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R 192010Z JUL 79
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23 JUL 1979		
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ATTN BBC/BAG

ROME REPORTS DISSENSON WITHIN DC OVER FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT

LD192010 REF LD191836 (ROME DOMESTIC ITALIAN 191700--ITALYT
DC POLITICAL SECRETARY REJECTS CRAXI ATTEMPT TO FORM GOVERNMENT)

ROME DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ITALIAN 1700 GMT 19 JUL 79 LD

((EXCERPT)) THE MEETING OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ((DC)) DIRECTORATE WAS PRECEDED AND ACCOMPANIED BY A NUMBER OF STATEMENTS FROM WITHIN DC RANKS WHICH OCCASIONALLY REVEALED RESENTMENT AND PREOCCUPATION; THE STATEMENTS WERE BASED ON THE LIKELY PROSPECT THAT A REJECTION OF BETTIINO CRAXI'S PROPOSAL WOULD CAUSE FURTHER SOCIALIST REBUFFS OF SUBSEQUENT NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FROM THE PARTY OF RELATIVE MAJORITY.

A MEETING WAS HELD TODAY BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE DC PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN THE SENATE, WHICH AT THE END OF A DEBATE ON CONFLICTING POSITIONS DEMONSTRATED LIMITED UNITY BY NEGATIVELY ASSESSING THE STATEMENT APPROVED YESTERDAY BY THE SOCIALIST PARTY DIRECTORATE IN RESPONSE TO THE DC REQUEST FOR CLAIRIFICATION; AN APPEAL TO REFLECT ON THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF A RUPTURE WITH THE SOCIALISTS WAS MADE TO DC POLITICAL SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI BY SEGNI, A DC DEPUTY WHO BELONGS TO THE GROUP OPPOSING THE PARTY SECRETARIAT. GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY WOULD BE ASSUMED, SEGNI WROTE TO ZACCAGNINI, BY THOSE WHO, IN PROVOKING A RUPTURE, WOULD PREJUDICE NOT ONLY THE FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT TODAY BUT ALSO THE RESUMPTION OF COOPERATION TOMORROW, THROWING THE COUNTRY INTO A SITUATION WITH UNFORESEEFABLE (?CONSEQUENCES). ANOTHER ZACCAGNINI ADVERSARY, MASSIMO DE CAROLIS, STATED IN AN INTERVIEW THAT THE MEN OF THE DC SECRETARIAT ARE BECOMING SENSELESS AND ARE INCAPABLE OF DEALING WITH ANY OTHER SITUATION EXCEPT ((WORD INDISTINCT)) AND FLIRTING WITH THE COMMUNISTS. ((PASSAGE OMITTED QUOTING SOME CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WHO CRITICIZED THE SOCIALIST DIRECTORATE'S STATEMENT))

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