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TO BRITISH EMBASSY PARIS

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HIFO FCO LONDON

BT

UNCLAS

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FROM PS/DEFENCE SECRETARY

1. PLEASE PASS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM MR HESELTINE TO DR WOERNER, MONSIEUR QUILES, SENATORE SPADOLINI AND PROFESSOR DE REUTER.

QUOTE: I HAVE TO TELL YOU WITH THE GREATEST RECRET THAT I HAVE TODAY RESIGNED FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OVER ISSUES SURROUNDING THE RECNSTRUCTION OF WESTLAND PLC.

I BELIEVE THAT THE ISSUES FOR WHICH WE HAVE JOINTLY WORKED ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE FOR THE FUTURE OF BRITAIN AND OF EUROPE. I SHALL CONTINUE TO GIVE EVERY SUPPORT I KNOW TO THE PURSUIT OF THESE ISSUES IN THE WIDER INTERESTS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. THE FUNDAMENTAL STRENGTH OF THAT ALLIANCE DEPENDS UPON A PARTNERSHIP OF EQUALS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

I SHALL BE WORKING TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY I CAN THE SUCCESS OF THE OFFER BY THE BRITISH EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR WESTLAND PLC.

I SHALL ALWAYS MUCH TREASURE THE RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE DEVELOPED IN THE PURSUIT OF OUR COMMON AIM OF EUROPEAN CO-OPERATION.

UNQUOTE

Hdl MAES

Hdl WED

Hdl TRES

Hdl NEWS D

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/ELGAR

PS/PUS

M BRATTNWHITE

M O'NEILL

(X10)



ATO

10 DOWNING STREET

9/11/86

Her Appleyard

says: -

- ① Imitating, he did this after resigning.
- ② Unhelpful, and implies anti-Europeanism.
- ③ ~~With~~ Stupid & FCO are v. cross, but could not stop it - it went out on Mos's own

network.

Mart.