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WBODAN 4589 OCMIAN 9615

CONFIDENTIAL

DD 13140(0Z OTTAW

FM FCOLN TO NAIRO

121515Z JUL

GRS 329

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO

TO DESKBY 121630Z NAIROBI

TELNO 249

OF 121515Z JULY 86

AND TO DESKBY 122300Z WELLINGTON

AND TO DESKBY 130400Z NEDEL

AND TO DESKBY 131400Z OTTAWA

AND TO DESKBY CERTAIN COMMONWEALTH POSTS

AND TO IMMEDIATE ALL OTHER COMMONWEALTH POSTS

#### COMMONWEALTH GAMES

1. IN VIEW OF KENYA'S KEY POSITION, AND OF YOUR EARLIER REPORTING OF A REASONABLY ROBUST ATTITUDE IN NAIROBI, WE WERE SURPRISED AND CONCERNED AT THIS MORNING'S (12 JULY) REPORTS THAT THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO PULL OUT OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES. WE HAVE FEW ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES THAT WE WILL NOW FACE IN HOLDING OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS IN LINE. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONSIDER WHETHER, EVEN AT THIS LATE STAGE, THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT CAN BE PERSUADED TO CHANGE ITS MIND. WOULD A DECISION BY THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES FEDERATION TO EXCLUDE ZOLA BUDD INFLUENCE THE KENYANS? IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SUCH A DECISION WILL BE TAKEN IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 17 JULY. YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW THAT THE UK PRESS FOR 12 JULY REPORTS THAT MR KINNOCK HAS WRITTEN TO ALL COMMONWEALTH HIGH COMMISSIONERS. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE APPEALED TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS NOT TO FOLLOW NIGERIA AND GHANA'S EXAMPLE AND URGED THEM INSTEAD TO CONVINCING MRS THATCHER OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF REFUSING TO IMPOSE FULL SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.
2. YOU WILL, OF COURSE, BE USING THE ARGUMENT THAT THE COMMONWEALTH IS NO LONGER A BRITISH ORGANISATION. AND FOR WHAT ITS WORTH, THE GAMES WILL BE HOSTED BY SCOTLAND NOT ENGLAND.
3. (FOR OTTAWA) UNLESS YOU SEE OBJECTION, GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD ASK THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO STEADY COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENTS IN THE CARIBBEAN.
4. WELLINGTON MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER NEW ZEALAND MIGHT DO THE SAME WITH PACIFIC COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES.
5. OTHER POSTS WILL WISH TO TAKE THE ABOVE INTO ACCOUNT IN THEIR CONTACT WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS.

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