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RE IRISH DISARMAMENT RESOLUTION - GADEL 35

WADSWORTH SAW FONMIN AIKEN (IRELAND) THIS AFTERNOON AND TRANSMITTED TO HIM U.S. REACTIONS IN ACCORDANCE GADEL 35. TEXT OF IRISH RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN DELGA 107. AIKEN GAVE REPLIES TO VARIOUS POINTS IN REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:

1. UNDER IRISH ARRANGEMENT, U.S. COULD, OF COURSE, RESERVE RIGHT TO MAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AVAILABLE TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN WAR SITUATIONS. HE BELIEVED IF SITUATION EVER GOT SERIOUS ENOUGH FOR U.S. TO USE OR TO GIVE FOR USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, NO SUCH DECLARATION WOULD BE CONSIDERED BINDING.

IN DISCUSSING POINTS 2 AND 4, AIKEN SAID HE THOROUGHLY REALIZED DETERRENT VALUE OF ATOMIC ARSENAL OVER SOVIET CONVENTIONAL FORCES, BUT POINTED OUT UNDER HIS RESOLUTION U.S., UK AND FRANCE COULD CONTINUE TO BUILD UP STOCKPILES AND EVEN TO TEST IF THEY SO DESIRED; ONLY PROHIBITION AGAINST U.S. WOULD BE IN GIVING BOMBS TO NON-NUCLEAR POWERS.

IN RELATION TO POINT 3, WADSWORTH POINTED OUT THAT IN ADDITION TO OUR WELL-KNOWN RELUCTANCE TO HAVE ANY FOURTH COUNTRY POSSESS ATOMIC CAPABILITIES, HE FEARED OUTRIGHT NAMING OF FRANCE MIGHT HAVE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS AMONG OTHER NATIONS THAT MIGHT CONSIDER THEMSELVES EQUALLY WORTHY, WITH FRANCE, OF SOME DAY JOINING NUCLEAR CLUB. AIKEN EXPLAINED HE HAD PUT IN FRANCE FOR TWO REASONS: 1ST, BECAUSE FRANCE WAS "ABSOLUTELY AMBIVALENT ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF CLUB AND NO DECLARATION WOULD MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO THIS AMBIVALENCE IF SHE WERE LEFT OUT; 2ND, HE FELT IF TIME SHOULD COME WHEN U.S. WOULD WISH TO GIVE ATOMIC ARMS TO ANY ALLY ON MAINLAND OF EUROPE, IT WOULD BE WELL TO

HAVE FRANCE

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HAVE FRANCE EXEMPTED FROM PROVISIONS OF HIS RESOLUTION.

IN CONNECTION WITH POINT 5, AIKEN AGREED THAT INABILITY TO DETECT EXISTING STOCKPILES WOULD IN FACT MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL CLANDESTINE TRANSACTIONS ON PART OF USSR BUT STILL CLAIMED THAT SUCH A DECLARATION COULD SERVE AS DETERRENT SINCE DETECTION OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS WOULD BRING OVERWHELMING PUBLIC CENSURE.

IN CONNECTION WITH POINT 6, AIKEN HAD NO ARGUMENT BUT MERELY COMMENTED THAT HE DOUBTED IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ESCAPE CONTENTIOUS TREATMENT OF DISARMAMENT PROBLEM IN GA NO MATTER WHAT RESOLUTIONS MIGHT BE ADOPTED OR WITHHELD. HE FELT DEBATE ON MERITS OF HIS RESOLUTION COULD HAVE LITTLE OR NO EFFECT ON ATMOSPHERE AT GENEVA OCTOBER 31.

AS CAN BE SEEN, AIKEN WAS NOT IMPRESSED BY U.S. ARGUMENTS AGAINST HIS RESOLUTION. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN STUDYING THE SUBJECT FOR MANY MONTHS AND WAS CONVINCED SOMETHING LIKE THIS SHOULD BE DONE. WADSWORTH TOLD HIM HE WOULD OF COURSE REPORT AIKEN'S REACTIONS AND ARGUMENTS TO DEPARTMENT BUT WARNED THAT U.S. WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT RESOLUTION AND REGRETTED U.S. DELEGATION WOULD HAVE TO BE IN OPPOSITION TO IRISH DELEGATION IN ANY MATTER.

AIKEN FURTHER SAID HE HAD NOT APPROACHED ANY OF COMMUNIST BLOC AND WAS NOT PLANNING TO DO SO, AT LEAST AT PRESENT TIME. WE UNDERSTAND IN ADDITION TO AUSTRIA (SEE DELGA 106) HE HAS ALSO HANDED RESOLUTION TO SMITH OF CANADA AND INFORMALLY TO UN SECRETARIAT, AS WELL AS TO UK AND FRANCE.

DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS WELCOMED BUT FEEL FURTHER ARGUMENT WITH AIKEN HIMSELF FUTILE. RECOMMEND WE REPEAT REGRETFULLY MUST OPPOSE INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION DESPITE CLARIFICATION GIVEN.

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