONS THE NOTION THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MIGHT PLAY A ROLE IN INFLUENCING CUBA TO ACCEPT ORDERLY PROCEDURES. HE CONTINUED TO QUESTION, HOWEVER, WHETHER THE CUBANS WERE REALLY REFUGEES OR MERELY PEOPLE WHO, LIKE MANY IN THE CARIBBEAN, SAW THE U.S. AS THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY. IN THAT CASE THE U.S. HAD THE OPTION OF UNILATERALLY CUTTING OFF THE IMMIGRATION FLOW THROUGH ENFORCEMENT OF LAW AGAINST AMERICAN OWNERS/OPERATORS OF BOATS CARRYING CUBANS TO THE U.S.

10. PUERTO RICO: DONALDSON SAID HE WOULD NOT GO INTO DETAILS ON THIS ISSUE BUT SAID HIS GOVERNMENT FOUND IT ESPECIALLY "INTERESTING" AT THIS TIME. HE WAS PROBABLY REFERRING TO TRINIDAD'S OWN PROBLEMS IN DEALING WITH SECESSIONIST SENTIMENTS IN TOBAGO.) AND MCCALL STRESSED OUR DESIRE THAT PUERTO RICO NOT BECOME AN ISSUE IN THE GA.

11. SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES: DONALDSON WAS FIRM IN SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD DO "ANYTHING IT COULD" FOR THAT CAUSE. IT HAD PLAYED A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE C-24 TO THIS END. ON THE QUESTION OF APARTHEID, DONALDSON SAID HE WOULD REITERATE WHAT HE TOLD FORMER AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG ABOUT THE NEED FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. THE OBJECTIVE WAS NOT TO COMPLETELY DISRUPT THE SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMY BUT TO REMOVE THE PROFITS WHICH SOUTH AFRICA WAS ACCUMULATING FROM ITS EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES. HE SAID HE SAW LITTLE HOPE FOR CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA BECAUSE TOO MANY PEOPLE BENEFITTED ECONOMICALLY FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

12. MICRONESIA: DONALDSON LISTENED WITH INTEREST TO AMB. MCCALL'S EXPLANATION OF U.S. PLANS FOR TERMINATING THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT IN 1981 AND THE NATURE OF THE FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP UNDER NEGOTIATION. HE WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THE U.S. DEFENSE AND SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE PROPOSED COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WERE PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY, AND ~~HE WAS REASSURED WHEN TOLD THAT THIS PART OF THE COMPACT WAS INITIALLY FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.~~

13. NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE: DONALDSON SAID HE REALLY BELIEVED THE KEY ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE NIED ARE ENERGY AND FOOD AND WAS SUPPORTIVE OF THE U.S. POSITION THAT ENERGY BE INCLUDED IN THE DISCUSSION OF GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS AT THE 11TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA NEXT MONTH. THOMAS AND SPENCER EX-

PRESSED SOME SENTIMENT OVER THE "FRUSTRATIONS" TO DATE IN MAKING PROGRESS IN THE N/S DIALOGUE.

14. SECURITY COUNCIL EXPANSION: THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAD SOME VERY STRONG FEELINGS ON THIS ISSUE AND SAID HE WERE THE THIRD REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PERMANENT SC MEMBERS TO RAISE IT WITH HIM. DONALDSON SAID HE WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF EXPANSION OF THE SC PER SE: TRINIDAD HAS ALWAYS OPPOSED ANY TYPE OF EXPANSION OF UN ORGANS ON BUDGETARY GROUNDS. THE ISSUE REALLY IS ONE OF DEVELOPING WORLD REPRESENTATION ON THE SC. THE WORLD WAS NO LONGER THE SAME AS IT WAS JUST AFTER WWII AND IT COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED FOR THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE NOT TO HAVE A PERMANENT SEAT ON THE SC WITH THE RIGHT OF VETO. HE CALLED THE CONTINUED PRESENCE ON THE SC OF THE UK AND FRANCE AS PERMANENT MEMBERS "A JOKE." THIS PROBLEM NEED NOT BE RESOLVED BY EXPANDING THE SC. OTHER SOLUTIONS INVOLVED REMOVING ONE OF THE PRESENT PERMANENT MEMBERS AND GIVING THAT SEAT TO A THIRD WORLD REPRESENTATIVE, SAY INDIA. ANOTHER SOLUTION COULD BE FOR ONE OF THE NON-PERMANENT SEATS TO BE CONVERTED TO A PERMANENT SEAT. AMBASSADOR CHESLAW REMINDED DONALDSON THAT WHILE THESE IDEAS WERE OF INTEREST HE WERE FACING A CONCRETE PROPOSAL AT THE NEXT GA CONCERNING EXPANSION OF THE SC. MCCALL SUGGESTED THAT SOME OF DONALDSON'S IDEAS MIGHT MORE PROPERLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE. CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SAID THAT THE REASON THE SC EXPANSION PROPOSAL HAD COME TO THE GA WAS BECAUSE DISCUSSION IN THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE HAD STAGNATED, AND A PROCESS HAD BEGUN OF BREAKING PIECES OFF THOSE PROPOSALS AND PUTTING THEM FORWARD SEPARATELY.

15. COMPOSITION OF THE SECRETARIAT: DURING LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE AMBASSADOR ATTENDED BY THOMAS, LATTER RAISED THIS

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QUESTION WITH AMBASSADOR MCCALL. MCCALL POINTED OUT THAT  
EROSION OF THE CURRENT BASIS UPON WHICH AMERICANS  
OCCUPY SECRETARIAT POSITIONS, TAKING U.S. CONTRIBUTION  
INTO CONSIDERATION, WOULD BE STRONGLY OPPOSED BY THE U.S.  
CONGRESS IN A WAY QUITE DETRIMENTAL TO CONTINUED U.S.  
SUPPORT FOR THE UN.

16. THIS MESSAGE DRAFTED BY D. STRASSER (USUN) AND APPROV-  
ED BY AMBASSADOR MCCALL. CHESLAW

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