

Prime Minister. 2

GRS 150

UNCLASSIFIED
FM UKREP BRUSSELS
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 4713
OF 291615Z DECEMBER 86
INFO PRIORITY TOKYO
INFO ROUTINE UKMIS GENEVA

FRAME EXTERNAL

FCO TELS 989 AND 990 TO TOKYO
EC-JAPAN: ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

1. COMMISSION HAVE NOT YET HAD ANY FORMAL INDICATION FROM THE JAPANESE OF THE LDP/TAX RESEARCH COUNCIL PROPOSALS. THEY INTEND TO ISSUE A PRESS NOTICE TODAY WHICH WILL:

- I) NOTE THE OUTLINES OF THE JAPANESE PROPOSALS.
- II) RECALL THE VARIOUS EC DEMARCHES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS ETC.
- III) REGRET THAT THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST IMPORTED SPIRITS WILL BE MAINTAINED.
- IV) TAKE NOTE OF THE TARIFF REDUCTIONS.
- V) REAFFIRM THE EC'S INTENTION TO PURSUE THE MATTER IN GATT.

2. WE HAVE GIVEN THEM A COPY OF THE DTI PRESS NOTICE.

3. THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR A DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSALS HERE WILL ARISE AT THE 113 DEPUTIES MEETING ON 9 JANUARY. THERE IS ALSO TO BE AN AD HOC JAPAN EXPERTS MEETING ON 20 JANUARY, FOR WHICH THE ALCOHOLIC DRINKS ISSUE WILL BE THE FIRST POINT ON THE AGENDA.

HANNAY

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ADVANCE:
SHEPHERD FCO
ITTON FCO
HUTTON DTI
HALL OT2 DTI
MADELIN ITP DTI
KIRK-WILSON MAFF
MAIN:
FRAME EXTERNAL
ECLDCE)
FED
UCLNAN 6175

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ADVANCE
ADDRESSEES