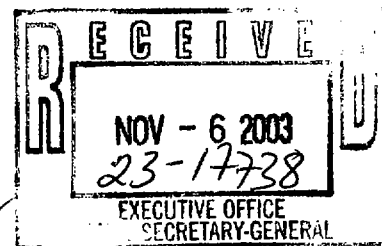


DPI

SIR

NOTE TO MR. RIZA



Display of the UN Flag from the Canal Hotel ✓

Thank you for your note proposing that the UN flag recovered from the Canal Hotel be put on permanent display at United Nations Headquarters. It is an excellent proposal and one we will definitely implement as soon as we have determined the best means to preserve and display it.

Regarding the location of this display, the peacekeeping exhibit on the third floor may not be the best choice. The number of tours conducted daily make it essential that our guides discourage people from lingering in any one place, and this area can be quite noisy and crowded, particularly when Security Council sessions mean that tours cannot enter the Council chamber. In addition, as the operation in Iraq was not technically a peacekeeping mission, the flag's inclusion in this exhibit may render the guides' explanations of the difference between peacekeeping missions and other UN field operations confusing to some listeners.

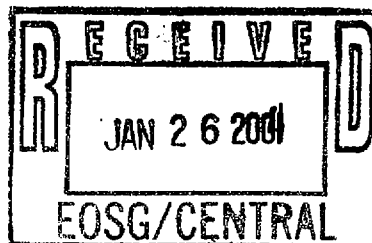
The area next to the Chagall window in the Visitors' Lobby, which already houses plaques to those who lost their lives in the service of the United Nations and the busts honouring the memories of Dag Hammarskjöld and Folke Bernadotte, may be a more suitable place to mount the flag. The area is well visited but the space, adjacent to the meditation room, better lends itself to quiet reflection. In addition, the area is on a route travelled more regularly by staff members and official visitors, for whom its display will have particular resonance.

Your guidance on the suitability of this alternate location would be most helpful.

Shashi Tharoor
Shashi Tharoor
5 November 2003

Mr. Tharoor let's visit the two spots together. Park

cc: Mr. Guéhenno
Mr. Prendergast
Mr. Sommereyns



 *** TX REPORT ***

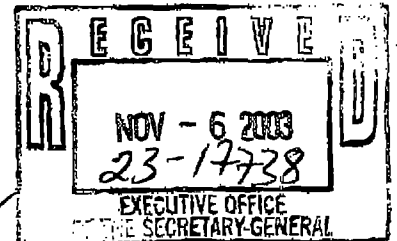
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h.n.h.....