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cc Mr Merry - Jones
Info Dept
30 Mr B. Donnelly
Mr. Carvic, Adv. Dept.
Mr. Young to me.
24/3
[Signature]

R Osborne Esq
WED
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Your reference

Our reference INF 011/2 &
301/3

Date

12 March 1982

WRD 0111
BRITISH EMBASSY
25 MAR 1982
Mr. [Signature] [Signature]
W/S

Dear Roy,

PCI

1. Peter Nichols, the Rome correspondent of The Times, recently had a two-hour interview with Enrico Berlinguer, the Secretary of the Italian Communist Party. He told me with some dismay that The Times had decided not to publish the results of this interview. Their excuse had been that Berlinguer was unwilling to comment on the passage in the recent interview with Jaruzelski by Oriana Fallaci where Jaruzelski alleged that in the Polish situation Berlinguer would have imposed martial law earlier than the Poles did themselves. Nichols thought that this episode displayed The Times' current, lamentable lack of interest in foreign affairs.

2. Nichols gave me a copy of the article he had filed, saying that he would have no objection to my sending it to London. A copy is enclosed.

3. The main points of interest in the article are:

a) Berlinguer underlines that the PCI has not "broken" with the Soviet Party (CPSU). There is a serious difference of opinion, but the party wants discussions to continue. It is interesting that Berlinguer does not seek to make more of the distance that now exists between the two parties in this interview to a Western bourgeois newspaper.

b) There is still no clear definition of the "Third Way". Berlinguer says that the party does not want to become Social Democrat. He probably hopes that

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- 2 -

socialist and social democrat parties elsewhere in Europe, eg. that of Mitterrand, will become more and more disillusioned with capitalism as it currently exists in Western Europe and that these left-wing parties may themselves move closer to the PCI's ill-defined position.

Yours ever,

Robert Curran

PP
P R Nelson

cc: Mrs K Colvin, Research Dept, FCO
Chancery, Moscow
News Department, FCO (w/o enc)
File 011/3

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