

GR 130

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 280814Z FEB 81
TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELEGRAM NUMBER 717 OF 27 FEBRUARY 1981
INFO DEPT OF TRADE

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

MIPT (NOT TO ALL): SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH MR HAIG:
BILATERAL RELATIONS

1. THE SECRETARY OF STATE URGED HAIG TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE PRESENT U S REQUIREMENTS FOR BRITISH CITIZENS TO OBTAIN VISAS TO VISIT THE U S. HAIG REPLIED THAT HE RECOGNISED THE NEED FOR RECIPROCITY. THE PRESENT SYSTEM (UNDER WHICH 1 AND A HALF MILLION VISAS WERE ISSUED EACH YEAR IN LONDON ALONE) WAS VERY EXPENSIVE FOR THE US AND SERVED NO PURPOSE. THE PROBLEM LAY WITH CONGRESS. THE ADMINISTRATION WERE WORKING ON POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

2. LORD CARRINGTON ALSO RAISED THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAD ARISEN AS A RESULT OF DELAYS IN U S LICENSING OF EXPORTS TO THE UK FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-EXPORT TO THIRD COUNTRIES. SOME DOLLARS 80M WORTH OF GOODS WAS BEING HELD UP, AND DELAYS OF UP TO ONE YEAR HAD OCCURRED. WE HOPED THAT THE SYSTEM COULD BE IMPROVED. HAIG TOOK NOTE.

HENDERSON

LIMITED

NAD

TRED

MVD

PS

PS/LPS

PS/MR RIDLEY

PS/PUS

MR DAY

MR URE

CONFIDENTIAL