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LL/WG JULY 2006

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7-11

File: Gulf trip - Bahrain

XRef: Bahrain

b/f: VP/EO/AS/ZHAC/ID

CC SG FP/JPK/IM

15 April 1985

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Upon my return to United Nations Headquarters, I should like to express to you my gratitude for the excellent arrangements that were made for my recent visit to your country. The warm welcome and very kind hospitality your Government extended to me and the members of my party throughout our stay were most appreciated.

As a small token of my esteem and gratitude, I would like you to accept the enclosed photograph.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar

His Excellency
Mr. Hussain Rashid Al-Sabbagh
Permanent Representative of
the State of Bahrain
to the United Nations
New York

File: Gulf trip - *Bahrain*

XRef: *Bahrain*

b/f: ~~VO/FO/AS/ZHAO/ID~~

FP/JPK/IM

12.iv.85

GP/jk

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OSG

HIS HIGHNESS

SHAIKH ISA BIN SALMAN AL-KHALIFA

AMIR OF THE STATE OF BAHRAIN

MANAMA (BAHRAIN)

YOUR MAJESTY,

UPON MY RETURN TO UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS FOLLOWING MY VISIT TO YOUR COUNTRY I SHOULD LIKE TO CONVEY TO YOU MY MOST SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THE VERY GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY WHICH WAS EXTENDED TO ME AND TO THE MEMBERS OF MY DELEGATION DURING MY OFFICIAL VISIT TO BAHRAIN. MAY I ALSO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT YOU SO GENEROUSLY PUT AT OUR DISPOSAL, WHICH GREATLY FACILITATED OUR TRAVEL IN YOUR AREA.

IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO CALL ON YOU AT QUDHAIBIYA PALACE AND HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE MANY IMPORTANT ISSUES BEFORE US TODAY THAT ARE OF SUCH PRESSING CONCERN TO YOUR REGION AND TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. PLEASE ALLOW ME TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAY HOW DEEPLY I VALUE THE SUPPORT YOU AND YOUR COUNTRY ARE GIVING TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

PLEASE ACCEPT, YOUR HIGHNESS, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR
SECRETARY-GENERAL
UNITED NATIONS

Xref. Trip Bahrain

cc: Mr. J. Ripert
Mr. P. Ruedas

CONFIDENTIAL

Note for the file

The Secretary-General met Mr. Al-Attar in Bahrain on 4 April and they discussed the question of Mr. Al-Attar's successor. Mr. Al-Attar said that his Government had consented to his staying until the end of April so that he could cover the ministerial session of ECWA thus allowing the Secretary-General more time to consider a successor. Asked by the Secretary-General for his advice, Mr. Al-Attar said that it would be preferable not to seek candidates from Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Libya or Algeria. (In this respect, it should be noted that the Iraqi Foreign Minister said, in a separate meeting with the Secretary-General in Baghdad, that Iraq had good relations with all the countries of the region and that anyone except a Syrian - for obvious reasons - would be acceptable.) As regards specific names, Mr. Al-Attar referred to four:

- 1) Mr. Ali Humaidan, a former Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the UN, now Director of International Organizations in the UAE Foreign Ministry, although he is originally from Bahrain. Mr. Al-Attar considered him qualified and it was his understanding that he would be available.
- 2) Mr. Ahmad Hamiss, Director of International Organizations at the Saudi Foreign Office, a former ambassador to Indonesia and also qualified, in Mr. Al-Attar's view.
- 3) Mr. Abdulatif El Hamad, former Minister for Finance of Kuwait, would be an exceptionally good choice but since he has a high position as a banker would probably not be prepared to accept.
- 4) The Minister of Social Affairs of Jordan is apparently interested in the job. He was formerly a P-4 in ECWA but apparently "he has many enemies within ECWA".

Alvaro de Soto/jt
12 April 1985

File: Gulf trip - Bahrain

XRef: Bahrain

b/f: ~~VO/PO/AS/ZHAO/ID~~
FP/JPK/IM

12.iv.85

GP/jk

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OSG

HIS EXCELLENCY
SHAIKH MOHAMED BIN MUBARAK AL-KHALIFA
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF BAHRAIN
MANAMA (BAHRAIN)

EXCELLENCY,

UPON MY RETURN TO UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS I SHOULD LIKE TO
THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR THE VERY GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY WHICH WAS
EXTENDED TO ME AND TO THE MEMBERS OF MY DELEGATION DURING MY RECENT
OFFICIAL VISIT TO BAHRAIN.

IT WAS EXTREMELY USEFUL AND REWARDING FOR ME TO EXCHANGE VIEWS
WITH YOU ON ISSUES AFFECTING YOUR REGION AND THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION.

JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR
SECRETARY-GENERAL
UNITED NATIONS

United Nations

Press Release

Department of Public Information
Press Section
United Nations, New York



SG/T/1330
4 April 1985

SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN BAHRAIN

(Received from a UN official accompanying the Secretary-General.)

MANAMA, Bahrain, 4 April -- Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar left Oman this morning for Bahrain. Before leaving, he met briefly with the Ambassador of Iraq and the Chargé d'affaires of Iran. He was seen off at the airport by the Foreign Minister of Oman, Youssuf Bin Alawi Bin Abdallah.

The Secretary-General arrived in Bahrain at noon local time, and was received by the Foreign Minister of Bahrain, Sheikh Mohamed bin Mubarak Al-Khalifa, with whom he held a two-hour meeting at the Foreign Ministry. They discussed a range of international issues of specific concern to the United Nations and the countries of the region, including the Iran-Iraq conflict, the Middle East and the crisis in Lebanon, as well as certain economic questions.

At 6:30 p.m., the Secretary-General had an audience with Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al-Khalifa, the Emir of Bahrain, with whom he discussed the current international situation. The Emir then hosted a dinner in honour of the Secretary-General.

Tomorrow, the Secretary-General will attend a luncheon given in his honour by the United Nations Resident Co-ordinator in Bahrain, before meeting with the United Nations staff and experts working in Bahrain. In the evening, the Foreign Minister will host a dinner in honour of the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General is scheduled to leave Bahrain for Doha, Qatar, tomorrow evening.

* * * * *

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GP/jk

Orig: SG

File: Gulf trip - Bahrain

XRef: Bahrain

b/f: VD/EO/AS

cc: Mr. Cordovez

Confidential

NOTES ON THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MEETING WITH
THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF BAHRAIN

held in Manama, Bahrain
on 4 April 1985 at 16.30 hrs.

Present:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| The Secretary-General | H.E. Shaikh Mohamed Bin Mubarak |
| Mr. Diego Cordovez | Al-Khalifa, Minister for Foreign |
| Mr. Aly Teymour | Affairs of Bahrain |
| Mr. Alvaro de Soto | Members of the Ministry for Foreign |
| Mr. Samir Sanbar | Affairs of Bahrain |
| Mr. Giandomenico Picco | |

The Foreign Minister welcomed the Secretary-General and referred to the situation in the region as a serious one. He referred to resolution 540 as a useful step in the direction of dealing with the Iran-Iraq war. His country had always been against the war as there was no need for it. The reaction of his and neighbouring countries to the war was the creation of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

Iran had shown hostility towards the countries of the area in different ways. In Bahrain, for instance, a group of people had been trained to foment unrest. These difficulties had been overcome, however, and Bahrain had been engaged in efforts aimed at opening a dialogue with both sides.

He recalled that the Gulf Co-operation Council countries had taken the question to the United Nations, had welcomed the Iraqi willingness to negotiate and then had tried to approach Iran to ask for its co-operation in the search for a settlement. The GCC did not want to antagonize Iran. It only wanted to encourage those Iranians who wanted a peaceful settlement to become more vocal. The United Nations was emerging as the real body which could deal with both sides. The role of the GCC countries was that of assisting in that search.

The Secretary-General recalled the special relationship existing between the United Nations and Bahrain. He also noted that regional groups were becoming more and more relevant in world politics. With regard to the Iran-Iraq war, his approach over the years had been two-fold: On the one side, to avoid further superpower involvement and on the other, to limit the suffering of the people. He had recently presented to the parties an eight-point paper, the purpose of which was to establish a mechanism within which a negotiating process could begin. Iran had accepted it but Iraq had not. Being in the area, he had indicated his readiness to visit Iran and Iraq. While Iraq had expressed readiness to receive the Secretary-General and to discuss with him all aspects of the problem, Iran had indicated that it would limit the scope of such a visit to only a few aspects. Of course, this was not acceptable to the Secretary-General. To this date, he had received no news of a change of position from Teheran, even though he had been in touch with the Iranian Chargé while he was in Oman. The Ambassador of Iraq, on his side had already come to see him to renew the invitation of the Baghdad authorities for a visit to Baghdad, even if the Secretary-General did not go to Teheran. He had taken the position that such an approach would not be appropriate for the Secretary-General. He was not discouraged by the present state of affairs and remained available to the parties. He expressed regret that many of the efforts now under way to facilitate a search for a solution to the problem were not well co-ordinated. He thought that the assistance of the GCC countries in any action of the Secretary-General on the war would be most useful.

The Foreign Minister said that in his view, no initiative by others would work and that only the Secretary-General's approach would eventually be successful. He suggested that between the two courses of action outlined by the Secretary-General, namely, to visit both countries on his own terms or to visit only Iraq, there would be a third solution, namely, for the Secretary-General to visit both countries under the conditions now given by the respective countries and to report to the Security Council on the results of his visit.

The Secretary-General insisted that he would not consider it appropriate to visit Iran under conditions as this would be unfitting for the prestige of the United Nations. He was aware of the importance of personal contact with the leadership of both countries and particularly of Iran, and he hoped that the idea of discussions with an open agenda would eventually be acceptable to Teheran. He was uneasy about being in the area and not visiting the two parties to the conflict.

Mr. Cordovez interjected that the timing of the visit was of crucial importance and that as the Secretary-General remained the only international official with the confidence of both sides, the timing of the visit should be correctly chosen.

The Foreign Minister added that unfortunately time was making the war even worse. He had no particular suggestion to give to the Secretary-General but hoped he would find a way to intensify his efforts while safeguarding his influence and prestige.

He then referred to the meeting of the Islamic Foreign Ministers in Sana'a in December 1984 and to the events which had made possible, even if only for a few hours, the acceptance of a resolution by both sides.

The Secretary-General recalled that in his statement of 1 April issued in Riyadh, he had clearly indicated that Iran was not making it possible for him to visit that country. Yet Teheran had not reacted to this public statement; it might well be an indication of the Iranians desire not to burn their bridges. The Iranians were aware of his schedule in the area; and if they were to change their minds, they could be in touch with him before he left.

Mr. Cordovez underlined that the Secretary-General had put no conditions on his visit to the two countries. He recalled that the idea of the trip had been born during a conversation with the Ambassador of Iran in New York and that the first reaction of the Iranians had been to put conditions on the visit, among which was that the Secretary-General would have to make a statement before visiting Iran intimating the limited scope of his visit.

The Foreign Minister then referred to discussions on the matter among the GCC countries and to the request put forward to Algeria to try again to contact the Iranians. The Foreign Minister of Algeria was expected to be in Kuwait in two days time and would consider proceeding to Teheran from there. He felt that the division in the Iranian leadership was such that the majority no longer felt it could win the war. His Government had been very clear in its position on the war but continued to have contacts with the Iranians. Unfortunately, following the Iraqi escalation, the possibility of expanding the war in the Gulf was now more concrete.

The Secretary-General said that the Iranians might not wish a visit by the Secretary-General at this point so as to avoid giving an indication of weakness. Such a perception could be given by those in Iran who felt that militarily, Iran had won a major battle.

The Secretary-General then referred to the situation in Lebanon and to the visit of Mr. Urquhart to the area. The Lebanese Government had already requested an extension of six months of the Force which, of course, was finding itself in a difficult position without a specific mandate and in the light of a de facto withdrawal. He was not as yet in a position to make a recommendation to the Council. It was up to the Council to decide, and the situation there was not clear as yet.

Referring then to the over-all Middle East problem, the Secretary-General said that what was needed was a forum within which negotiations could start and all the ideas so far put forward could be discussed. The General Assembly had called for an international conference which, unfortunately, had not been approved by the United States or Israel. A further forum could be that of the Security Council, which could choose its own procedures for such a discussion. The third option was, of course, that supported by the United States and Israel, namely, a direct dialogue among the parties. He was concerned that time would erode the chances for constructive negotiations, as Israel's presence in the occupied territories was becoming more and more rooted. As for Jerusalem, the Secretary-General referred to the concept of corpus separatum which, in his view, deserved some attention.

The Foreign Minister then touched upon the situation in UNESCO and expressed regret that developments within that agency were affecting the whole United Nations system.

The Secretary-General mentioned in this regard the crisis of multilateralism, but at the same time, made a strong point in favour of the principle of universality. Withdrawing from any given organization was not the answer to the problems. At the same time, he referred to a letter he had received from Mr. Shultz indicating that the United States withdrawal from UNESCO was not related to U.S. policy vis-a-vis the United Nations system.

The Foreign Minister speculated that the present situation in UNESCO might lead the United States to reconsider its position, might lead the third world not to "overplay its hand" and might lead the leadership of UNESCO to become more aware of its role vis-a-vis all Member States. In other words, everybody ought to play their cards better.

The Secretary-General then referred to the African emergency and to the success of the Geneva conference of 11 March. More than two billion dollars had been pledged to be disbursed either through multilateral or bilateral channels. The objective of co-ordinating such an effort had been successful. In this regard, the Secretary-General appealed to the GCC countries for contributions in the form of petroleum products.

The Foreign Minister noted that while the GCC would look favourably on humanitarian assistance, it would be careful to check where its petroleum products would be allocated; they should not be used for furthering the fighting or for the purpose of convening further meetings of heads of state.

The Secretary-General recalled that he had tried to explain that the construction of the ECA building in Addis Ababa, for instance, should be postponed, but his idea had been overruled. He thought, however, that the GCC countries should look into their contribution to the African emergency and felt an envoy could be sent to discuss the whole matter in detail with the different governments.

The Foreign Minister considered this a very good idea.

The Secretary-General then mentioned the need to support IFAD, which, contrary to UNESCO, should be considered a success story. He then called on the heads of state of the GCC countries to participate in the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations.

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HIS EXCELLENCY

SHAIKH MOHAMED BIN MUBARAK AL-KHALIFA

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BAHRAIN

MANAMA (BAHRAIN)

1236 EXCELLENCY,

UPON MY RETURN TO UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS I SHOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR THE VERY GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY WHICH WAS EXTENDED TO ME AND TO THE MEMBERS OF MY DELEGATION DURING MY RECENT OFFICIAL VISIT TO BAHRAIN.

IT WAS EXTREMELY USEFUL AND REWARDING FOR ME TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH YOU ON ISSUES AFFECTING YOUR REGION AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

PLEASE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR

SECRETARY-GENERAL

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File: Gulf trip
XRef: Bahrain
b/f: VD/EO/AS/ZHAO/ID
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19.iii.85 GP/jk 3802 cc:5037Mr. Morse
Mr. Akashi

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|--------------------|-----|---------------------|
| MR. MOHAMMED AZZAM | and | MR. FATHI AL-SHEIKH |
| RESREP | | DIRECTOR |
| UNDEVPRO | | UNIC |
| MANAMA (BAHRAIN) | | MANAMA (BAHRAIN) |

I SHOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WILL PAY AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO BAHRAIN FROM 4 TO 5 APRIL 1985. HE AND HIS PARTY WILL ARRIVE IN BAHRAIN AT 11.30 HRS. ON 4 APRIL ON AN OMANI GOVERNMENT SPECIAL BOEING 727 AIRCRAFT FROM MUSCAT AND DEPART BAHRAIN FOR QATAR ON 5 APRIL AT 22.35 ON GULF AIR FLIGHT 362.

I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF DURING THE TIME OF THE SEC-GEN'S STAY IN BAHRAIN AN ENGLISH/ARABIC SPEAKING SECRETARY COULD ASSIST HIM AND HIS PARTY. I WOULD ALSO RELY ON YOU TO KINDLY LIAISE WITH BAHRAIN AUTHORITIES FOR NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING AIRPORT FORMALITIES, GROUND TRANSPORTATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ALL CONCERNED.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING THE SEC-GEN DURING HIS VISIT TO BAHRAIN.

(CABLE EDITOR INSERT ATTACHED TEXT)

REGARDS,

VIRENDRA DAYAL
CHEF DE CABINET

The Secretary-General

Mr. Diego Cordovez, Under-Secretary-General for Special
Political Affairs

Mr. Alvaro de Soto, Special Assistant to the
Secretary-General

Mr. Aly Teymour, Chief of Protocol

Mr. Samir Sanbar, Principal Officer, Department of
Information

Mr. Giandomenico Picco, Senior Officer, Executive Office
of the Secretary-General

Mr. John Hrusovsky, Chief Operations Officer

Mr. Harold Stuart, Operations Officer

File: Gulf trip
XRef: Bahrain
b/f: EO/AS/ZHAO/ID
FP/JPK/IM

18 March 1985

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Further to my letter to you of 28 February accepting the kind invitation extended to the Secretary-General to visit Bahrain, I should like to suggest that the Secretary-General arrive in Bahrain from Oman on Thursday, 4 April 1985 at approximately 11.30 hrs. on a plane provided by the Government of Oman and leave Bahrain on Friday, 5 April at 22.00 on Gulf Air flight 362 for Qatar. Please let me know if these arrangements are acceptable to your authorities.

I should be very grateful if you could kindly provide us, at your early convenience, with a proposed programme for the Secretary-General's stay in your country.

I would also greatly appreciate if clearance of customs and other formalities could be arranged for the Secretary-General and his party. In this connection, please find enclosed a list of the officials who will accompany the Secretary-General in Bahrain.

The Executive Office of the Secretary-General will continue to be in touch with your Mission regarding details of the upcoming visit to your country.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Virendra Dayal
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Hussein Rashed Al-Sabbagh
Permanent Representative of the State of Bahrain
to the United Nations
New York

File: Gulf Trip

XRef: Bahrain

b/f: ~~ED/EO/AS/ZHAO/ID/~~
FB/JPK/IM

28 February 1985

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

I should like to inform you, and through you your Government, that the Secretary-General is pleased to accept the kind invitation extended to him to visit your country. I hope it will be acceptable if the Secretary-General and his party arrive in Bahrain on the morning of 4 April 1985 and depart on the evening of 5 April 1985.

As you know, our two offices are in touch to discuss other aspects of the visit pertaining to technical arrangements, the programme of the Secretary-General and the list of officials who will be accompanying him on this trip.

I will confirm these details to you, in writing, upon the conclusion of those discussions.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Virendra Dayal
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Hussein Rashid Al-Sabbagh
Permanent Representative of the
State of Bahrain to the United Nations
New York

VD/SD

Cc: SG

File:

XRef:

b/f: FO/AS/CHAO/ID/GP/PP/MJS/JPK

Bahrain
Fukunaga

30 September 1983

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

I have the honour to refer to the letter of 8 September 1983 from His Excellency Isa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, Amir of the State of Bahrain, inviting the Secretary-General to pay a visit to your country in 1984. The Secretary-General is most appreciative of this kind invitation and greatly values the possibility of exchanging views on international relations with the leaders of Member States.

However, as the programme of the Secretary-General for 1984 has not yet been finalized, I am not in a position to convey to you any specific commitment on his behalf. You may rest assured that, as soon as this is possible, the Secretary-General will reply personally to your Head of State.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Virendra Dayal
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Hussein Rashid Al-Sabbagh
Permanent Representative of the
State of Bahrain to the United Nations
New York

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SEP 21 1983

8th September, 1983

H.E. Javier Perez de Cuellar
U.N. Secretary-General
New York.

Dear Secretary-General,

We pursue with interest the visits you make to various countries for the promotion of peace and co-operation among member states of the United Nations. We wish you all success in your efforts to help maintain world peace, and enhance the role and prestige of the United Nations for the sake of peace and stability in the world.

We understand you plan to tour the Gulf region in 1984. It gives me pleasure to invite you to visit Bahrain, where you will be most welcome.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my best regards and respects.



Isa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa
Amir of the State of Bahrain.