

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO

TO IMMEDIATE UKDEL NASSAU

TELNO 73

OF 211830Z OCT 85

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

Tomorrow

FOLLOWING FOR PS/SECRETARY OF STATE

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO NEW YORK: MEETING WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. SUBJECT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S VIEWS, WE RECOMMEND THAT WHEN THE PRIME MINISTER SEES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SHE SHOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES. OUR OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO LEAVE THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN NO DOUBT THAT, IF HE WERE TO SUGGEST MISS JOAN ANSTEE AS A COMPROMISE CANDIDATE, HE WOULD HAVE BRITISH SUPPORT. THIS SUBJECT IS NOT (NOT) COVERED IN THE BRIEFING FOR THE MEETING FORWARDED BY COURIER.

BACKGROUND

2. THE POST OF UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES FALLS VACANT AT THE END OF 1985 WHEN MR POUL HARTLING (DENMARK) RETIRES. THE CHOICE OF SUCCESSOR LIES WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (THROUGH REGIONAL GROUPS).

3. THERE ARE SEVERAL CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD, INCLUDING MR MAX VAN DER STOEL (NETHERLANDS)  
DR BOUTROS GHALI (EGYPT)  
MR JEAN-PIERRE HOCHE (SWITZERLAND)  
MR TOM VRAALSEN (NORWAY).

4. NONE OF THESE CANDIDATES APPEARS TO HAVE OBTAINED WIDESPREAD SUPPORT. THE TEN ARE COMMITTED TO VAN DER STOEL, THOUGH FRANCE AND GREECE ARE THOUGHT TO HAVE DEFECTED TO BOUTROS GHALI. MR VAN DER STOEL HIMSELF IS INCREASINGLY GLOOMY ABOUT HIS OWN CHANCES. DR BOUTROS GHALI'S CANDIDATURE HAS NOT TAKEN OFF. THE AMERICANS SUPPORT MR HOCHE BECAUSE HE IS A GOOD ADMINISTRATOR, BUT HOCHE IS APPARENTLY GAINING LITTLE GROUND.

5. THE SECRETARY GENERAL IS, IN HIS OWN WORDS, QUOTE STUCK UNQUOTE. HE IS KNOWN TO BE TOYING WITH THE IDEA OF NOMINATING MISS JOAN ANSTEE, AT PRESENT ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, AFTER UROUHART THE SENIOR BRITON IN THE UN SECRETARIAT. HE HAS VERY RECENTLY TOLD MISS ANSTEE THAT THIS IDEA WAS STILL IN HIS MIND.

6. MISS ANSTEE IS WELL QUALIFIED FOR THE JOB. WE HAVE IN THE PAST FELT INHIBITED FROM PUSHING HER CLAIMS FOR ADVANCEMENT FOR FEAR THAT THIS MIGHT COMPLICATE THE UROUHART SUCCESSION. BUT MR GOULDING'S APPOINTMENT IS NOW SECURE. WE THINK THAT HER BEST, AND INDEED ONLY, CHANCE OF SUCCESS IS IF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HIMSELF PROMOTES HER AS A LAST MINUTE QUOTE DARK HORSE UNQUOTE COMPROMISE.

7. WE AND THE MISSION CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN THE PRIME MINISTER MENTIONING TO PEREZ DE CUELLAR THAT IF HE WERE TO PROPOSE MISS ANSTEE HE (AND SHE) WOULD HAVE BRITISH SUPPORT. THIS FORMULA WOULD PROVIDE THE SECRETARY GENERAL WITH REASSURANCE WITHOUT DAMAGING OUR PRESENT COMMITMENT TO MR VAN DER STOEL.

8. MISS ANSTEE WILL BE AT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S LUNCH FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN ON 23 OCTOBER WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ALSO BE ATTENDING.

HOWE

OCMIAN 8321

NNNN

Q