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FM WASHINGTON 221510Z OCT 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3078 OF 22 OCTOBER

INFO IMMEDIATE ATHENS (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY) BRIDGETOWN
KINGSTON PORT OF SPAIN NASSAU BELMOPAN MODUK (RC,CDSO)

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBERS 1753 AND 1754: GRENADA

1. THE AMERICANS HAVE AVAILABLE A CARRIER GROUP BASED ON THE USS INDEPENDENCE: AND 1,900 MARINES OF THE AMPHIBIOUS REACTION GROUP. THE LATTER WERE EN ROUTE TO LEBANON FROM NORFOLK, VIRGINIA AND HAVE BEEN DIVERTED TO THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN. THE AMERICANS WILL PROVIDE OPERATIONAL DETAILS, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH THEM ON MILITARY CHANNELS ABOUT THIS. THE ADMINISTRATION IS STATING THAT THIS IS A SIGNAL TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF CONCERN ABOUT THE SAFETY OF U.S. CITIZENS ON THE ISLAND.

2. WE HAVE RELAYED TO THE AMERICANS MR LUCE'S REQUEST THAT IF U.S. FORCES ACT TO EVACUATE U.S. CITIZENS, THEY SHOULD INCLUDE U.K. CITIZENS WANTING TO LEAVE. RAPHEL (DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR POLITICO MILITARY AFFAIRS) TOOK NOTE OF THIS REQUEST AND SAID THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD HELP. THE REQUEST HAS ALSO BEEN PUT TO THE U.S. NAVY, WHO RESPONDED POSITIVELY.

3. THE PRESIDENT AND SHULTZ AT PRESENT ARE IN GEORGIA. THE U.S. DEPLOYMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS. THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL IS MEETING UNDER VICE PRESIDENT BUSH TO CONSIDER WHAT TO DO. ADMIRAL HOWE WILL GIVE US AN ACCOUNT OF U.S. THINKING ONCE THAT MEETING HAS CONCLUDED. IT MAY GO ON FOR MUCH OF THE DAY.

4. WE HAVE PASSED TO THE AMERICANS THE GIST OF YOUR TELNO 291 TO BRIDGETOWN, EMPHASIZING THE SENSITIVITY OF THESE CONTACTS. THEY WERE GRATEFUL FOR THIS INFORMATION.

WRIGHT

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