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 P 18:18

At today's informal consultations, Security Council considered the situations in Gorazde, Rwanda and Somalia, on each of which I gave oral reports. I also informed the Council about the military situation around the area of Pailin in Cambodia. You would recall that the Ambassador of Cambodia had raised this matter with you last Friday. I also gave an oral report on the second round of Presidential elections in El Salvador.

On Rwanda, the Ambassador of Argentina initiated a discussion in which several other delegations participated. It was mentioned that the Council felt helpless to do anything to bring the situation under control and to stop the unspeakable massacres that were still going on. Argentina suggested that, at the very least, the Council should express its deep concern at what was going on. Everybody agreed with this suggestion. Several members proposed that you should encourage the regional and sub-regional leaders to do their best to persuade the two parties to agree to a cessation of hostilities and a cease-fire. This proposal was stressed by several speakers, particularly since the meeting in Arusha on 23 April could not be held as the Rwanda Government delegation did not go to Arusha. I feel that it would be very useful if you were to speak on telephone to President Mubarak, as well as to Presidents of Tanzania and Uganda and the Sec-Gen of OAU. Perhaps you could make these telephone calls from Barbados.

For the first time, the situation between Cameroon and Nigeria was raised at the consultations. The President informed the members that the Ambassador of Cameroon had raised the matter

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with him three times and had even asked for a meeting of the Security Council. He had consulted with several members and had prepared the draft of a statement which he distributed at the meeting. Text of the draft is enclosed. During the discussions which followed, France said that Cameroon wanted a resolution which may not be appropriate at this stage since the matter had been referred by both sides to the International Court of Justice. However, France believed that a Presidential Statement along the lines suggested by the President would be appropriate.

Nigeria said that it was not opposed to the content of the proposed statement, but was not in favour of issuing it at this stage. There is no fighting at the moment and the situation is under control. As envisaged under Chapter VIII of the Charter, the regional organization was seized of the matter. Last Friday, the OAU Mission had met with Nigerian officials and has since gone to Togo and Cameroon. Both parties have also agreed to refer the dispute to ICJ. Consequently, at this stage, it would be more appropriate for the President to write letters to the two parties rather than issuing Presidential Statement. USA, Brazil, Pakistan, UK and Oman supported Nigeria's position. France said that issuing a Presidential Statement would not impede the proceedings in the ICJ, but France would obtain instructions. Spain also stated that proceedings in the ICJ could take years and, as such, Security Council could take provisional measures. The President would continue his consultations and would report back tomorrow.

*With warm regards.*

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25 April 1994

4.30pm

The members of the Security Council wish to respond to the letters from the Permanent Representatives of Cameroon and Nigeria (S/1994/228, S/1994/351, S/1994/472, S/1994/258) concerning the border dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria in relation to the Bakassi peninsula.

The members of the Council have taken note of the communique issued by the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) (S/1994/351). The members of the Council have also noted that proceedings in respect of the dispute are currently before the International Court of Justice.

The members of the Council welcome the initiative taken by the Chairman of the OAU and other mediation efforts aimed at defusing the situation and reaching a political settlement. They urge the parties to exercise restraint and to take appropriate measures, including continuation of their dialogue, to restore confidence between them.

Council members encourage the parties to continue to pursue their efforts for a peaceful resolution of the dispute in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the OAU.

The members of the Council request the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the OAU, to follow developments and to use his good offices to help promote the on-going dialogue aimed at resolving peacefully the dispute between the two countries over the peninsula [ , and to keep Council members appropriately informed].