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FROM UKMIS NEW YORK 260422Z SEP 79

TO ROUTINE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1121 OF 26 SEPTEMBER 79

INFO CANBERRA AND WASHINGTON

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY OF STATE AND MR PEACOCK

1. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAW THE AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FOR 45 MINUTES THIS AFTERNOON. MR PEACOCK WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CAMPBELL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND BY HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY.

RHODESIA

2. MR PEACOCK EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THE AUSTRALIANS WERE BEING KEPT INFORMED, THROUGH SIR GORDON FREETH, OF DEVELOPMENTS. HE ASKED FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S ASSESSMENT OF THE PROSPECTS. LORD CARRINGTON SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT UKOMO GENUINELY WANTED A SETTLEMENT, BUT THAT MUGABE PROBABLY DID NOT, OTHER THAN ON HIS OWN TERMS, THOUGH HE WAS SUBJECT TO PRESSURE BY MACHEL. IT WAS LIKELY THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD IN THE END REQUIESCE IN THE PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION. THE REAL PROBLEMS WOULD ARISE OVER THE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, WHERE THEIR PROPOSALS WERE ABSURD. IT WAS NOT YET CLEAR WHAT SORT OF TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO EITHER SIDE AND THE CHANCES OF REACHING AGREEMENT WERE DOUBTFUL. IN THE END THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT MIGHT WELL SIMPLY HAVE TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH IT PROPOSED TO ESTABLISH. IT WAS IMPORTANT HOWEVER THAT ANY SUCH ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE GENUINELY FAIR.

3. MR PEACOCK ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF ONE OF THE PARTIES, FOR EXAMPLE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ELECTION. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT THERE COULD BE NO QUESTION OF ACCEPTING A VETO BY EITHER SIDE. IT HAD BEEN AGREED IN LUSAKA THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FAIR ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN ELECTION WAS A BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY. MR PEACOCK AGREED. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD FOR HIS PART, BE PREPARED, IF IT WOULD HELP, TO EMPHASISE PUBLICLY THAT BRITAIN WAS STICKING TO THE LUSAKA PRINCIPLES AND WAS PLAYING THINGS STRAIGHT.

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/NAMIBIA

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## NAMIBIA

4. MR PEACOCK SAID THAT THE AUSTRALIAN CONTINGENT FOR NAMIBIA REMAINED READY AND WAITING. BUT AUSTRALIA HAD LITTLE PURCHASE OR LEVERAGE ON THIS ISSUE.

## 5. EURATOM/AUSTRALIA

MR PEACOCK SAID THAT IT WAS A GREAT RELIEF THAT THE COMMUNITY WAS NOW ABLE TO NEGOTIATE A EURATOM/AUSTRALIA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT. THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULTIES OVER BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS OTHERWISE.

## CTB

6. MR PEACOCK ASKED WHAT WERE THE PROSPECTS OF RESOLVING THE DIFFICULTIES OVER VERIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR A CTB TREATY. HE HOPED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SIGN A CTB BEFORE THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN 1990. HE UNDERSTOOD FROM MR VANCE, WHOM HE HAD JUST SEEN, THAT THE MAIN PROBLEM WAS OVER BRITISH ACCEPTANCE OF NATIONAL SEISMIC STATIONS. LORD CARRINGTON SAID THAT HE DOUBTED WHETHER, IF THE RUSSIANS WANTED TO CONCLUDE A CTB, THEY WOULD ALLOW DIFFICULTIES OVER VERIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR BRITAIN TO STAND IN THE WAY. THEIR PROPOSAL FOR 10 SEISMIC STATIONS IN PLACES LIKE PITCAIRN, BELIZE AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WAS RIDICULOUS. BRITAIN WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT ONE STATION ON THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, BUT THERE WAS NO CASE WHATSOEVER FOR ACCEPTING MORE.

## CAMBODIA

7. MR PEACOCK EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. RECENT INTELLIGENCE SUGGESTED THAT POL POT WAS BEING REINFORCED BY THE CHINESE AND THAT, NOW THAT THE MONSOON WAS OVER, HEAVY FIGHTING MIGHT RESUME. THE PROSPECT WAS OF FURTHER DEVASTATION, FAMINE AND DISEASE. THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES WOULD INCREASE, PERHAPS INTO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, AND THE POSSIBLE EFFECT ON THAILAND COULD BE DESTABILISING. LORD CARRINGTON AGREED THAT THE

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SITUATION WAS APPALLING. HE WAS WORRIED LEST THE IMPRESSION MIGHT BE GIVEN THAT PEOPLE WERE MORE INTERESTED IN WHO OCCUPIED THE UN SEAT FOR CAMBODIA THAN IN THE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE DYING THERE. IT WAS IMPERATIVE THAT THE WORLD COMMUNITY SHOULD NOW SEND ASSISTANCE. THE EEC WAS CONSIDERING SOME IDEAS ON THE PROVISION OF FOOD AID.

PARSONS

FILES

SPD

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PS/MR HURD

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SIR A DUFF

MR CORTAZZI

MR STRATTON

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