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FM FCO 122115Z JAN 82
TO FLASH ALGIERS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 7 OF 12 JANUARY
AND TO FLASH DAKAR PARIS.

YOUR TELNO 12: PARIS-DAKAR RALLY.

1. WE HAVE LITTLE INFORMATION HERE AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN NO RELIABLE FACTS FROM RACE ORGANISERS IN PARIS.
2. THE PRIME MINISTER IS NOW MOST CONCERNED, SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO (NO) RELIABLE INFORMATION FOR THREE DAYS. GRATEFUL IF YOU, DAKAR AND PARIS WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH THE FACTS.
3. FOR ALGIERS: WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT OFFER TO ASSIST IN A RESCUE OPERATION. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE FURTHER INFORMATION THEY SEEK CAN BE OBTAINED HERE OR IN PARIS. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT ONLY THE RALLY ORGANISERS ON THE ROUTE OF THE RALLY ARE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE IT. WE THEREFORE HOPE, AND YOU SHOULD MAKE THIS REQUEST URGENTLY, THAT THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT WILL LAUNCH AN OPERATION WITHOUT DELAY. PRESUMABLY THEIR MILITARY WOULD BE BEST PLACED TO ASSIST.
4. FOR DAKAR: PLEASE CONSIDER URGENTLY WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP, AND REPORT. WE HOPE YOU WILL SEND A MEMBER OF YOUR STAFF TO BAMAKO URGENTLY TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION WITH GOVERNMENT OF MALI.
5. FOR PARIS: WE UNDERSTAND (TELCON COLES/AMBASSADOR) THAT THE QUAI ARE APPROACHING GOVERNMENT OF MALI THROUGH FRENCH EMBASSY IN BAMAKO. WE SHOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL FOR ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT CAN PROVIDE.

CARRINGTON

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