

SECRET

Date Printed:
17 Mar 2003

DOC_NBR: 1983STATE180969

CHANNEL: n/a
HANDLING: NODIS, STADIS

87

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PAGE 01 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203
ORIGIN NODS-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

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STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 12356 DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, TH, UK, US
SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH UK PRIME MINISTER THATCHER,
LONDON, JULY 5, 1983 (S/S: 8319870)

- 1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. FOLLOWING IS THE BRIEFING MEMO FOR YOUR MEETING WITH UK PRIME MINISTER THATCHER. BEGIN TEXT:

TO: THE SECRETARY

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

FROM: EUR - THOMAS M.T. NILES, ACTING
SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH UK PRIME MINISTER THATCHER,
LONDON, JULY 5, 1983

I. OBJECTIVES

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
~~REVIEW AUTHORITY: ERIC W FLEISHER~~
DATE/CASE ID: 29 MAY 2003 200101860

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1. REITERATE NEED TO MAINTAIN INF DEPLOYMENT ON SCHEDULE (TALKING POINTS PROVIDED).

2. UNDERSCORE DANGER TO OUR AVIATION RELATIONS CAUSED BY UK ORDER PREVENTING BRITISH AIRLINES FROM PROVIDING INFORMATION IN NORTH ATLANTIC ANTITRUST CASE (TALKING POINTS PROVIDED).

3. SECURE THATCHER'S SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED BRITISH PRESENCE IN THE MNF (TALKING POINTS PROVIDED).

II. SETTING

AS THATCHER ENTERS HER SECOND TERM, WE EXPECT A STRONGER, MORE CONFIDENT BRITISH VOICE IN WESTERN COUNCILS -- SUPPORTIVE OF THE US ON EAST-WEST SECURITY ISSUES, BUT PERHAPS EVEN TOUGHER IN DEFENDING NATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES (E.G., TRADE ISSUES, EXTRATERRITORIALITY). WE DON'T EXPECT, AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT, INDEPENDENT INITIATIVES, VIZ. ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

THATCHER KNOWS THAT THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF HER SECOND TERM WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON THE ECONOMY'S PERFORMANCE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE BRITISH WILL BE ESPECIALLY ATTENTIVE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE US, SINCE THEY BELIEVE LOWER US INTEREST RATES ARE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN THE RECOVERY.

THATCHER HAS THE TIME, THE VOTES, THE POLITICAL LATITUDE AND THE PRESTIGE TO CONTINUE PUTTING HER STAMP ON BRITAIN'S WORLD ROLE. WE ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS THAT THE RENEWED FLARE-UP IN THE CIVIL AVIATION ANTITRUST CASE NOT SPILL OVER INTO OTHER ASPECTS OF OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP.

III. PARTICIPANTS

US

THE SECRETARY
AMBASSADOR LOUIS
JAMES DOBBINS, DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

UK

PRIME MINISTER THATCHER
FOREIGN SECRETARY HOWE

IV. DISCUSSION OF OBJECTIVES

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REITERATE THE NEED TO MAINTAIN INF DEPLOYMENT ON SCHEDULE.

IN THE QUEEN'S JUNE 22 SPEECH TO PARLIAMENT, THE THATCHER GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMED ITS COMMITMENT TO INF DEPLOYMENT. THE GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE US NEGOTIATING POSITION IN THE INF TALKS AND PROMISED TO STAND BY THE NATO DECISION TO COUNTER EXISTING SOVIET SYSTEMS VIA DEPLOYMENTS, ABSENT AN AGREEMENT IN GENEVA. GLCM DEPLOYMENT WILL BEGIN IN THE UK IN DECEMBER 1983.

POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS SHOWS THAT TORY DEFENSE POLICIES ENJOYED A 25 PERCENT LEAD IN VOTER PREFERENCE OVER THE POLICIES OF OTHER PARTIES, AND ISSUES WHERE LABOR HAD HOPED TO BENEFIT -- INF, DUAL KEY, TRIDENT -- FOUND

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

LITTLE OR NO REASONANCE AMONG VOTERS.

YOU MAY WANT TO NOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING OTHER COUNTRIES -- READ FRG -- MOVING AHEAD ON DEPLOYMENT PREPARATIONS THIS FALL.

BY

FOCUSING ATTENTION ON THE DATES AND DETAILS OF DEPLOYMENT, MAY CREATE PROBLEMS IN THE UK AS WELL. MRS. THATCHER WILL BE INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM YOU REGARDING THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION NOT TO PERMIT THE "STATIONING" OF P-II MISSILES OR "PARTS THEREOF" IN THE FRG BEFORE NOVEMBER 15. SHE WILL ALSO BE ALERT TO IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GLCM DELIVERY SCHEDULES IN THE UK. (SOME ITEMS OF GLCM-RELATED EQUIPMENT HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED IN THE UK.)

-- WE ARE NOW REVIEWING WITH THEM THE P-II DELIVERY PROGRAM. I ANTICIPATE THAT WE CAN KEEP DEPLOYMENT ON SCHEDULE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT.

-- I AM CONFIDENT THAT KOHL IS FULLY COMMITTED TO DEPLOYMENT ON SCHEDULE.

UNDERScore DANGER TO OUR AVIATION RELATIONS CAUSED BY

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UK ORDER PREVENTING BRITISH AIRLINES FROM PROVIDING
INFORMATION IN NORTH ATLANTIC ANTITRUST CASE.

(BACKGROUND AND TALKING POINTS TO BE PROVIDED
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PAGE 05 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

SEPARATE MESSAGE FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF US-UK TALKS HERE.)

SECURE THATCHER'S SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED BRITISH
PRESENCE IN THE MNG.

HMG REMAINS CONVINCED THAT THE US IS THE INDISPENSABLE
LEADER IN THE PEACE EFFORT. THE BRITISH ASSISTED IN

SUPPORT OF LEBANON TO TRY TO ENGAGE SYRIA IN SERIOUS
NEGOTIATIONS FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL.

THATCHER IS THE KEY TO GAINING BRITISH AGREEMENT TO
EXTEND ITS 77-MAN CONTINGENT IN THE MNF BEYOND HMG'S
SELF-IMPOSED AUGUST 7 DEADLINE. WHILE NO FINAL
DECISION HAS BEEN MADE, THATCHER IS BELIEVED TO THINK
THAT SHE SHOULD STICK BY HER PUBLIC PLEDGE NOT TO
EXTEND BRITISH PARTICIPATION IN THE MNF. HMG OFFICIALS
HAVE CITED EXPENSE, OTHER COMMITMENTS, AND WORRY THAT
MNF PARTICIPATION COULD BECOME "ETERNAL."

-- WE BELIEVE THE MNF COULD PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN
SUPPORT OF THE LEBANESE ARMY IN A NON-HOSTILE
ATMOSPHERE, IF A STRUCTURED WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN
TROOPS COULD BE AGREED TO BY ALL PARTIES.

-- THE MNF WOULD NOT BE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN A
COMBAT OR POLICE ROLE. RATHER, IT SHOULD FUNCTION AS A
PRESENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE LEBANESE.

-- I WOULD URGE YOUR GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN ITS
PARTICIPATION IN THE MNF.

-- THE COST IS MINIMAL, AND WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE VERY
DAMAGING TO THE GEMAYEL GOVERNMENT, TO US EFFORTS-TO
ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT AND TO OUR JOINT INTERESTS. END
TEXT.

SECRET

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PAGE 06 STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

Page - 4

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3. FOLLOWING IS THE BULLET PAPER (VERBATIM) THAT ACCOMPANIES THE BRIEFING MEMO. BEGIN TEXT:

UK PRIME MINISTER THATCHER
JULY 5, 1983

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. REITERATE NEED TO MAINTAIN INF DEPLOYMENT ON SCHEDULE.

2. UNDERScore DANGER TO OUR AVIATION RELATIONS CAUSED BY UK ORDER PREVENTING BRITISH AIRLINES FROM PROVIDING INFORMATION IN NORTH ATLANTIC ANTITRUST CASE.

3. SECURE THATCHER'S SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED BRITISH PRESENCE IN THE MNF.

BEAR IN MIND

1. WE EXPECT THATCHER TO BE EVEN TOUGHER IN DEFENDING BRITAIN'S ECONOMIC INTERESTS DURING HER SECOND TERM.

DRAFTED: EUR/NE:MBARRY

APPROVED: EUR:TMTNILES

CLEARED:

EUR:JDOBBINS

EUR/RPE:MPLATT

EB/TT/AV:CDUDLEY

NEA/ARN:DWELCH

NEA/PAB:GFEIERSTEIN

L/EB:RKLEINMAN

SECRET

EUR/NE:JBINNS

EUR/RPM:BBURTON

P:WMONTGOMERY

EA/T:FMEADE

PM/TMP:MLEKSON

JUSTICE;PKENNY

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PAGE 07

STATE 180969 TOSEC 070203

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