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DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE  
FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM AMBASSADOR PRICE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PARM, UK, PTER, ECON, OVIP (THATCHER, MARGARET)  
SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER,  
FEBRUARY 28

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1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SET UP A WHIRLWIND  
SCHEDULE IN WASHINGTON, AND WILL BE LUNCHING WITH  
YOU RIGHT AFTER HER ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF  
CONGRESS.

3. THE BACKDROP IS DIFFERENT THAN WHEN YOU SAW  
HER IN DECEMBER.

[REDACTED]

AT THIS TIME, SHE IS COMING FROM NAGGING  
DOMESTIC PROBLEMS:

[REDACTED]

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-- POLLS INDICATE THAT SOME BLAME FOR THE  
-- UNPOPULAR COAL MINERS STRIKE IS RUBBING OFF ON  
-- THE PRIME MINISTER'S TOUGH STAND.

-- A SAGGING POUND, DOWN TO 1.68 DOLLARS, AND  
-- BASE RATES UP TO 14 PERCENT.

ALL THIS MAY BE JUST A BRIEF DIP, BUT A WORRYING  
ONE FOR A GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS STAKED ALL ON ITS  
ABILITY TO TURN THE ECONOMY AROUND. SO THATCHER  
WILL LIKELY WANT YOUR VIEWS ON PROSPECTS FOR THE  
BUDGET, THE DEFICIT, AND TAX REFORM.

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NR: F97-01312/25

By 105 NARA, Date 4/8/00

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4. ON ARMS CONTROL/DEFENSE, THE PM IS LIKELY TO BE SPECIALLY INTERESTED IN YOUR APPROACH AND STRATEGY TO THE GENEVA TALKS WITH THE SOVIETS, INCLUDING THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF SPACE, STRATEGIC, AND INF ISSUES. SHE DOES NOT WANT TO GO OVER THE GROUND ON SDI THAT SHE COVERED AT CAMP DAVID. BUT SHE MAY TALK UP HER FOUR POINTS ON SDI AS A RALLYING GROUND FOR EUROPEAN SUPPORT.

5. ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, SHE WILL SUGGEST MORE FLEXIBLE VERIFICATION PROVISIONS THAN THOSE PROPOSED IN OUR DRAFT CONVENTION, AND SHE'LL RAISE THE POSSIBILITY OF MOVEMENT ON THRESHOLD TEST BAN, WHERE THE BRITISH THINK WE CAN TAKE USEFUL STEPS TO PUT THE ONUS ON THE SOVIETS.

6. AS TO OTHER ISSUES, THATCHER MAY TOUCH ON:

- THE VE DAY ANNIVERSARY, AND HOW TO ENSURE THE SOVIETS DO NOT EXPLOIT IT.

- CENTRAL AMERICA, WHERE SHE WILL BE INTERESTED IN OUR PLANS. SHE RECENTLY SAW THE NICARAGUAN VICE PRESIDENT RAMIREZ HERE, [REDACTED]

- THE MIDDLE EAST, AND YOUR VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS AFTER YOUR MEETINGS WITH FAHD AND MUBARAK.

- INDIA, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WESTERN POLICY UNDER RAJIV.

- LAKER, AND PROBLEMS IN OUR B' ATERAL CIVIL AIR RELATIONS

7. YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING UP:

- TERRORISM, ASKING FOR THE PM'S VIEWS ON EUROPEAN THINKING FOLLOWING RECENT ATTACKS ON NATO TARGETS.

- EASTERN EUROPE, WHERE GEOFFREY HOWE IS ENGAGED IN A ROUND OF VISITS THIS SPRING.

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DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM AMBASSADOR PRICE

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PARM, UK, PTER, ECON, OVIP (THATCHER, MARGARET)  
SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER THATCHER.

9. I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND  
NANCY, AS DOES CAROL, WHO WILL BE JOINING US FOR  
DINNER AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY. PRICE  
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