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TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 254 OF 5 TH APRIL
PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS
SAVING TO BONN COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE PARIS BRUSSELS DUBLIN
LUXEMBOURG, UKDEL NATO , WASHINGTON.

ITALIAN INTERNAL SITUATION

1. MIFT CONTAINS LIST OF THE NEW ITALIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS , SWORN IN ON 4TH APRIL, REFERENCES ARE TO THE LEADING PERSONALITIES REPORT OF 1978.
2. COSSIGA HAS SUCCEEDED IN FORMING A COALITION OF CHISTIAN DEMOCRATS, SOCIALISTS AND REPUBLICANS WHICH WILL HAVE A MAJORITY IN BOTH CHAMBERS. A NUMBER OF MINISTRIES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO UK REMAIN IN THE SAME HANDS : AGRICULTURE (MARCORA), TREASURY (PANDOLFI) AND INTERIOR (ROGNONI). THE SOCIALISTS HAVE TAKEN THE DEFENCE MINISTRY. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS GONE TO EMILO COLOMBO , FORMERLY PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND MUCH MORE EXPERIENCED IN EC MATTERS THAN HIS PREDECESSOR RUFFINI. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHAT TASKS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO SCOTTI IN THE NEWLY CREATED PORTFOLIO FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.
3. I WILL SEND FURTHER COMMENT AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES AS NECESSARY AFTER THE WEEKEND.
4. FCO PSE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

ARCULUS [PASSED AS REQUESTED]

fa. wgs

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