

SECRET

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A.S.C. $\frac{27}{3}$

p.a.

(Economic Summit)

YOUR TELNO 535: SUMMIT 7 EXPERTS MEETING TO DISCUSS TERRORISM

1. ACTING HEAD OF CHANCERY CALLED ON AMBASSADOR SAYRE TO CLARIFY AMERICAN VIEWS ON DISCUSSION OF TERRORISM AT THE SUMMIT.
2. SAYRE SAID THAT THE AMERICANS WERE COMING TO THE VIEW THAT THEIR FAILURE TO REACT TO TERRORIST ATTACKS, SUCH AS THAT ON THEIR EMBASSY IN LEBANON, WAS CREATING A PERCEPTION AROUND THE WORLD THAT THEY WERE A HELPLESS GIANT. THEY BELIEVED THAT THEY MUST DEVELOP THE CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO SUCH ATTACKS AND BE SEEN TO BE ABLE TO DO SO. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AUTOMATIC RESPONSE: EACH SITUATION WOULD BE JUDGED ON ITS MERITS. THE AMERICANS BELIEVED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT CONTEMPLATE ACTION THAT MIGHT AFFECT THEIR CLOSE ALLIES WITHOUT DISCUSSION WITH THEM, BUT THEY WERE HAVING SOME DIFFICULTY IN GETTING THEIR PARTNERS TO AGREE TO SUCH A DISCUSSION. THEY BELIEVED THAT A MATTER OF SUCH SERIOUS CONCERN TO A HEAD OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT SOME POINT DURING THE FORTHCOMING ECONOMIC SUMMIT. THEY RECOGNISED, HOWEVER, THAT LITTLE IF ANYTHING COULD BE SAID IN PUBLIC ON THIS SUBJECT. BURT WILL PURSUE THIS WITH THE POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVES. MEANWHILE SAYRE'S REMARKS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS STRICTLY FOR OUR OWN INFORMATION.
3. AS REGARDS YOUR PREPARATORY MEETING ON 12/13 APRIL, GREEN MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE COULD ACCEPT THEIR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA PROVIDED THERE WAS A CONSENSUS. SAYRE EXPLAINED THAT THE AMERICANS WANTED ONLY A VERY GENERAL DISCUSSION OF STATE-SUPPORTED TERRORISM IN ORDER TO GET SOME FEEL FOR THEIR PARTNERS' VIEWS, SO AS TO BE ABLE TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT.
4. WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE NEXT WEEK ANY AMERICAN COMMENTS ON YOUR AGENDA.

WRIGHT

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THIS TELEGRAM
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