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FM F.C.O. 091043Z JULY 79

TO IMMEDIATE UKDEL OECD

TELEGRAM NUMBER 28 OF 9 JULY

AND TO IMMEDIATE PARIS, BONN, ROME, TOKYO, WASHINGTON, OTTAWA,  
UKREP BRUSSELS,INFO PRIORITY OTHER EEC POSTS AND CANBERRA, VIENNA, MADRID,  
STOCKHOLM, BERNE, ANKARA, OSLO, WELLINGTON AND ATHENS.

YOUR TELNO 72: TOKYO SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP: ENERGY

1. WE ARE NOT CONVINCED OF THE DESIRABILITY EITHER OF AN EARLY MEETING OF THE OECD GROUP CALLED FOR BY THE TOKYO SUMMIT TO MONITOR PROGRESS ON IMPORT CEILINGS FOR OIL OR OF SUCH A GROUP MEETING AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, AS WE BELIEVE THE FRENCH ARE ALSO LIKELY TO PROPOSE.
2. AS FOR TIMING IT SEEMS TO US TO MAKE NO SENSE TO CONVENE A MEETING WHEN THE IMPORT CEILINGS TO BE MONITORED HAVE NOT YET STARTED TO OPERATE AND WHEN THE MAJORITY OF COMMUNITY COUNTRIES HAVE NOT YET EVEN SET THEM. THE TARGETS SET FOR 1979, RESPECTIVELY BY THE IEA AND THE EEC, ARE ALREADY BEING MONITORED BY THOSE ORGANISATIONS AND IT WOULD BE WRONG TO TRY TO TRANSFER THAT MONITORING TO THE NEW GROUP OR TO DUPLICATE IT.
3. AS TO LEVEL WE DO NOT TOTALLY EXCLUDE THE IDEA OF A MINISTERIAL MEETING AT SOME STAGE TO REVIEW PERFORMANCE TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING THE TOKYO SUMMIT COMMITMENTS BUT WE CERTAINLY DO NOT THINK THERE IS A CASE FOR ONE NOW. WE ALSO WISH TO AVOID MOVES THAT COULD FURTHER INSTITUTIONALISE THE SUMMIT FRAMEWORK AND WHICH WOULD BE LIKELY TO UNDERMINE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING ORGANISATIONS (THE EEC AND THE IEA) WHICH ARE ALREADY HANDLING THESE PROBLEMS.

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4. WE THEREFORE HAVE A STRONG PREFERENCE FOR HANDLING THE TOKYO REMIT TO SET UP AN OECD MONITORING GROUP AT A DELIBERATE PACE AND IN A LOW KEY. WE WOULD LIKE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO BE GIVEN WITHIN THE OECD FRAMEWORK TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP, WHERE OUR INITIAL PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR OPEN-ENDED MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE TO ANY OECD MEMBER PREPARED TO SET IMPORT CEILINGS FOR OIL UP TO 1985 ON AN ANALOGOUS BASIS TO THE SUMMIT COUNTRIES. AS TO THE SECRETARIAT TO SERVICE THE GROUP, WE WOULD WISH TO SEE THE IEA PROVIDING THIS, THOUGH SOME OECD LABELLING MAY BE NEEDED TO ACCOMMODATE THE FRENCH.

5. POSTS TO WHOM THIS TELEGRAM IS ADDRESSED SHOULD TAKE AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS AND REPORT THE REACTIONS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS. POSTS TO WHOM THE TELEGRAM IS COPIED FOR INFORMATION MAY DRAW ON IT IF THE SUBJECT IS RAISED WITH THEM.

CARRINGTON

FILES:

ESSD  
FRD  
TRED  
ECON D  
EID  
WED  
NEWS D  
PS  
PS/MR RIDLEY  
PS/PUS  
SIR A. DUFF  
MR BUTLER  
MISS BROWN

COPIES TO:

MR D. LE B JONES)  
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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 July 1979

*and Prime Minister  
for information.*

*Jean David*

Tokyo Summit Follow-Up: Energy

*8/1  
1979*

*[initials]*

Thank you for your letter of 6 July. I agree that we should resist French attempts to bounce us into early convening, perhaps at ministerial level, of the OECD group to monitor oil import ceilings.

We should pursue the work of convening such a group at a deliberate pace and in a low key if we are to avoid upsetting those of our EEC and IEA partners who were not present at Tokyo, and undermining the work of these two organisations.

I have sent the attached telegram to our posts in summit countries reflecting our views on this subject.

I am copying this to recipients of yours.

*J. Carrington*

(CARRINGTON)

The Rt Hon David Howell MP



10 JUL 1950