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Your . . . e:

Our file: 42/1/2

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FROM: MADRID	C00282/MAD	27-Jun-1994
TO: WELLINGTON	WGTN UNSC	Routine
CC: NEW YORK	EC POSTS	Routine
MFAT	(MEA, UNC, EUR, DSP3, DSP2)	

Subject

SECURITY COUNCIL: RWANDA

Summary

A Spanish official comments on the Rwanda situation and asks for New Zealand views on Rwanda's UNSC and GA credentials.

Action

2 Comment please on the credentials issue for passing to the Spanish.

Report

3 In the course of a routine meeting on 27 June with Moratinos (DG for Africa/Middle East in the Foreign Ministry) Moratinos made some comments on last week's UNSC/Rwanda vote which may still be of interest. He said he had read the copy of the Minister's press statement of 23 June which we had sent. He wanted us to know that he and his colleagues agreed entirely with New Zealand's reasons for abstaining on the French-sponsored resolution on Rwanda. Spain had helped the French out in the UNSC for bilateral reasons, and because considerable French pressure had been brought to bear. Juppe had telephoned Spanish FM Solana three times, and the French Defence minister had also been telephoning his Spanish counterpart.

4 On the question of logistical support for the French intervention, Spain was now deliberately dragging its feet. Having announced that there would be some Spanish logistical support, which would probably turn out to be a transport aircraft and maybe a medical unit, Spain was slowing down the process of deciding what exactly to do. It did not want to "seem too keen". So far the French intervention in Rwanda had not gone too badly, but nor did it seem to have done much good in a humanitarian sense so far.

5 Moratinos told us that a little while ago the Spanish PR in New York had been involved in a discussion with some other PR's of UNSC countries, on a personal basis, on the question

whether there was anything to be gained in terms of improving the situation on the ground in Rwanda by taking any action on the Rwanda delegation's credentials, either in the UNSC or later in the GA. When news of this had reached Madrid, the Spanish PR had been instructed that his Government did not wish him to initiate any discussion on this question. If other delegations raised the subject of Rwanda's credentials officially, Spain would of course address the issue. In this connection, Moratinos asked that we check with you whether New Zealand had any views on the usefulness of making an issue of Rwanda's credentials and also on whether the matter was likely to be brought up officially in the UNSC. He said that he wanted to be prepared in case the issue emerged suddenly. "The French have already taken us by surprise once on Rwanda. We would like to avoid other surprises."

Comment

6 Moratinos is, as you know, a useful and well-informed source of information on Africa and the Middle East. We will be reporting separately the interesting analysis he gave us of Spain's relations with Morocco. It would be particularly useful in terms of consolidating our dialogue with him if you could enable us to respond within a day or so to his question on Rwanda credentials.

End Message