

*Afghanistan*

AFGHANISTAN. ADVANCE COPIES

3826

PS

PS/MR ONSLOW

PS/MR HURD

MR WRIGHT

SIR J BULLARD

MR GOODISON

MR ADAMS

MR AUST (LEGAL ADV.)

HD/FED

HD/PUSD (2)

HD/UND

HD/SEAD

HD/SAD (4)

HD/EESD

HD/NAD

HD/DEF D

HD/MED

HD/NENAD

HD/NEWS D

RESIDENT CLERK

No. 10 DOWNING STREET  
ASSESSMENT STAFF, CABINET OFFICE

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 300115Z NOV 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1965 OF 29 NOVEMBER

INFO PRIORITY ISLAMABAD, KABUL, TEHRAN, WASHINGTON, MOSCOW, NEW DELHI

PEKING, UKDEL NATO

INFO SAVING JEDDA, UKMIS GENEVA, TOKYO, ATHENS, BONN, BRUSSELS, UKREP  
BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, DUBLIN, THE HAGUE, PARIS, ROME, LUXEMBOURG.

MY TELNO 1957: AFGHANISTAN: UNGA 37 DEBATE

SUMMARY

1. THE RESULT OF THE VOTE ON THE AFGHANISTAN DRAFT RESOLUTION THIS MORNING (29 NOVEMBER) WAS 114 - 21 - 13. THIS WAS TWO FEWER VOTES BOTH FOR AND AGAINST COMPARED WITH LAST YEAR (116 - 23 - 12).

DETAIL

2. THERE WERE FOUR FURTHER SPEAKERS IN THE DEBATE THIS MORNING

(INCLUDING CHAIRMAN, FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALAYSIA AND A

2. THERE WERE FOUR FURTHER SPEAKERS IN THE DEBATE THIS MORNING (INCLUDING GHAZALI SHAFIE, FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALAYSIA), AND A HANDFUL OF EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE.

3. THE CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S VOTE WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) BELIZE, BOLIVIA, MAURITIUS AND VANUATU WHICH VOTED YES IN 1981 WERE ABSENT.

(B) EQUATORIAL GUINEA WHICH VOTED YES IN 1981 ABSTAINED.

(C) CHAD WHICH ABSTAINED IN 1981 VOTED YES.

(D) DOMINICA AND ST VINCENT WHICH WERE ABSENT IN 1981 VOTED YES.

(E) YEMEN WHICH WAS ABSENT IN 1981 ABSTAINED.

(F) SAO TOME AND SEYCHELLES WHICH VOTED NO IN 1981 WERE ABSENT.

4. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF BELIZE MISSED THE VOTE BECAUSE HIS PLANE FROM WASHINGTON WAS LATE. HE IS MOST APOLOGETIC AND IS NOTIFYING THE SECRETARIAT THAT HAD HE BEEN PRESENT HE WOULD HAVE VOTED YES. WE SUSPECT THAT VAN LIEROP, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF VANUATU, DELIBERATELY STAYED AWAY. THE AUSTRALIANS SPOKE TO HIM PERSONALLY ON FRIDAY ABOUT THE VOTE. HE HAS SINCE CLAIMED THAT HE WAS DETAINED BY AN IMPORTANT LAW CASE. (HE IS A RADICAL LAWYER WHO REPRESENTS VANUATU ON A PART-TIME BASIS). BOLIVIA'S ABSENCE WAS APPARENTLY A MISUNDERSTANDING SINCE IT HAD INTENDED TO VOTE YES, BUT THOSE OF MAURITIUS AND (MORE HELPFULLY) SEYCHELLES WERE PROBABLY DELIBERATE. COMMENT

5. IT IS DISAPPOINTING THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME THE VOTE FOR THIS RESOLUTION FAILED TO MAINTAIN ITS UPWARD TREND. BUT THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE VOTES FOR AND AGAINST REMAINS UNCHANGED SO THE RUSSIANS HAVE NO GROUNDS FOR COMFORT. ONCE AGAIN THE RESOLUTION HAS BEEN CARRIED BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY.

6. THE DEBATE ITSELF WAS A DESULTORY AFFAIR AND ATTENDANCE WAS SPARSE ON THE SECOND DAY. WE BELIEVE THAT HOLLAI, THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED THE DEBATE ON THE EVE OF THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY WEEKEND IN THE HOPE THAT A FRIDAY EVENING VOTE WOULD FIND SEVERAL DELEGATIONS ABSENT. THE PAKISTANIS MANAGED, HOWEVER, TO DRUM UP ENOUGH SPEAKERS TO KEEP THE DEBATE GOING UNTIL THIS MORNING. BUT APART FROM THIS SLEIGHT OF HAND THE RUSSIANS PULLED NO TRICKS OUT OF THE BAG.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES

THOMSON

[REPEATED SAVING AS REQUESTED]

NNNN