

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
FM UKMIS NEW YORK
TO DESKBY 030730Z FCO
TELNO 1225
OF 030707Z APRIL 93
INFO IMMEDIATE [REDACTED]
INFO IMMEDIATE [REDACTED]

ONE 232/10
20 030730Z
+ pa 93
4-3/11mm

SIC

FCO FOR RESIDENT CLERK

JAKARTA FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY

BOSNIA

SUMMARY

1. SECURITY COUNCIL TO MEET ON 3 APRIL AT SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REQUEST TO CONSIDER STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF DEMARCHE FROM UNPROFOR COMMANDER TO SERBS TO ALLOW AID TO RESUME TO SREBRENICA.

DETAIL

2. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S POLITICAL ADVISER CONTACTED ME ON THE EVENING OF 2 APRIL TO SAY THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAD DECIDED TO SEEK THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR A DEMARCHE HE HAD INSTRUCTED GENERAL WAHLGREN TO MAKE TO THE BOSNIAN SERB LEADERSHIP DEMANDING THAT THEY PERMIT THE RESUMPTION OF AID DELIVERIES TO SREBRENICA. THE (PAKISTANI) PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS NOW CONVENED INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AT 1600Z ON 3 APRIL, AT WHICH HE WILL CIRCULATE A DRAFT COUNCIL STATEMENT FOR ADOPTION THAT MORNING IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMARCHE WAHLGREN HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE.

3. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S INITIATIVE FOLLOWS A LETTER FROM MRS OGATA TO HIM DATED 2 APRIL DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE PLIGHT OF SREBRENICA. IN HER LETTER (TEXT BY FAX TO RESIDENT CLERK) MRS OGATA SAYS THAT THE POPULATION OF THE TOWN HAS SWOLLEN FROM 6000 TO 20 TO 30,000 WITH ANOTHER 30,000 IN THE SURROUNDING AREAS. DESPITE THE CEASEFIRE AND AIR DROPS, THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IS WORSENING BY THE HOUR. THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE, EXHAUSTED AND STARVING. PERSONS ARE DESPERATE TO ESCAPE TO SAFETY AND RECENT REPORTS INDICATE THOUSANDS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO MOVE TOWARDS ZEPA UNDER EXTREMELY DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. UNHCR CONVOYS,

[REDACTED]

OF WHICH THREE HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO REACH SREBRENICA, HAVE MET WITH SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES. CONVOYS HAVE BEEN STAMPEDED BY PEOPLE DESPERATE TO FLEE, AND THE BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES ARE OPPOSED TO CONTINUED EVACUATION. ON 1 APRIL THE BOSNIAN SERB GENERAL, MLADIC, HAD SAID THAT HE WOULD PERMIT NO MORE AID TO BE BROUGHT INTO SREBRENICA BUT WOULD ALLOW UNHCR TO CONTINUE EVACUATION. MRS OGATA SAYS THAT THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE AND CONTRADICTS EARLIER ASSURANCES FROM MLADIC TO UNHCR AND UNPROFOR. SHE SAYS THAT UNHCR HAD PLANNED TO SEND ANOTHER CONVOY TO SREBRENICA ON 2 APRIL, BUT THIS HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL 3 APRIL.

4. MRS OGATA CONTINUES THAT, EVEN IF THE LATEST CONVOY WERE TO SUCCEED IN BRINGING AID TO SREBRENICA AND SOME PEOPLE WERE EVACUATED WITHOUT INCIDENT, CURRENT EFFORTS ARE TOTALLY INADEQUATE TO THE INCREASING SUFFERING. THERE ARE ONLY TWO OPTIONS IF THE LIVES OF THOSE TRAPPED IN SREBRENICA ARE TO BE SAVED:

(I) TO IMMEDIATELY ENHANCE THE INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE, INCLUDING THAT OF UNPROFOR, IN ORDER TO TURN THE ENCLAVE INTO AN AREA PROTECTED BY THE UN, AND INJECT ASSISTANCE ON A SCALE MUCH GREATER THAN PERMITTED AT PRESENT. SUCH AN OPTION WOULD REQUIRE THE STRONGEST POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ON THE SERBIAN SIDE: OR

(II) A LARGE SCALE EVACUATION OF THE ENDANGERED POPULATION, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, IN PARTICULAR THE BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES, AS WELL AS MASSIVE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO UNHCR TO ENSURE THAT IT WAS CONDUCTED IN A MANNER WHICH DID NOT ENDANGER THE LIVES OF THOSE IT WAS MEANT TO SAVE.

MRS OGATA CONCLUDES BY ASKING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SOLICIT THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR ESSENTIAL MEASURES.

COMMENT

5. IF THERE ARE ELEMENTS YOU WOULD PARTICULARLY WISH TO SEE INCLUDED OR AVOIDED IN THE DRAFT STATEMENT - OTHER THAN SUPPORT FOR WAHLGREN'S DEMARCHE - GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE THEM DESKBY 031400Z.

6. RESIDENT CLERK PLEASE ADVANCE TO UND AND EAU.

HANNAY