

SUBJECT

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Master.

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ZZ PARIS  
GRS 189  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FM FCO 251619Z JUL 85  
TO FLASH PARIS  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 417 OF 25 JUL

PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T142/85

MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT MITTERRAND

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER TO  
PRESIDENT MITTERRAND:

BEGINS: AS YOU KNOW THE LENGTHY EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN  
OUR TWO COUNTRIES TOGETHER WITH GERMANY, ITALY AND SPAIN ON THE  
POSSIBLE COLLABORATION OVER THE EUROPEAN FIGHTER AIRCRAFT (EFA)  
ARE NOW APPROACHING A CONCLUSION.

I AM CONCERNED THAT WHATEVER DECISIONS ARE TAKEN WE SHOULD  
FULLY UNDERSTAND EACH OTHERS' POSITION. IF WE CAN GET THE  
DECISION RIGHT IT WOULD BE OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE FOR EUROPEAN  
INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING M. FABIOUS NEXT WEDNESDAY AND  
I WOULD NORMALLY HAVE DISCUSSED EFA WITH HIM. BUT IN VIEW OF THE  
POSSIBILITY OF DEFENCE MINISTERIAL MEETINGS NEXT TUESDAY OR  
WEDNESDAY, I WONDER WHETHER YOU WOULD FIND IT USEFUL IF I WERE TO  
SEND MICHAEL HESELTINE TO SEE YOU, SO THAT YOU MAY BE FULLY AWARE  
OF OUR VIEWS ON THE NATURE OF THE POSSIBLE COLLABORATION AND THE  
DETAIL OF OUR POSITION BEFORE DECISIONS ARE REACHED. IF YOU FEEL  
THIS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO YOU HE COULD COME WITHIN THE NEXT  
COUPLE OF DAYS. ENDS.

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MR BRAITHWAITE  
MR GOODALL  
MR RENWICK  
MR JENKINS  
MR DAUNT

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