

CONFIDENTIAL

4393 - 2

GRS 318

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 211500Z ROME AND HOLY SEE

FM FCO 211345Z NOV 80

TO IMMEDIATE ROME

TELEGRAM NUMBER 566 OF 21 NOVEMBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE HOLY SEE (ROME PASS)

FROM WED

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ROME: 23-24 NOVEMBER

1. AS YOU KNOW FROM TELECONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL NOW HAVE TO LEAVE ROME EARLIER THAN EXPECTED ON THE MORNING OF 24 NOVEMBER IN ORDER TO RETURN TO LONDON FOR THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS. MESSAGES OF EXPLANATION HAVE BEEN SENT.
2. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL THAT SHE SHOULD ARRIVE AT FIUMCINO AIRPORT AT 1700 ON 23 NOVEMBER AND THAT TALKS SHOULD BEGIN AT 1815. WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL TO THE ITALIANS FOR PROPOSING THIS RE-ARRANGEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SIGNOR FORLANI PROPOSES TO GIVE A LARGER DINNER WITH WIVES AT 2100 AS PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED AND DOES NOT FAVOUR THE IDEA OF A WORKING DINNER.
3. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO THE VATICAN'S PROPOSAL THAT HER CALL ON THE POPE SHOULD BE RE-ARRANGED FOR 1030 ON 24 NOVEMBER. WE ASSUME THAT THIS WILL MEAN TAKING OFF FROM ROME AT APPROXIMATELY 1130 INSTEAD OF 1040 AS WE HAD EARLIER PROPOSED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT A CALL ON CARDINAL CASAROLI IS NOW PROPOSED FOR 1000 BEFORE THE CALL ON THE POPE. THE PRIME MINISTER IS CONTENT TO MAKE AN EARLIER START TO MEET SIGNOR FORLANI'S WISH FOR A PRESS CONFERENCE. THIS WOULD PRESUMABLY MEAN:
0830 - 0915 BREAKFAST WITH PRESIDENT PERTINI:
0920 - 0950 JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE AT SIGNOR FORLANI'S OFFICE.
4. THE SECRETARY OF STATE EXPECTS TO LEAVE ROME BY RAF AIRCRAFT AT ABOUT 1400, AFTER LUNCH. GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD INFORM BRUSSELS WHEN AIRCRAFT TAKES OFF. UNLESS ANY PARTICULAR POINTS ARISE ON THE SUNDAY EVENING WHICH THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS WISH TO FOLLOW UP, WE DO NOT FORESEE ANY NEED TO ARRANGE FURTHER TALKS WITH SIGNOR COLOMBO ON THE MONDAY MORNING. LORD CARRINGTON DOES NOT

1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4393 - 2

EXPECT TO ACCOMPANY THE PRIME MINISTER FOR HER CALL ON THE POPE.

CARRINGTON

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

DISTRIBUTION

LIMITED

WED

PCD

ECD(I)

NEWS

PS

PS/LPS

PS/PUS

MR BULLARD

MR FERGUSSON