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TO DESKBY 121800Z FCO  
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## IRAQ/KUWAIT: BAKER'S DISCUSSION IN PARIS.

KIMMITT TOLD THE MINISTER ON 12 NOVEMBER THAT BAKER'S TALKS IN PARIS HAD GONE QUOTE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL UNQUOTE. THE FRENCH REALISED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY STICKING TOGETHER, AND WITHIN THAT, FOR THE FIVE IN PARTICULAR TO ACT IN CONCERT, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE COHESION OF THE WESTERN THREE. THE FRENCH, SAID KIMMITT, WOULD BACK WHATEVER COULD BE WORKED OUT AMONG THE THREE, AND HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT APPROPRIATE ACTION COULD BE AGREED BETWEEN LONDON, PARIS AND WASHINGTON.

2. KIMMITT APOLOGISED FOR SPEAKING QUOTE SOMEWHAT ELLIPTICALLY UNQUOTE AT THIS STAGE, BUT BAKER HAD YET TO MAKE HIS REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT ON THE CONCLUSIONS TO BE DRAWN FROM HIS TRIP AS A WHOLE, INCLUDING WHAT HE HAD LEARNED DURING HIS TALKS IN LONDON. BUT BAKER WAS CONFIDENT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN FINDING COMMON GROUND AMONG THE WESTERN THREE. BAKER HAD RAISED THE SAME KIND OF OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS AS HE HAD WITH YOU AND THE PRIME MINISTER. THE FRENCH HAD TAKEN THESE ON BOARD BUT ELICITED NO IMMEDIATE REACTION, AND CERTAINLY NO IMMEDIATELY NEGATIVE REACTION.

## COMMENT

3. WOOD WAS UNABLE TO PROBE FURTHER, WE HAVING HAD NO ACCOUNT AS YET OF BAKER'S TALKS IN LONDON

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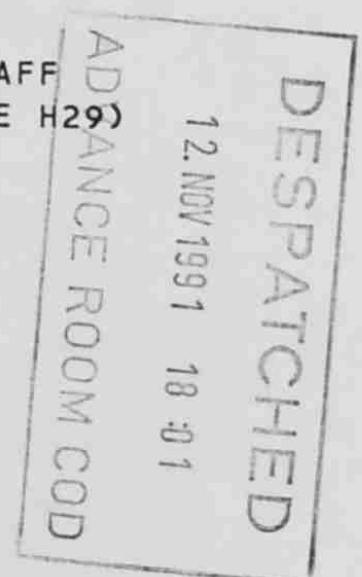
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