

SECRET

FM FCO 211713Z JUN 79

TO PRIORITY UKDEL NATO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 46 OF 21 JUNE

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON MODUK UKDEL VIENNA BONN PARIS MOSCOW

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Prime Minister
GHI
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YOUR TELNO 113: VIENNA SUMMIT: SALT

1. GENERAL SEIGNIOUS CALLED ON THE LORD PRIVY SEAL AND MR HURD TODAY TO BRIEF THEM ON THE VIENNA SUMMIT. THE LORD PRIVY SEAL TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENQUIRE ABOUT SEIGNIOUS' REFERENCE TO BREZHNEV'S STATEMENT THAT THE RUSSIANS WOULD BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE WITH QUOTE THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CONCERNED UNQUOTE.

2. SEIGNIOUS SAID THAT, IN THE DISCUSSION OF SALT III, BREZHNEV HAD SAID THAT IT WAS A FACT THAT NATO NATIONS OTHER THAN THE US POSSESSED NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABLE OF STRIKING THE SOVIET UNION AND THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THESE COUNTRIES IN SALT II. IT SEEMS THEREFORE UNLIKELY THAT BREZHNEV MADE THIS REMARK IN THE CONTEXT OF GROMYKO'S OFFER OF ASSURANCES REFERRED TO IN YOUR TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE, BUT WE AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WASHINGTON COULD ALSO CHECK ON THIS WITH THEIR CONTACTS.

3. SEIGNIOUS SPOKE SUBSEQUENTLY TO A LUNCH-TIME MEETING AT CHATHAM HOUSE. HE REFERRED TO THE FACT THAT FBS HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM SALT II AT US INSISTENCE, AND WENT ON TO QUOTE VERBATIM THE AGREED STATEMENT ON THEATRE SYSTEMS. HE ALSO MADE CONSIDERABLE PLAY OF AMERICAN REFUSAL THROUGHOUT THE SALT II NEGOTIATIONS TO ACCEPT A NO-TRANSFER PROVISION. STRESSING THAT COOPERATION (INCLUDING MODERNISATION BY SALT II AND WOULD CONTINUE, HE USED THE TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE US UNILATERAL STATEMENT ON NON-CIRCUMVENTION.

4. THERE WAS NO OPPORTUNITY TO ASK SEIGNIOUS WHY CARTER HAD NOT USED THE AGREED ALLIED RESPONSE AT THE VIENNA SUMMIT (PARAGRAPH 3 OF YOUR TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE), ALTHOUGH THE AMERICANS MAY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS MORE APPROPRIATE AS A PUBLIC STATEMENT RATHER THAN FOR USE BILATERALLY WITH THE RUSSIANS. SEIGNIOUS WILL BE GIVING A TALK IN THE FCO TOMORROW AND WE WILL ATTEMPT TO PROBE HIM ON THIS POINT.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST:

DEF.D NAD
ACDD WED
EESD PUSD

ADDITIONAL DIST:

SALT