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RR CAIRO
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FM FCO 071015Z JAN 82

TO PRIORITY PARIS

TELEGRAM NUMBER 005 OF 7 JANUARY

INFO WASHINGTON, CAIRO, TEL AVIV, THE HAGUE, ROME.

YOUR TELNOS. 003 AND 006: SINAI MFO

1. THESE ACCOUNTS OF FRENCH UNWILLINGNESS TO PROCEED, PARTICULARLY YOUR TELNO 006, ARE DISTURBING. THE FRENCH HAVE TAKEN A LONG TIME TO REALISE PRECISELY WHAT THEY ARE COMMITTING THEMSELVES TO IN CONTRIBUTING TO THE SINAI FORCE UNDER THE RELEVANT AGREEMENTS.

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE AMERICANS THAT HAIG IS LIKELY TO BE IN ISRAEL NEXT WEEK AND IS VERY KEEN THAT THE ISRAELI CABINET MEETING ON 17 JANUARY, AT THE LATEST, SHOULD HAVE A EUROPEAN REPLY TO CONSIDER. THERE IS MUCH LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE WORK TO BE DONE BEFORE CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES CAN GET THEIR UNITS IN PLACE AND WE ARE ANXIOUS NOT TO DELAY MUCH LONGER. PROVIDED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON THE GOLAN DURING THE NEXT FEW DAYS DOES NOT SOUR THE ATMOSPHERE SO BADLY THAT IT CONSTRAINS US FROM MAKING A FURTHER MOVE ON THE MFO, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO GIVE THE ISRAELIS A REPLY BY FRIDAY, 15 JANUARY.

3. PLEASE PUT THESE POINTS TO THE FRENCH AND ARGUE FIRMLY AGAINST FURTHER DELAY. IF THE FRENCH APPEAR ADAMANT THAT IT IS TOO EARLY FOR THEM TO MAKE A DECISION, AND IF THEY CONTINUE TO SHOW DOUBTS ABOUT THE WORDING OF THE DRAFT REPLY ON WHICH THE FOUR HAVE AGREED, YOU SHOULD SAY THAT WE WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT TO REOPEN THE QUESTION OF THE TERMS OF OUR REPLY AND THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WAITING LONGER WILL MAKE THINGS ANY EASIER. IF APPROPRIATE YOU SHOULD SAY THAT IN OUR VIEW DELAYING THE ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS BEYOND 20 MARCH WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE COMMIT-

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MENT THE 4 HAVE UNDERTAKEN, AND WOULD SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE THE CONTRIBUTION WE ARE MAKING TO THE POLITICAL OBJECTIVES OF THE FORCE. WE HAVE ACQUIESCED IN THE FRENCH WISH TO DELAY OUR NEXT MOVE UNTIL THE GOLAN DEBATE IS OVER, BUT WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE NEED FOR LONGER DELAY: IF THE FRENCH ARE UNWILLING TO ACT AS AGREED WE BELIEVE THE POSITION MUST BE EXPLAINED TO THE AMERICANS WHO HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SETTING UP THE FORCE.

CARRINGTON

STANDARD

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