

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Date Printed:  
22-Oct-2001

DOC\_NBR: 1987LONDON09828

CHANNEL: n  
HANDLING: NODIS  
BI, 1.3  
RELEASED IN PAR  
(D)

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 09828 111422Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 /000 W

O 111353Z MAY 87 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1151

S E C R E T LONDON 09828

DECAPTIONED

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MESSRS.  
BAKER AND CARLUCCI FROM AMBASSADOR PRICE

DEPARTMENT FOR THE SECRETARY AND EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
RIDGWAY

E.O.12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PGOV, UK, US

SUBJECT: BRITISH ELECTIONS: SET FOR JUNE 11

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AS THE NEWS TICKERS WILL HAVE TOLD YOU, PRIME  
MINISTER THATCHER SAW THE QUEEN TODAY AND THEN ANNOUNCED  
THAT SHE IS CALLING A GENERAL ELECTION FOR JUNE 11.  
PARLIAMENT WILL BE DISSOLVED ON MONDAY, MAY 18. THERE  
IS PALPABLE RELIEF IN POLITICAL CIRCLES HERE THAT THE  
FORMAL PART OF THE ELECTION IS FINALLY UNDER WAY.  
RARELY IN RECENT YEARS HAS THERE BEEN SO MUCH DISCUSSION  
ABOUT AN ELECTION FOR SO LONG, AND THE COUNTRY IS  
PSYCHOLOGICALLY READY.

3. THE GENERAL SENTIMENT IN BRITAIN IS THAT MRS.  
THATCHER WILL BE RETURNED TO POWER. THAT IS A SENTIMENT  
WITH WHICH I WOULD AT THIS POINT AGREE. SHE APPEARS TO  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LONDON 09828 111422Z

HAVE A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF WINNING, ASSUMING THAT THE  
LABOR PARTY AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC/LIBERAL ALLIANCE  
CONTINUE TO SPLIT THE OPPOSITION VOTE. THE MOST RECENT  
POLLS HAVE SHOWN A SOMEWHAT MORE VOLATILE ELECTORATE  
THAN THE EARLIER ONES THAT GOT THE JUNE ELECTION  
BANDWAGON ROLLING AT FULL STEAM AND ALMOST ONE-THIRD OF

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ERIC W. FLEISHER  
DATE/CASE ID: 20 MAR 2002 199900407

Page - 1

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

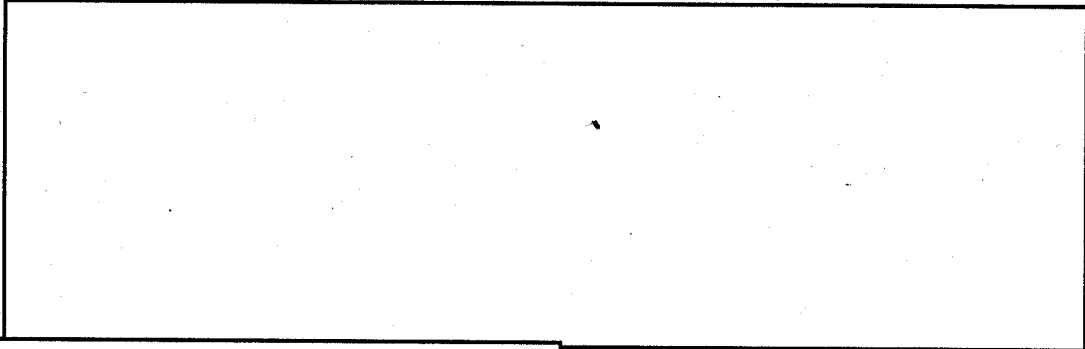
Date Printed:  
22-Oct-2001

DOC\_NBR: 1987LONDON09828

CHANNEL: n/a  
HANDLING: NODIS

43

THE VOTES APPEAR TO BE "FLOATERS." WE WILL BE WATCHING THE ELECTION PROCESS VERY CAREFULLY. IF I SENSE A CHANGE OF MOOD HERE, I WILL FLAG IT FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY.



B1

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL OF US IN THE ADMINISTRATION STAY ON THE SIDELINES AND NOT PERMIT ANY ACCUSATIONS TO SURFACE THAT WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE HAVE INTERFERED IN BRITISH INTERNAL AFFAIRS. I AM STRESSING THIS POINT TO MY OWN STAFF AND TRUST THAT YOU WILL HELP ASSURE THAT EVERYONE IN WASHINGTON LIES LOW DURING THE ELECTION PERIOD.

B1

5. I MIGHT FLAG ONE FINAL POINT: MRS. THATCHER'S ATTENDANCE AT THE VENICE SUMMIT. WHEN I SAW HER TEN DAYS AGO, SHE SEEMED TO BE A LITTLE HESITANT ABOUT LEAVING THE BATTLEFIELD IN THE DAYS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD OF  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 LONDON 09828 111422Z

THE ELECTION. I FRANKLY DON'T KNOW WHY SINCE SHE SUCCESSFULLY PUT IN AN APPEARANCE AT THE WILLIAMSBURG SUMMIT JUST BEFORE THE 1983 ELECTION, AND AS HER VISIT TO MOSCOW PROVED, SHE GETS AN AWFULLY GOOD PRESS AS A RANKING INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN. SHE HAS SINCE MADE CLEAR THAT SHE INTENDS TO GO TO VENICE, BUT HER APPEARANCE THERE MAY PROVE TO BE A RELATIVELY BRIEF ONE.  
PRICE

SECRET

NNNN