

SUBJECT CC MASTER
OPS

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T217/86

CONFIDENTIAL

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OCMIAN 0012
CONFIDENTIAL
DD 201130Z ROME
DD 201130Z ATHENS
FM FCOLN TO PARIS
200950Z NOV
GRS 512

CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO
TO DESKBY 201130Z PARIS
TELNO 760
OF 200950Z NOV 86
AND TO DESKBY 201130Z BRUSSELS, THE HAGUE, LUXEMBOURG, COPENHAGEN
AND TO DESKBY 201130Z ROME, ATHENS, MADRID, LISBON

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO A
NUMBER OF HER EC COLLEAGUES. PLEASE ARRANGE FOR EARLY DELIVERY
(FOR PARIS: COPIES SHOULD GO TO CHIRAC AND MITTERRAND), TOGETHER
WITH THE TEXT OF THE PRESS STATEMENT (WASHINGTON TELNO 2904,
VERBATIM SERIES 65). SEPARATE MESSAGES GO TO KOHL AND
FITZGERALD.

'YOU WILL HAVE SEEN THE OUTCOME OF MY MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT REAGAN ON 15 NOVEMBER.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF MY TALKS WITH THE PRESIDENT WAS TO DISCUSS
ARMS CONTROL AND DEFENCE ISSUES. I AM CONFIDENT THAT HE NOW
UNDERSTANDS MORE FULLY THE NATURE AND BASIS OF EUROPEAN CONCERNS
ABOUT SOME OF THE PROPOSALS AT THE REYKJAVIK MEETING.

THE PRESIDENT STRESSED TO ME THE CONTINUING NEED FOR EFFECTIVE
NUCLEAR DETERRENCE, AND HIS DETERMINATION TO PROCEED WITH THE

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MODERNISATION OF THE UNITED STATES STRATEGIC BALLISTIC MISSILE FORCE. NOTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED AT REYKJAVIK CHANGED THAT. IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF STRENGTH. HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED USEFULLY THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS COULD NOT BE DEALT WITH IN ISOLATION, AND THAT THERE MUST BE A STABLE OVERALL BALANCE AT ALL TIMES.

WE SHALL NEED TO PRESS HOME THE MESSAGE OF OUR CONCERNS WITH THE AMERICANS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD. THE STATEMENT WHICH PRESIDENT REAGAN AND I ENDORSED (OF WHICH I ENCLOSE A COPY) REPRESENTS A VALUABLE REAFFIRMATION OF NATO'S FUNDAMENTAL STRATEGY. IT CAN BE USED TO GOOD EFFECT OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, AND NOTABLY DURING THE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETINGS NEXT MONTH.

I ALSO DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN. I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE UNITED STATES ACTION ON SYRIA AND EXPLAINED THE MEASURES WHICH OUR OWN FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD AGREED TO TAKE ON 10 NOVEMBER. I OUTLINED OUR OWN APPROACH TO THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS, NOTED OUR CONCERN AT THE CONTINUED STALEMATE AND URGED HIM TO LOOK AT WAYS TO GIVE FRESH IMPETUS TO THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. HE AGREED ON THE NEED FOR MOVEMENT BUT DID NOT INDICATE THAT ANY EARLY MOVES ARE IN PROSPECT FROM WASHINGTON.

ON IRAN, THE PRESIDENT MADE CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PAY RANSOM FOR HOSTAGES. I CONFIRMED THAT THAT WAS THE UNITED KINGDOM'S POLICY TOO. WE AGREED THAT AN END TO THE GULF WAR AND BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN IRAN AND THE WEST WERE HIGHLY DESIRABLE, BUT THAT WE SHOULD REMAIN STRICTLY IMPARTIAL AS BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ.

WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC DEATH OF PRESIDENT MACHEL. WE AGREED THAT A PEACEFUL NATIONAL DIALOGUE IN SOUTH AFRICA WAS ESSENTIAL, AND THAT WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS OF PERSUADING PRESIDENT BOTHA TO CREATE A CLIMATE IN WHICH GENUINE POLITICAL DIALOGUE

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COULD START.

(FOR MITTERRAND/CHIRAC) I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE
QUESTIONS WITH YOU IN GREATER DETAIL ON 21 NOVEMBER.

HOWE

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LIMITED

EC D (P)

ALOO

SAFD

NENAD

MED

WED

RID

SOVIET DEPARTMENT

PS

PS/MR RENTON

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR FALL