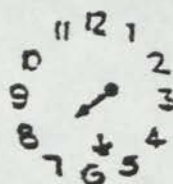


PP UKREP BRUSSELS

PP OTHER EC POSTS

RS 320



E. R.

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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM OSLO 221445Z JUNE 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 129 OF 22 JUNE 1982

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, AND OTHER EC POSTS.

INFO SAVING WASHINGTON, OTTAWA, TOKYO, CANBERRA, WELLINGTON,
UKDEL NATO, UKMIS NEW YORK.

YOUR TELNO 233 TO CANBERRA : ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST

ARGENTINA

1. MY IFT CONTAINS TEXT OF COMMENT TO THE PRESS MADE BY STATE SECRETARY BERG LATE IN THE EVENING OF 21 JUNE ON THE LIFTING OF NORWEGIAN ECONOMIC MEASURES. RESCINDMENT OF THESE MEASURES REQUIRES AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE PRESS WHICH WILL PROBABLY APPEAR TOMORROW ACCOMPANIED BY A FORMAL INSTRUMENT OF RESCINDMENT.

2. YOUR INSTRUCTIONS ARRIVED CONVENIENTLY JUST BEFORE A COMMUNITY LUNCH ATTENDED BY STRAY AND BERG, WHEN I CONVEYED YOUR INSTRUCTIONS IN WRITING, DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE OMISSION FROM BERG'S STATEMENT OF ANY REFERENCE TO AN IMMEDIATE REACTION BY NORWAY IF FURTHER HOSTILITIES SHOULD OCCUR AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THEY COULD ASSURE US THAT THIS WOULD IN FACT BE THE INTENTION OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT IF SUCH AN EVENT TOOK PLACE.

3. I GOT TWO SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT ANSWERS. STRAY MURMURED THAT HE THOUGHT HE COULD GIVE ME THE ASSURANCE FOR WHICH I ASKED AND ONE MIGHT HOPE THAT THE FACT THE EMBARGO HAD BEEN LIFTED IN THE EXPECTATION THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER HOSTILITIES WOULD HELP DETER THE ARGENTINES FROM TAKING FURTHER RISKS. LATER BERG TOLD ME IN PRECISE TERMS THAT HE WISHED THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT ACTED SO QUICKLY IN REMOVING THE ECONOMIC MEASURES. NORWAY WOULD HAVE MUCH PREFERRED TO WAIT SEVERAL DAYS UNTIL THE SITUATION WAS CLEARER. HE HAD DELIBERATED CAREFULLY BEFORE PHRASING HIS REMARKS TO THE PRESS IN THE WAY HE HAD, BECAUSE, WHILE HE COULD ASSURE ME THAT THE NORWEGIANS WOULD IMMEDIATELY RE-CONSIDER THE SITUATION IF THERE WERE FURTHER HOSTILITIES, HE HAD FORESEEN THAT IF THERE WERE ISOLATED INSTANCES IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR NORWAY TO REIMPOSE THE RESTRICTIONS RAPIDLY.

4. I HAVE SO FAR REFRAINED FROM ANY COMMENT ON THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF BERG'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS. THE PRIME MINISTER'S TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH SCANDINAVIAN JOURNALISTS HAS, HOWEVER, REACHED A VERY WIDE AUDIENCE AMONG THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE POINTS MADE WILL HAVE BEEN NOTED.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

BROWN

NNNN

SENT AT
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