

GRS 380

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DESKBY 040830Z

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 040020Z DEC 81

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1437 OF 3 DECEMBER 1981

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKREP BRUSSELS, UKMIS GENEVA, UKDEL OECD.

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PS TO PM 10, DOWNING STREET.

YOUR TELNO 831: GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS

1. THE PACE OF EVENTS SLACKENED TODAY.
2. I MET MY COMMUNITY COLLEAGUES THIS MORNING TO TAKE STOCK. I SUGGESTED THE UK PRESIDENCY AND COMMISSION SHOULD SEEK PRIVATE CONTACTS WITH MRS KIRKPATRICK AND BEDJAQUI TO SEE WHAT WAS THEIR ROOM FOR MANOEUVRE. THIS WAS WELCOMED AS PROVIDING THE COMMUNITY WITH AN "ACTIVE AND DISTINCT ROLE" AS PRESCRIBED BY THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE EC NORTH/SOUTH GROUP (UKREP BRUSSELS TELNO 4565).
3. FRANCE, NETHERLANDS AND DENMARK PROPOSED THAT, IN SUCH CONTACTS, THE COMMUNITY SHOULD SAY THAT WE COULD ACCEPT THE TEXT IN MY TELNO 1406 IF THE AMERICANS AND G77 COULD DO SO. I SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED THIS, WITH HELPFUL SUPPORT FROM GERMANY, ITALY AND BELGIUM. I POINTED OUT THAT SUCH A MOVE WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF ISOLATING THE AMERICANS, WHICH WOULD NOT BE USEFUL.
4. MRS KIRKPATRICK TALKED TO A MEETING OF OECD REPRESENTATIVES THIS AFTERNOON. SHE SAID THAT WASHINGTON SAW THE GREATEST DIFFICULTIES IN THE TEXT IN MY TELNO 1406. SHE DID NOT WANT TO SEE THE AMERICANS HOLD EVERYTHING UP. SHE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE RESOLUTION COULD BE ADOPTED WITH THE US ABSTAINING. THIS IDEA WAS DEPLORED BY THE UK PRESIDENCY, JAPAN AND OTHERS.
5. I SAW MRS KIRKPATRICK IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, WITH MALVE (COMMISSION) - LOEFF IS IN WASHINGTON. MRS KIRKPATRICK TOLD ME THAT SHE HAD BEEN GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE TEXT FOR A RESOLUTION IN WASHINGTON BUT NOW REALISED THAT IT WAS TOO LATE TO INTRODUCE A NEW DRAFT. SHE REVERTED TO THE IDEA OF A US ABSTENTION. I DISCOURAGED HER STRONGLY, POINTING OUT THAT IT WOULD BE ABSURD TO LAUNCH GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT THE WORLD'S STRONGEST ECONOMY. I THINK THAT, FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, SHE WAS CONVINCED.
6. I URGED HER TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE LANGUAGE FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT IN MY TELNO 1406, WHICH WOULD MEET WASHINGTON'S CONCERNS. SHE UNDERTOOK TO REFLECT ON THIS AND MAKE CONTACT LATER.
7. I WILL SEE BEDJAQUI OF THE G 77 TOMORROW.
8. WE WILL REPORT FURTHER EVENTS TOMORROW AND OVER THE WEEKEND DESKBY UKREP BRUSSELS FOR MONDAY MORNING, FOR USE IF NECESSARY AT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. BUT THE SITUATION SEEMS BOUND TO REMAIN VERY CONFUSED.

PARSONS

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