

OO LUXEMBOURG DESKBY 291200Z
 GRS 289
 UNCLASSIFIED
 DESKBY 291200Z
 FM FCO 291000Z JUN 81
 TO IMMEDIATE LUXEMBOURG
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 53 OF 29 JUNE
 AND TO PRIORITY ROME
 FOLLOWING FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY:
 NEW ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

TOP COPY

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1. IT WAS ANNOUNCED ON 28 JUNE THAT SIGNOR GIOVANNI SPADOLINI, LEADER OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, HAD SUCCEEDED IN FORMING A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT COMPRISING REPUBLICANS, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, SOCIALISTS, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, AND UNLIKE THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, LIBERALS. COLOMBO IS RETAINED AS FOREIGN MINISTER AND LAGORIO AT DEFENCE. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT SIGNOR SPADOLINI WILL BE IN LUXEMBOURG, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL NO DOUBT WISH TO CONGRATULATE HIM PERSONALLY. BUT IT IS USUAL ON THESE OCCASIONS TO PUBLISH A WRITTEN MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS AND, IF THE PRIME MINISTER AGREES, WE SUGGEST THAT ROME CONVEY TO THE NEW PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, FOR PUBLICATION, A MESSAGE DATED YESTERDAY 28 JUNE ON THE FOLLOWING LINES:

BEGINS. PLEASE ACCEPT MY WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR APPOINTMENT AS PRIME MINISTER. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU IMMEDIATELY AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND TO WORKING WITH YOU CLOSELY IN THE FUTURE ON THE MANY QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST OF OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. ENDS

2. THE PRIME MINISTER MAY ALSO WISH TO PASS A MESSAGE TO THE OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER, FORLANI, ON THE FOLLOWING LINES:
 BEGINS. I WAS SORRY THAT THE EVENTS WHICH MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO COME TO LONDON EARLIER THIS MONTH HAVE ALSO MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CONTINUE AS PRIME MINISTER. I SHOULD LIKE TO CONVEY MY THANKS TO YOU FOR ALL THE COOPERATION AND SUPPORT WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN ME PERSONALLY AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DURING YOUR TERM AS PRIME MINISTER. I MUCH ENJOYED

WORKING WITH YOU. ENDS

CARRINGTON

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