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FM F C O 051755Z JUL 79

TO IMMEDIATE CANBERRA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 306 OF 5 JULY.

*File in
6/11*

1. IN A PROMINENT REPORT HEADLINED "REFUGEES - A RUSSIAN RASPBERRY FOR MAGGIE", TODAY'S EVENING NEWS QUOTES MR FRASER AS SAYING IN AN INTERVIEW IN CANBERRA: "MRS THATCHER SPOKE TO THE RUSSIANS ON HER WAY THROUGH TO THE TOKYO SUMMIT, AND, IN SHORT TERMS, GOT A RASPBERRY. SHE WAS TOLD THAT THEY (THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES) WERE ALL DRUG ADDICTS, CRIMINALS, SUBVERSIVES AND IT WAS AN INTERNAL MATTER FOR VIETNAM".

2. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION THE PRIME MINISTER WAS AMAZED AND DISCONCERTED BY THE REPORTED REMARKS. SHE WOULD WISH MR FRASER TO BE AWARE THAT SHE WAS SURPRISED TO READ THEM REVEALING AS THEY DO WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN A CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSION. HER NORMAL PRACTICE IS TO DIVULGE THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED ON SUCH OCCASIONS, BUT NOT THE SUBSTANCE. THIS IS WHAT SHE WILL CONTINUE TO DO.

3. WE DO NOT WISH TO BE HEAVY-HANDED IN DEALING WITH THIS, BUT WOULD LIKE YOU TO PASS IT ON IN WHATEVER WAY YOU THINK WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE, PERHAPS THROUGH EGGLETON OR YEEND.

CARRINGTON

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MR CORTAZZI
MR MURRAY

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TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 400 OF 11 JULY

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YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 306: MR FRASER'S REPORTED REMARKS ON
PRIME MINISTER'S TALKS IN MOSCOW

1. HIGH COMMISSIONER SPOKE ACCORDINGLY TO YEEND ON 6 JULY.
WHEN I CALLED ON YEEND TODAY ON ANOTHER MATTER I SOUNDED HIM
OUT ON ORIGINS OF THE REPORT. HE SAID THAT MR FRASER'S REMARKS
HAD BEEN MADE IN CONFIDENCE AND "WERE NOT INTENDED TO GO ANY
FURTHER". HE SAID THAT MR FRASER HAD CONSIDERED SENDING A
LETTER OF EXPLANATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON THESE LINES
BUT HAD CONCLUDED THAT THAT MIGHT BE MAKING TOO MUCH OF THE
INCIDENT. IN VIEW OF OPENING WORDS OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF TUR I LET
IT GO AT THAT. WE HAVE MADE OUR POINT AND IT HAS, I THINK,
BEEN WELL TAKEN.

DUDGEON

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