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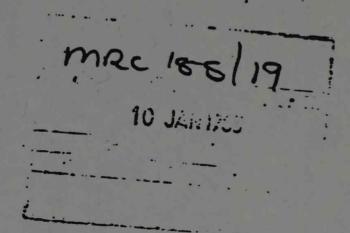
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TO IMMEDIATE ROME

TELNO 2

OF 081730Z JANUARY 86

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, PARIS, BONN, UKREP BRUSSELS, MODUK



YOUR TELNO 10 (NOT TO UKREP BRUSSELS): WESTLAND

1. PLEASE TELL THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE THAT HMG'S

POSITION ON WESTLAND'S PROSPECTS FOR EUROPEAN COLLABORATION

IS SET OUT IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER OF 1 JANUARY TO SIR

J CUCKNEY. THIS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BUT A COPY IS IN MIFT FOR

CONVENIENCE. YOU SHOULD EMPHASISE THAT WESTLAND IS A PRIVATE

COMPANY AND THAT IT IS POR THE BOARD OF WESTLAND AND THE SHAREHOLDERS TO DECIDE ON HE RELATIVE MERITS OF THE PROPOSALS MADE

BY SIKORSKY/FIAT AND BY THE EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM. IT IS NOT

HELPFUL FOR GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT MATTERS OF

THIS KIND WHICH ARE INTERNAL TO HE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE CONCERN

OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

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PS/MR EGGAR
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MR BRAITHWAITE
MR O'NEILL

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