OUT TELEGRAM

1. ZCZC
2. GRS
3. CONFIDENTIAL
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5. DESKBY 011900Z
6. FM FCO 011445Z DEC 81
7. TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON
8. TELEGRAM NUMBER
9. INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
10. Your telno 3611 and my telno 819: EL SALVADOR
11. 1.   If in the event we are obliged to follow the course
12. envisaged in paragraph 2(b), when you come to explain our vote
13. to the US Government you should make the following points:
14.   (i)   We tried to follow the "worst is best" ~~opinion~~ course but
15.   others were intent on improving the draft and we could
16.   not prevent this happening. The option of abstaining
17.   on a really bad resolution was therefore denied to us.
18.   (ii) When the resolution had been amended (and once this
19.   process was in hand we took a part in ensuring that the
20.   amendments were substantive and helpful) it was no longer
21.   so unbalanced that public opinion in the UK would have
22.   understood our abstaining on it.
23.   (iii) Our action in this case was not prompted by any perceived requirement
24.   for EC solidarity on this resolution. On the contrary,
25.   we were surprised and disconcerted by the French and

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File number	Dept	Distribution
Drafted by (Block capitals) J B URE (AUSS)		PS PS/Mr Luce PS/PUS Sir A Acland Mr Bullard Mr Day Mr Ure MCAD UND ECD(E)
Telephone number 233-4269		
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others sponsoring a resolution in the original terms
without any prior consultation with us as the
Presidency or as an individual partner in the EC. They
thus put us in a difficult position from which we have
done our best to protect US interests as well as our own.

CARRINGTON
NNNN

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