

XX

211434Z/JST

XX

DWF G 211/21

LUK 435/21

to Powell
1010

OO FCO

**IMMEDIATE
ADVANCE COPY**

RR FCO (DTI/OTTER)

GRS 250

RESTRICTED

FM NEW DELHI 211145Z MAR 85
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 398 OF 21 MARCH 1985
INFO DTI.

PS
PS/POS
PS/LADY YOUNG
SIR W HARDING
MR WILSON
HD SAD

(X6)

WESTLANDS

1. V KHANNA, WESTLAND'S LOCAL AGENT, TOLD THE FIRST SECRETARY COMMERCIAL THIS MORNING THAT A MEETING HAD TAKEN PLACE YESTERDAY BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTER AND SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE TO DISCUSS THE W30 AND THE DAUPHIN HELICOPTER. ALTHOUGH SOME ALLOWANCE MUST BE MADE FOR KHANNA'S EMOTIONAL STATE, HE IS CLEARLY CONCERNED THAT IF SOMETHING IS NOT DONE QUICKLY ON BEHALF OF WESTLANDS, THE FRENCH ARE LIKELY TO TAKE THIS DEAL FROM UNDER OUR NOSE. THIS IS NOT AT ODDS WITH THE INFORMATION GIVEN TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND ME BY THE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER AND ONE OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

2.

**CLOSED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT 2000**

3. BOTH THE ABOVE POINTS SEEM TO INDICATE THE NEED FOR A SPEEDY RESPONSE BY HMG. WESTLANDS SHOULD GIVE THE REQUIRED REASSURANCES, IF POSSIBLE, IN AN EQUALLY SPEEDY MANNER.

WADE-GERY

NNNN

[Handwritten mark]

[Handwritten mark]