

Mr Gladstone
Mr Fergusson
PS/PUS

CORR 0211	
REC'D	13
65 APR 1979	
	DEPT. OF STATE
	Room 5600

GUADELOUPE SUMMIT: ITALIAN REACTIONS

- A 1. The PUS minuted on my submission of 1 February about Italian reactions to the Guadeloupe Summit that he would like to know what impression the French obtained of the strength of those reactions.
- B 2. Lord Gordon Lennox's letter of 5 March reported a conversation with the Assistant Director of M. François-Poncet's Cabinet on this point. M. Blot gave the impression that Italian approaches to the French on this issue had been regarded by the French as routine and expected. As far as M. Blot could remember, the Italians had not referred to 'resumption of Gaullist practices' but it would not have surprised him if they had. (I am sorry for the delay in submitting this reply. We were not able to keep a copy of my submission of 1 February and have had difficulty in tracing it and we have also been expecting a report from the Embassy in Bonn).
- C 3. The PUS will also have seen a report from HM Embassy Washington giving an American impression of the strength of the Italian reaction. An enquiry has now shown that the Germans, who received similar approaches from the Italians, take the view that Italian sensitivity on this question is 'a fact of life about which nothing much can be done'.
4. Mr Bullard may like to see these papers also in case there are any further repercussions in Political Cooperation.

4 April 1979

P W M Vereker
Western European Department