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PARIS BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

SUMMARY

1. NO FINAL US DECISION YET ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S ARRIVAL TIME ON 13 JULY. THE OTHER FIVE ECONOMIC SUMMIT LEADERS WILL PROBABLY ATTEND THE MIDDAY CEREMONY AT THE TROCADERO.

DETAIL

2. THE FRENCH TRYING TO APPEAR CONFIDENT THAT ALL ECONOMIC SUMMIT DELEGATION LEADERS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MRS THATCHER AND POSSIBLY PRESIDENT BUSH, WILL ATTEND THE TROCADERO CEREMONY AT MIDDAY ON 13 JULY AND THE PRESIDENT'S LUNCH AT THE ELYSEE WHICH WILL FOLLOW. IN FACT THE ONLY DEFINITE DECISION SEEMS TO BE THAT THE CANADIANS WILL ARRIVE ON 12 JULY. BUT WE EXPECT JAPAN, FRG AND ITALY TO ARRIVE BEFORE MIDDAY ON THE 13TH.

3. WE HAVE CHECKED THE LATEST STATE OF PLAY WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, WHOSE RECCE TEAM WAS IN PARIS ON 5 JUNE. BEFORE THEY HAD HEARD OF THE TROCADERO CEREMONY, THEY HAD BEEN WORKING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD ARRIVE IN PARIS AT 1320 (LOCAL) - HE IS COMING FROM BUDAPEST. THEY ARE NOW WONDERING WHETHER THE PRESIDENT SHOULD ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE ELYSEE LUNCH (HIS PROGRAMME IN BUDAPEST WOULD MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE TROCADERO CEREMONY). WE HAVE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER IS NOT INTENDING TO ARRIVE UNTIL 1825 AND THAT, IF PRESIDENT BUSH DECIDED TO MISS EVEN THE ELYSEE LUNCH, HE WOULD BE IN GOOD COMPANY. BUSH WILL CERTAINLY BE IN PARIS IN TIME TO ATTEND AN AMERICAN HOSPITAL CEREMONY AT 1500. WE AGREED WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY THAT OUR TWO CAPITALS MIGHT NOW WISH TO GET IN DIRECT CONTACT ON AGREEING THAT BOTH LEADERS SHOULD MISS THE TROCADERO CEREMONY/LUNCH.

4. I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN THE DEPARTMENT MY VIEW THAT, IF THE PRIME MINISTER WERE THE ONLY SUMMIT SEVEN LEADER NOT TO ATTEND THE MIDDAY CEREMONY AND LUNCH, HER ABSENCE WOULD BE VERY CONSPICUOUS, UNDERSTANDABLE AS HER REASONS ARE IN UK TERMS, AND WOULD BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF THOSE EVENTS IN THE PAST NINE MONTHS OR SO WHEN BRITISH

REPRESENTATION HAS APPEARED TO BE AT A LOWER LEVEL THAN THAT OF SOME OF OUR PARTNERS.

5. THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION THAT THE FRENCH WILL SUGGEST ANY EVENTS TO FILL THE AFTERNOON OF 13 JULY. NEITHER THE AMERICANS NOR THE GERMANS HERE ARE EXPECTING ANY ELYSEE INITIATIVE TO BRING THIRD WORLD AND ECONOMIC SUMMIT LEADERS TOGETHER, THOUGH THEY DO NOT ENTIRELY DISCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY. THE FRENCH ARE PROBABLY HOPING THAT DELEGATION LEADERS WILL TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN ARRANGING A NETWORK OF BILATERALS: THE OCCASION WILL THUS BE SEEN AS A NATURAL OPPORTUNITY FOR NORTH/SOUTH DISCUSSIONS, WITH THE BICENTENARY PROVIDING THE FRAMEWORK.

6. AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL, MOST DELEGATION LEADERS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ON ARRIVAL BY THEIR FOREIGN AND FINANCE MINISTERS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GENSCHER, HOWEVER, MAY DECIDE NOT TO ARRIVE UNTIL THE MORNING OF 14 JULY.

7. THE SUMMIT SECRETARIAT HAVE JUST TELEPHONED TO SAY THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL COUNTRIES INVITED TO THE BICENTENARY/SUMMIT ARE BEING ASKED TO ATTEND A MEETING ON 13 JUNE AT WHICH DETAILS OF THE EVENTS ON 13/14 JULY WILL BE GIVEN. THE FULL LIST OF COUNTRIES WILL BE PUBLISHED ON 12 JUNE: AT THE MOMENT THE TWO LISTS TOGETHER TOTALLED 24 COUNTRIES, BUT THIS MIGHT RISE TO 27.

FERGUSSON

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ADDITIONAL

1

PAGE 2  
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