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FM FCO 181800Z JUNE 79

TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

TELEGRAM NUMBER 276 OF 18 JUNE

INFO TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS GENEVA WASHINGTON KUALA LUMPUR BANGKOK
SINGAPORE JAKARTA MANILA HONG KONG PRIORITY MOSCOW TOKYO PARIS
BONN ROUTINE OTTAWA CANBERRA WELLINGTON BRUSSELS THE HAGUE
LUXEMBOURG DUBLIN ROME COPENHAGEN DELHI

End
for
2/1/79

VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING FURTHER MESSAGE TO DR WALDHEIM FROM
THE PRIME MINISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BEGINS

MY DEAR SECRETARY GENERAL

I WAS GLAD TO LEARN THAT YOU WERE TAKING EARLY SOUNDINGS
ABOUT THE PROPOSAL WHICH I MADE IN MY MESSAGE OF 31 MAY
FOR AN EARLY CONFERENCE ABOUT THE CRISIS CAUSED BY THE
INHUMAN ACTIONS OF THE VIETNAMESE REGIME. WHILE I SHARE YOUR
VIEW THAT A CONFERENCE SHOULD BE PROPERLY PREPARED I AM
CONCERNED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO DELAY.

THE ACTIONS OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT IN EXPELLING CAMBODIAN
REFUGEES AND THE PROBLEMS OF MALAYSIA MAKE THE PROBLEM OF THE
UTMOST URGENCY. HONG KONG WITH OVER 54,000 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES,
IS IN A VERY SERIOUS SITUATION. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN
HUMANE POLICIES AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, BUT THAI AND REPORTED
MALAYSIAN ACTIONS CAN ONLY MAKE HONG KONG'S POSITION STILL
MORE DESPERATE.

I AM APPEALING TO THE MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER TO CO-OPERATE
IN OUR EFFORTS TO FIND A HUMANE SOLUTION, BUT IF MANY THOUSAND
MORE LIVES ARE NOT TO BE LOST WE MUST HAVE VERY EARLY ACTION BY
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. MAY I URGE YOU TO TAKE AN INITIATIVE
NOW AND CALL AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNDER YOUR OWN AUSPICES?

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OUR AIM MUST BE TO PUT MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON VIETNAM AND PERSUADE THE REST OF THE WORLD TO HELP TO REDUCE THE APPALLING HUMAN MISERY WHICH VIETNAMESE POLICIES ARE CAUSING.

YOURS SINCERELY MARGARET THATCHER.

ENDS

2. WE DO NOT INTEND TO PUBLISH THIS MESSAGE BUT WE SHALL ANNOUNCE THAT A FURTHER MESSAGE CALLING FOR A VERY EARLY CONFERENCE HAS BEEN SENT. REFERENCE TO IT WAS MADE BY THE LORD PRIVY SEAL IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON 18 JUNE.

CARRINGTON

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