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FM FCO
TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
TELNO 898
OF 261030Z MAY 88
INFO PRIORITY OTTAWA

TORONTO ECONOMIC SUMMIT: TOPICS FOR THE INFORMAL DISCUSSION
1. AT AN EARLIER STAGE OF SUMMIT PREPARATIONS, THE US INDICATED THAT THEY MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN A DISCUSSION OF THE IMPACT OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES DURING THE INFORMAL SESSION BEFORE DINNER ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE TORONTO SUMMIT. WE HAVE SEPARATELY BEEN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO OPEN UP A DISCUSSION OF THE COSTS OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY PROVISION AND CARE. AT THE LAST SHERPAS' MEETING, US, GERMAN, JAPANESE AND COMMISSION COLLEAGUES THOUGHT THAT OUR PROPOSED TOPIC MIGHT USEFULLY FLOW FROM A DISCUSSION OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES.

2. WE ARE CONSCIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT IN VIEW OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OUR PROPOSED THEME MIGHT CAUSE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION. GRATEFUL THEREFORE IF YOU WOULD APPROACH WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS INFORMALLY AND SOUND THEM OUT ON POSSIBLE SENSITIVITIES ABOUT AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION AT TORONTO ON HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY PROVISION.

3. GRATEFUL FOR A REPLY BY 31 MAY.
HOWE

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