

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 01 OF 06 241626Z 3720 091321 AID8538  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 01 OF 06 241626Z 3720 091321 AID8538

ACTION OFFICE WOME-00  
INFO AFEA-03 WID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /806 A3 225

---

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 CS-00  
OIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-00 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-06  
NEA-07 NSC-01 ARA-00 HSAE-00 COME-00 HA-08 L-03  
LAB-04 TRSE-00 PM-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIC-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRB-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SNP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 W

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7672  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USUW NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 GENEVA 07010  
NAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

1. THIS IS ECOSOC 024.
2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT DELIVERED ON JULY 24 IN THE ECOSOC PLENERY ON THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN AFRICA. THE SPEECH ENGENDERED RIGHTS OF REPLY FROM THE USSR, THE GDR AND SAUDI ARABIA. THE SOVIETS CLAIMED AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT THEY PROVIDED MORE AID TO AFRICA THAN ANY OTHER CAPITALIST POWER, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES.

- BEGIN TEXT:  
- MR. PRESIDENT:

AS MANY HAVE SAID BEFORE ME, THIS HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT AND TRAGIC YEAR IN MANY COUNTRIES OF AFRICA, ALREADY BURDENED WITH STAGNATING ECONOMIC GROWTH, DECLINING RATES OF FOOD PRODUCTION, AND FALLING STANDARDS IN HEALTH, THE GRIP OF DROUGHT, DESERTIFICATION AND THE MASSIVE DISLOCATION OF POPULATIONS HAS PUT SEVERAL COUNTRIES ON THE BRINK OF DISASTER. REPORTS INDICATE THAT A CATASTROPHE IS IN THE MAKING IN THE SUDAN, IRONICALLY THE RESULT OF RETURNING HEAVY RAINS, WHICH INHIBIT THE TIMELY DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND RELIEF SUPPLIES TO SEVERAL MILLION STARVING AND ISOLATED PEOPLE IN THE REGIONS OF DARFUR AND KOROOFAN.

MR. PRESIDENT, MANY IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN PROFOUNDLY TOUCHED BY THE PLIGHT OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE. MY GOVERNMENT, FACED WITH SOME ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF ITS OWN, HAS MOUNTED AN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ON A SCALE NOT WITNESSED IN OUR GENERATION. INDEED, IT IS REMINISCENT OF THE MARSHALL PLAN IN THE 1940'S AND 1950'S WHICH WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING A WAR-RAVAGED WORLD BACK ON ITS FEET. CERTAINLY AS IMPORTANT HAS BEEN THE OUTPOURING OF HUMANITARIAN CONCERN BY INDIVIDUALS THROUGHOUT THE WEST WHO HAVE MOUNTED THEIR OWN CONSIDERABLE CAMPAIGNS FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA AND WHO, THROUGH THEIR FREE PRESS, HAVE HELPED MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF WORLD CONCERN AND HAVE RAISED THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MUCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THE GRIM PICTURES OF SKELETAL BODIES AND OF CROWDED REFUGEE CAMPS ARE INDELIBLY STAMPED

IN OUR MINDS. NAMES SUCH AS TIGRE, IGNET, PORT ASSAB, DARFUR, KOROOFAN, AND GAO, ONCE OBSCURE PLACES IN A HARSH LAND, HAVE BECOME FAMILIAR TO ALL OF US AS FLASH POINTS OF THIS HUMAN TRAGEDY AND AS SYMBOLS OF THE DIFFICULTIES FACED IN COPING WITH IT.

- DEDICATED OFFICIALS FROM GOVERNMENTS AND MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS, RELIEF WORKERS, AND EVEN ROCK STARS ARE DEVOTING THEIR TALENTS AND ENERGIES UNSELFISHLY IN THIS GREAT CAMPAIGN TO SAVE LIVES. MANY, UNFORTUNATELY, ARE DISCOURAGED BY WHAT APPEAR TO BE IMPOSSIBLE ODDS IN SOME REGIONS OF AFRICA. OTHERS HAVE BEEN DISILLUSIONED BY THE OBSTACLES THEY MEET AND BY THE LACK OF FULL DEDICATION AND COOPERATION FROM SOME WHO SHOULD DO BETTER.

- MR. PRESIDENT, OUR TASK IN ECOSOC IS TO ASSESS THE UNITED NATIONS', AS WELL AS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S, RESPONSE TO THE CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA, TO DETERMINE FURTHER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE NEEDS, AND, IMPORTANTLY, TO FOCUS ON WHAT WE CAN DO TO REVITALIZE THE BARREN LANDS AND BRING INTO BEING A NEW ERA OF SELF-RELIANCE.

- WE HAVE SPOKEN MANY TIMES ABOUT THE HERCULEAN TASK FACED BY ERADJORD MORSE AND HIS SMALL OFFICE OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS FOR AFRICA IN COORDINATING RELIEF ACTIVITIES, IN MOBILIZING INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT, AND IN MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM FOR SUCH SUPPORT. WE HAVE HEARD FROM MR. MORSE AND OTHERS DURING THIS DEBATE ABOUT THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE TASK AND THE URGENT NEED TO PUSH FORWARD WITH LOGISTICS, REHABILITATION AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. WE ARE FULLY APPRECIATIVE OF THE UNIQUENESS OF OEOA'S ROLE, OF THE POLITICAL AND LOGISTICAL NIGHTMARES FACED BY THE UN AND BILATERAL DONORS WORKING IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES OF AFRICA, AND OF THE UNFORTUNATE BACK-BITING OF VARIOUS VESTED INTERESTS WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM AND ELSEWHERE WHICH PERSISTS IN SPITE OF ALL THE REAL HUMAN SUFFERING.

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 02 OF 06 241628Z 3732 091322 AID6541  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 02 OF 06 241628Z 3732 091322 AID6541

ACTION OFFICE NONE-00  
INFO AFEA-03 WID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /00G A3 225  
-----  
INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00  
OIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-08 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-06  
NEA-07 NSC-01 HRA-00 HSAE-00 COME-00 HA-08 L-03  
LAB-04 TRSE-00 /M-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIC-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRB-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SNP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 W

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7673  
AMEMEXSY HAIROBI  
USMISSION USUH NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 06 GENEVA 07010

HAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

- THE UN SYSTEM HAS TRIED VALIANTLY TO REORIENT ITSELF AND TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO BRING HOPE TO THE MILLIONS OF STARVING AND HOMELESS PEOPLE. MY GOVERNMENT IS NOT YET READY TO GIVE A FINAL GRADE TO THIS EFFORT, SINCE, AS WE ALL FULLY REALIZE, THERE IS MUCH, MUCH MORE TO DO. SUFFICE IT TO SAY AT THIS POINT, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OEDA AND ITS CLOSELY COOPERATING AGENCIES, PARTICULARLY WFP, UNICEF AND UNHCR, SHOULD SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT IS POSSIBLE, POSSIBLE NOT ONLY IN DEALING WITH A FULL-SCALE EMERGENCY, BUT IN REDISCOVERING THE PURPOSE AND DIRECTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS. MANY PARTS OF THE UN SYSTEM DO NOT HAVE THE WHEREWITHAL OR ARE TOO SET IN THEIR OWN TRADITIONS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY ON A LARGE, OPERATIONAL SCALE. BY POOLING THEIR RESPECTIVE FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES, SOMETHING OF REAL IMPACT AND IMPORTANCE IS POSSIBLE, AS WE HAVE SEEN TO DATE WITH THE UN/OEDA EFFORT.

- MR. PRESIDENT, IN ASSESSING THE UN'S ROLE IN THE EMERGENCY, WE HAVE TO ADDRESS MORE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS THAN THOSE WITH WHICH OEDA OR MY GOVERNMENT'S TASK FORCE ON ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA CAN COPE. WE MUST SQUARELY FACE THE PROBLEM OF BUSINESS, POLITICS AND POLEMICS AS USUAL, WHICH IS AS PERVERSIVE IN SOME PARTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AS IT IS IN SOME OF THE AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE DISASTER. I MIGHT LOGICALLY, IF I COULD AT THIS POINT IN MY STATEMENT, SIMPLY SUBMIT THE SERIES OF DOONESBURY CARTOONS WHICH RECENTLY APPEARED IN THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE. THEIR AUTHOR, THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CRITIC, GARY TRUDEAU, HAS CLEARLY CAPTURED THE ESSENCE OF A GOOD PART OF THE PROBLEM. MANY OF YOU HAVE NO DOUBT FOLLOWED HIS COMMENTARY ON THE PROBLEMS OF DELIVERING FOOD AND SAVING LIVES IN ONE PARTICULAR AFRICAN NATION. MR. TRUDEAU'S CRITICISMS ARE, UNFORTUNATELY, RIGHT ON TARGET. HE HAS HIGHLIGHTED WITH GREAT INSIGHT THE HYPOCRISIES AND BUSINESS-AS-USUAL RHETORIC WHICH IMPEDE THE EMERGENCY RELIEF TASK. HOW MUCH LONGER CAN WE CONTINUE TO COUNT ON THE GOOD WILL AND SUPPORT OF THE CITIZENS AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE DONOR COUNTRIES WHEN DAILY WE READ OF FORCED RESETTLEMENTS,

CIVIL WAR AMIDST FAMINE, ROTTING FOOD PILED UP IN PORTS, OF AVARICIOUS CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AND TRANSPORTERS, OF GOVERNMENT LEADERS WHO GIVE EVERY INDICATION THAT THEY ARE UNTRoubLED BY THE PROSPECT THAT TENS OF THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE MAY DIE UNNECESSARILY. VULTURES FOLLOW THE CARNAGE OF DISASTER. THEY WAIT CONVENIENTLY IN THE TREES AND IN THE HILLS TO TAKE THEIR TURN. ONE CAN ONLY BE SICKENED BY THE ATTITUDES OF SOME AND THE MANY EXCUSES FOR INACTION. CERTAINLY, MR. PRESIDENT, MOST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE ACTED VERY RESPONSIBLY. BUT IN THE CASE OF A FEW OTHERS, RELIEF SUPPLIES ARE GETTING THROUGH TO THOSE IN DISTRESS LARGELY IN SPIITE OF GOVERNMENTS. IT IS THE ONLY IMAGINATION AND THE DEDICATION OF A FEW UN AGENCIES AND A FEW NGO'S THAT IS MAKING THIS POSSIBLE, IN SPIITE OF THE MANY INEXPLICABLE AND UNACCEPTABLE GOVERNMENTAL OBSTACLES PUT IN THEIR PATH.

- WE HAVE TALKED A GREAT DEAL DURING THIS DEBATE OF MAINTAINING THE TREMENDOUS MOMENTUM OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONCERN FOR THE AFRICAN CRISIS AND OF TRANSLATING THIS MOMENTUM INTO LONGER-TERM COMMITMENTS FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RECOVERY. YET, AS WE RECEIVE AND ASSESS REPORTS EVERY DAY FROM THE FIELD ADDRESSING THE FRUSTRATION IN DEALING WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THE LACK OF FIRM LEADERSHIP IN ORGANIZING INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION, AND THE EXPLOITATION AND GRAFT THAT GROW MORE AND MORE RAMPANT, WE WONDER HOW LONG SUCH INTERNATIONAL CONFIDENCE AND MOMENTUM CAN BE MAINTAINED. WHEN WE ADDRESS THIS ISSUE OF COMMITMENT FROM THE ECOSOC PERSPECTIVE, WHEN WE LISTEN TO ALL THE WELL-INTENTIONED RHETORIC, WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE COUNTER-MOMENTUM BUILT INTO THE SYSTEM TO CONTINUE ON WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL. WE BECOME PREOCCUPIED ABOUT WHERE AND WHEN TO HOLD ANOTHER MEETING, ABOUT WHERE TO BUILD AN EVEN GRANDER CONFERENCE-CENTER, AND ABOUT STRUCTURING AGENDAS AROUND TRADITIONAL AND OFTEN DEVISIVE ISSUES THAT HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH FEEDING THE STARVING

7

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 03 OF 06 241629Z 3735 091323 AID8542  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 03 OF 06 241629Z 3735 091323 AID8542

ACTION OFFICE W/IE-08  
INFO AFEA-03 WID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /086 A3 225

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00  
OIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-00 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-06  
NEA-07 NSC-01 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 HA-08 L-03  
LAD-04 TISE-00 PH-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIC-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRB-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SNP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 W

-----005066 241928Z /52

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7674  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 26 GENEVA 07010

NAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

OR WITH REHABILITATING FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. ONE WONDERS AT TIMES IF SOME IN POSITIONS OF POWER KNOW OR CARE THAT LIVES ARE AT STAKE HERE. INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE IS DIFFICULT ANYWHERE, INCLUDING WITHIN MY OWN GOVERNMENT. BUT THE UNITED NATIONS HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE TO MY GOVERNMENT AND TO THE REST OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT IT CAN ORGANIZE ITSELF TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE AFRICAN EMERGENCY AND RECOVERY. THE UN MAY NOT HAVE SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY AGAIN IN OUR GENERATION, AND FAILURE HERE WOULD NOT ONLY BE DEVASTATING FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA, IT WOULD BE DEVASTATING FOR THE UN ITSELF.

- MR. PRESIDENT, WE BELIEVE THAT WE IN THE UNITED STATES CAN BE PROUD OF THE AMERICAN RESPONSE TO THE AFRICAN CRISIS. IT REPRESENTS A UNIQUE COMING TOGETHER OF DISPARATE INTERESTS, UNITED BY THE COMMON BOND OF WANTING TO HELP OTHERS LESS FORTUNATE THAN OURSELVES. PRIVATE CITIZENS, SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES, BUSINESSES, THE MEDIA, VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES, THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT AT LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVELS HAVE ALL WORKED TOGETHER TO DEVELOP PROGRAMS, GATHER ASSISTANCE AND DELIVER RELIEF AID TO PEOPLE AT RISK. THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATING, THE SENSE THAT AFRICA'S NEEDS ARE OUR NEEDS, AND THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT CUTS ACROSS POLITICAL PARTY LINES AND UNITES, RATHER THAN DIVIDES, PEOPLE IS PARAMOUNT.

- WE HAVE GIVEN FAO, OEOA, AND OUR CONGRESS DETAILED ACCOUNTINGS OF OUR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. IT IS INFORMATION THAT IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION. LET ME STRESS AT THIS POINT THAT I WILL BE SUMMARIZING OUR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TO AFRICA AND NOT OUR REGULAR LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, WHICH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO INCREASE AS WE APPROVE MORE AND MORE PROGRAMS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. I MUST ALSO STRESS THE ADDITIONALITY OF BOTH THE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND THE LONG-TERM COMPONENTS OF OUR AID TO AFRICA AND CHALLENGE THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN USING OLD, PRE-AFRICA CRISIS DATA TO MAINTAIN EITHER THAT SUCH AID HAS BEEN STAGNATING OR THAT IT IS NOT ADDITIONAL.

- MR. PRESIDENT, FROM OCTOBER 1, 1984 THROUGH THE END OF JUNE 1985, SLIGHTLY MORE THAN USD 1,135,000,000 OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING HAS BEEN APPROVED TO PROVIDE MORE THAN 3 MILLION METRIC TONS OF FOOD AID AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. IN COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS YEARS, THIS IS CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN DOUBLE THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF FOOD AID AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SENT IN FY 1984. THREE-QUARTERS OF OUR ASSISTANCE FOR 1985 HAS BEEN DELIVERED OR IS IN THE PIPELINE AND THE REST WILL FOLLOW.

- GIVEN THE RETURNING RAINS TO SOME OF THE DROUGHT-STRICKEN REGIONS, THE UNDERESTIMATION OF SEEDS HELD IN RESERVE BY LOCAL FARMERS, AND THE CAPACITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND SOME GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPLY NEEDED AGRICULTURAL INPUTS, RENEWED HOPE CAN BE SEEN IN THE FIELDS, AND SOME CROP SURPLUSES ARE ANTICIPATED. INDICATIONS ARE THAT THERE WILL BE NO SUBSTANTIAL NEW EMERGENCY FOOD NEEDS THROUGH THE END OF 1985. THE MAIN PROBLEM, AS WE HAVE HEARD FROM BRAD MORSE AND OTHERS, IS MOVING FOOD INLAND TO THE PEOPLE AT RISK. AT THE MOMENT, THIS MOSTLY AFFECTS TWO COUNTRIES, SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA, WITH SEVERAL WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES - CHAD, NIGER AND MALI - FACING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES, BUT HAVING FEWER PEOPLE AT RISK.

- IN NON-FOOD EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, THE U.S. CONGRESS IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR AUTHORIZED USD 135 MILLION TO SUPPLEMENT OUR REGULAR DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND THAT IS PART OF THE FIGURE I MENTIONED EARLIER OF USD 1.1 BILLION. THE ACTIVITIES BEING FUNDED IN THIS NON-FOOD CATEGORY RUN THE GAMUT OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE: SETTING UP A FERRY AT GAO TO ALLOW FOOD TRUCKS ACCESS TO REMOTE AREAS OF MALI; BUYING AND DELIVERING WATER PUMPS FOR BURKINA FASO; HELPING WITH GRAIN OFF-LOADING IN PORT SUDAN; AIRLIFTING MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND IMMUNIZATION EQUIPMENT TO CHAD; AIRLIFTING

UNCLASSIFIED

3

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 04 OF 06 2416292 3736 091374 AID8543  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 04 OF 06 2416292 3736 091374 AID8543

ACTION OFFICE NONE-00  
INFO AFEA-03 VID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /006 A3 225

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00  
DIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-00 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-06  
HEA-07 NSC-01 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 HA-08 L-03  
LAB-04 TRSE-00 PM-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIC-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRB-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SHP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 W

-----005100 2419282 /52

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7675  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USJH NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 06 GENEVA 07010

NAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

TRUCKS TO ETHIOPIA FOR USE BY THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS; AND SHIPPING SURPLUS BLANKETS TO MOZAMBIQUE. FUNDS ARE BEING USED TO SUPPORT UNICEF WATER AND SANITATION ACTIVITIES AND THE REFUGEE WORK OF UNHCR. OTHER RESOURCES ARE BEING PROGRAMMED FOR UN/OEOA LOGISTICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. AND LET ME UNDERLINE HERE THAT I AM ONLY SUMMARIZING THE MANY SPECIFIC EFFORTS OF MY GOVERNMENT AND NOT THOSE SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS OF AMERICAN PRIVATE CITIZENS AND NGO'S, SUCH AS CATHOLIC RELIEF, CARE, WORLD VISION AND OTHERS.

- MR. PRESIDENT, AS I NOTED AND AS CAN BE SEEN IN ALL THE CURRENT, UP-TO-DATE RECORDS PUBLISHED BY UN/OEOA, THE U.S. WILL SUPPLY ROUGHLY HALF OF ALL DONOR FOOD AID TO AFRICA THIS YEAR. SOME OF THIS IS FOR FOOD EMERGENCY PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED WITH GOVERNMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS WFP, AND THROUGH NGO'S. SOME IS ALREADY BEING PROGRAMMED FOR DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED FOOD-FOR-WORK ACTIVITIES GEARED TO REBUILD AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE. THE CURRENT OEOA REPORT SHOWS THAT WESTERN EUROPE, THROUGH THE EEC, IS SUPPLYING A VERY CONSIDERABLE PART OF THE REMAINING HALF OF FOOD AID NEEDS, AND MANY OTHER NATIONS, LARGE AND SMALL, DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED, ARE PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF NON-FOOD AID ASSISTANCE.

- WE REVIEW THIS RECORD, AS SHOULD ALL AFRICAN NATIONS, WITH SOME SATISFACTION BUT ALSO WITH GREAT DISTRESS. GIVEN PERHAPS THE GREATEST OUTPOURING OF HUMANITARIAN CONCERN IN THIS GENERATION, IT IS ONLY APPROPRIATE THAT MANY DONOR GOVERNMENTS HAVE REORDERED THEIR PRIORITIES IN THE FACE OF THEIR OWN PRECARIOUS ECONOMIC SITUATIONS. SUCH A MASSIVE RESPONSE DOES NOT COME WITHOUT SACRIFICE, WITHOUT A PRICE. IT IS, THEN, DISCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT THIS RESPONSE HAS NOT BEEN AS UNIVERSAL AS ONE WOULD HAVE HOPED. WE LOOK AT THE FAO AND OEOA ACCOUNTING AND NOTE THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS ONLY MANAGED TO PROVIDE 7,000 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS THIS YEAR IN COMPARISON WITH OVER 6 MILLION TONS PROVIDED LARGELY BY THE WEST. SEVEN THOUSAND TONS OF FOOD GRAINS, MR. PRESIDENT, IS WORTH LESS THAN A FEW OF THE RUSSIAN ARMoured VEHICLES THAT ARE OFTEN GIVEN

OFF-LOADING PRIORITY AT ETHIOPIAN PORTS. I CAN ONLY SAY HOW SAD THIS ALL IS, GIVEN THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIETS IN ECOSOC AND THEIR PARTICULAR INTERESTS IN AT LEAST TWO OF THE MOST CRITICAL COUNTRIES, ETHIOPIA AND MOZAMBIQUE. THE VERY RESPECTED BRITISH JOURNAL, "THE ECONOMIST," ASSESSING THE RELIEF OPERATION IN AFRICA, NOTED THAT "RUSSIA AND OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN REMARKABLE FOR THEIR MEANNESS." SURELY THEY HAVE NOT ACTED AT ALL CONSISTENTLY WITH THEIR PROFESSED INTERESTS IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIANISM.

- MR. PRESIDENT, WE MUST NOW SERIOUSLY FOCUS ON MATTERS RELATED TO RECOVERY, REHABILITATION AND SELF-RELIANCE IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. IT IS CLEAR THAT, EVEN WITH IMPROVED RAINFALL, ALL FOOD IMPORTS FOR AFRICA WILL CONTINUE TO RISE, AT LEAST IN THE SHORT TERM. ALTHOUGH PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN INCREASING PRODUCTION IN SOME COUNTRIES, THE TASK FOR AFRICA OF ACHIEVING SOME SEMBLANCE OF FOOD SELF-RELIANCE IS TRULY AWESOME AND WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED OVERNIGHT, OR IN 20 YEARS. WHILE BILATERAL AND MULTINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CLEARLY RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO LAUNCH PROGRAMS AIMED AT RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION, THEY AND THE AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN MOSTLY OVERWHELMED WITH MEETING THE IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY NEEDS. IT IS NOT EASY TO SHIFT GEARS WHEN MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE STILL AT RISK.

- WE HAVE HEARD MANY TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC RATIONALES FOR THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION AND FOR THE DECLINE IN PER CAPITA FOOD PRODUCTION, EVEN BEFORE THE PRESENT CRISIS. WHILE SOME WOULD POINT THE FINGER AT THE PAST, AND PAST PRACTICES ARE PARTIALLY TO BLAME, THE FACT IS THAT 15 YEARS AGO AFRICA COULD INDEED FEED ITSELF.

- WHAT WENT WRONG? CERTAINLY POPULATION PRESSURES, UNCONTROLLED GRAZING, AND THE INDISCRIMINATE CUTTING

UNCLASSIFIED

4

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 05 OF 06 241635Z 3752 091325 AID8549  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 05 OF 06 241635Z 3752 091325 AID8549

ACTION OFFICE NONE-00  
INFO AFEA-03 VID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /866 A3 225

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00  
OIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-00 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-66  
NEA-07 NSC-01 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 HA-00 L-03  
LAB-04 TRSE-00 PH-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIC-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRG-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SHP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 W

-----005107 241928Z /52

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7676  
AMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USGHN NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 06 GENEVA 07010

NAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

DOWN OF WOODLANDS ARE AT FAULT. BUT THERE ARE OTHER IMPORTANT FACTORS SUCH AS CIVIL STRIFE LEADING TO DISLOCATION OF POPULATIONS, AND WE DO NOT ONLY MEAN THE UNFORTUNATE STRIFE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WAR AND INSURRECTION IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AND IN THE SAHEL HAVE BROUGHT AN EVEN GREATER AMOUNT OF TRAGEDY AND HUMAN SUFFERING. GOVERNMENTAL POLICIES FAVORING THE URBAN CONSUMER AT THE EXPENSE OF THE RURAL PRODUCER WEIGH HEAVILY IN THE ASSESSMENT OF WHAT WENT WRONG. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROBLEMS OF FALLING COMMODITY PRICES AND INDEBTEDNESS, BUT LOOKING AT THE PAST WE SEE HEAVY PUBLIC BORROWING TO SUPPORT INEFFICIENT PUBLIC ENTERPRISES AND TO ERECT URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE URBAN ELITE.

- MR PRESIDENT, WE HAVE ONCE AGAIN NOTED HOW STUDIOUSLY MANY SPEAKERS HAVE AVOIDED MENTIONING THE OIL PRICE INCREASES OF THE 1970'S AS ONE OF THE PRIMARY CAUSES OF INCREASED BORROWING AND INDEBTEDNESS. A 400 PCT INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF OIL IMPOSED BY THE OPEC CARTEL CAME AT A TIME WHEN THERE WAS MORE OPTIMISM ABOUT AFRICA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE. AFTER THIS STAGGERING BLOW SOME AFRICAN COUNTRIES WERE FORCED TO SLOW DOWN THEIR RATES OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT. OTHER COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, CONTINUED THEIR HEAVY INVESTMENT POLICIES MOSTLY IN SECTORS OTHER THAN AGRICULTURE, AS IF THERE WERE NO TOMORROW. TOMORROW UNFORTUNATELY HAS COME. WE HAVE SEEN RURAL PRODUCERS REORGANIZED BY CITY BUREAUCRATS INTO COLLECTIVE AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO MANAGE AND WHICH PROVIDE LITTLE INCENTIVE FOR INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE. WE HAVE SEEN PRODUCTIVE ARABLE LAND TURN TO DUST IN A FEW SHORT YEARS AS UNDERPAID FARMERS ABANDONED THE LAND TO MARGINAL HERDERS WHO, IN TURN, WATCHED IT BECOME DESERT.

- IT IS TRUE THAT GOVERNMENTS ARE BEGINNING TO CHANGE POLICIES IN A NUMBER OF WAYS THAT SHOULD ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO PRODUCE MORE. GHANA, ON AN ECONOMIC SLIDE FOR AT LEAST A DECADE AND ONLY RECENTLY RECOVERED FROM DROUGHT, GAVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THE RURAL SECTOR AND IN A REMARKABLE TURN AROUND, PRODUCED ITS FIRST SURPLUS CORN CROP IN YEARS. COUNTRIES SUCH AS MALAWI, THE CAMEROON AND THE IVORY COAST, WHICH HAVE

CONSISTENTLY PUT EMPHASIS ON THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, APPEAR TO BE WEATHERING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES BETTER THAN MOST. AND WHEN WE THINK OF THE PAST, WE CANNOT FORGET THE CASE OF INDIA WITH MORE MOUTHS TO FEED THAN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, AND WHICH, TEN YEARS AGO, WAS CONSIDERED NEARLY HOPELESS. NOW, THROUGH RESTRUCTURING ITS AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, IT IS A SURPLUS PRODUCER. IT CAN BE DONE IN THE CASE OF AFRICA, AND SURELY MUST BE DONE.

- WHAT CAN WE, AS A MAJOR DONOR TO AFRICA, DO TO ASSURE THE REALIZATION OF RECOVERY AND SELF-RELIANCE IN FOOD PRODUCTION? WHAT PRACTICAL SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM STEPS CAN AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS THEMSELVES TAKE TO ASSURE THIS REALIZATION? WE HAVE OFTEN TALKED OF POLICY REFORM AND INCENTIVES AS BEING THE KEY TO LONG-TERM REVITALIZATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. SHORT-TERM MEASURES, IN OUR VIEW, SHOULD BE AIMED AT LAND REFORM, LAND RECLAMATION AND THE REBUILDING OF RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE. SOME OF THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH THE JUDICIOUS USE OF FOOD-FOR-WORK OR CASH-FOR-WORK SCHEMES, BEING CAREFUL, OF COURSE, TO ENCOURAGE, NOT WEAKEN, FURTHER LOCAL FARMER INITIATIVE. FULLY RECOGNIZING THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT WHICH ARE BY THEIR VERY NATURE LONG-TERM, AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ALSO PROMOTE PRACTICAL EFFORTS OF A SHORT-TERM NATURE TO RETURN HOPE TO THEIR PEOPLES.

- THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO ASSIST AFRICA ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT WHERE OUR ASSISTANCE CAN BE EFFECTIVELY USED AND WHERE THERE IS A CONDUCIVE CLIMATE FOR PRAGMATIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. TAKING OUR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND OUR REGULAR PROGRAMS FOR AFRICA TOGETHER, THE UNITED STATES WILL PROVIDE APPROXIMATELY USD 2 BILLION IN RESOURCES FOR SUB-SAHARAN

UNCLASSIFIED

5

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 GENEVA 07010 06 OF 06 241636Z 3755 091326 AID3550  
ACTION 10-16

GENEVA 07010 06 OF 06 241636Z 3755 091326 AID3550

-----  
ACTION OFFICE NONE-00  
INFO AFEA-03 WID-01 AFDA-01 ES-01 /086 A3 225  
-----  
INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-00  
OIC-02 AF-00 CIAE-00 EB-00 DODE-00 H-01 EXIM-06  
NEA-07 NSC-01 ARA-00 NSAE-00 COME-00 HA-08 L-03  
LAB-04 TRSE-00 PM-10 EAP-00 ITC-01 OPIG-07 PA-02  
OMB-01 STR-14 SIL-01 FRB-01 AGR-01 JUS-01 SP-02  
SNP-01 PRS-01 SPD-01 /111 V

-----005115 241929Z /52

R 241607Z JUL 85  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7677  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 06 GENEVA 07010

NAIROBI FOR USDEL/WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: AMB. KEYES

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: AORC, EAID, AF, ECOSOC  
SUBJECT: ECOSOC AGENDA 4, CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA

AFRICA IN 1985. WITH OUR REGULAR BILATERAL PROGRAM, OVER 55 PCT IS EARMARKED FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IN FACT, IT IS INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR OUR USAID FIELD DIRECTORS TO JUSTIFY TO WASHINGTON ANYTHING OTHER THAN PROJECTS RELATED TO FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. I SHOULD ADD THAT ALMOST ALL - IN FACT 92 PERCENT - OF OUR BILATERAL PROGRAMS FOR AFRICA ARE GRANT - NOT LOAN - PROGRAMS. ADDITIONALLY, IN 1986 MY GOVERNMENT IS PLANNING TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICANS AT US AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. THIS SHOULD TRANSLATE INTO LONG AND SHORT TERM TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR APPROXIMATELY 5,000 FROM SUBSAHARAN AFRICA. OVER HALF OF THESE STUDENTS WILL BE ENGAGED IN A WIDE VARIETY OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS RANGING FROM FARM MECHANICS, TO DRY LAND FARMING TO AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH.

- MR. PRESIDENT, WE HAVE STUDIED CAREFULLY THE DECLARATION ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA EMANATING FROM THE RECENT OAU MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE. WE BELIEVE MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS COULD FORM A GOOD BASIS FOR A FULL DISCUSSION ON WHERE TO GO FROM HERE. WE PARTICULARLY ENDORSE THE COMMITMENT BY AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BY 1989 TO 20 PCT TO 25 PCT OF TOTAL PUBLIC INVESTMENT, AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO GIVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE FOOD SITUATION AND THE REHABILITATION OF AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO REVIEWING THE DETAILS OF THESE PLANS. IN THIS REGARD I NOTE THE COMMENTS THIS MORNING OF THE DISTINGUISHED AMBASSADOR OF SUDAN ON BEHALF OF HIS PRIME MINISTER.

- MR. PRESIDENT, THE UN SYSTEM IS BEGINNING TO FOCUS MOST OF ITS ATTENTION ON THE TRANSITIONAL PHASE FROM EMERGENCY TO RECOVERY. THIS TRANSITIONAL PHASE WILL BE AS COMPLEX AS THE EMERGENCY ITSELF, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF A NEW SET OF TECHNICAL AND RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS, BUT BECAUSE THE PROBLEMS OF COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION WILL NOT FADE AWAY.

- THE NEW UN/OEDA UNIT, UNDP'S RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES, AND AN EXTENSIVE FIELD NETWORK ARE SHOWING THAT THEY CAN DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE ORGANIZATIONAL, LOGISTICAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS THAT

ATTEND ANY LARGE-SCALE EMERGENCY. MATTERS HAVE NOT ALWAYS GONE TO OUR LIKING, AND UNACCEPTABLE INSTITUTIONAL RIVALRIES PERSIST. NEVERTHELESS, MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN, AND WE ALL, AS DONORS, RECIPIENTS, ECOSOC AND UN AGENCIES, HAVE TO MAKE IT WORK. IF WE DON'T, I FEAR THAT MUCH OF THE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AND MOMENTUM WE HAVE HIGHLIGHTED WILL BE LOST.

- THE TRAGEDY IN AFRICA HAS TAUGHT US A GREAT DEAL ABOUT OURSELVES. IT HAS REKINDLED A SPIRIT OF PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE OUTREACH IN MUCH OF THE WORLD. IT HAS TAUGHT US THAT OUR INSTITUTIONS CAN REORGANIZE THEMSELVES QUICKLY WHEN THE POTENTIAL FOR SAVING HUMAN LIVES IS AT STAKE. UNFORTUNATELY, IT HAS TAUGHT US, TOO, JUST WHERE SOME COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO PLACE THEIR PRIORITIES AND HOW POLITICAL RHETORIC AND MEAN-SPIRITEDNESS CAN, AS USUAL, STAND IN THE WAY OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES. THE REALITY OF THE HUMAN SUFFERING IN AFRICA AND THE REALITY OF RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION NEEDS WILL BE WITH US FOR SOME TIME. LET US NOT IN ECOSOC OR IN THE UN AS A WHOLE DRIFT BACK TO A BUSINESS AS USUAL APPROACH. THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS AT IBHET, DARFUR AND GAO MAY WELL DEPEND ON THE POLICIES AND DECISIONS OF PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM. SURELY WE IN ECOSOC AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM HAVE NO GREATER RESPONSIBILITY, NO TASK MORE PRESSING, NO OBLIGATION MORE IMPORTANT THAN TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH FLOW OF ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE TO THE UNFORTUNATE AND INNOCENT VICTIMS FACING POSSIBLE STARVATION. THE CRITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA IS, WITH GOOD CAUSE, ONCE AGAIN THE PRIORITY ISSUE FOR ECOSOC. IT MUST BE A PRIORITY ISSUE IN FACT AS WELL AS NAME. THERE IS STILL SO MUCH TO BE DONE.

- THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. END TEXT.  
(DRAFTED BY HFLEMING:ECOSOC)SHEINBAUM

UNCLASSIFIED