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PP STOCKHOLM

GRS 249

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FM FCO 081245Z FEB 85

TO PRIORITY STOCKHOLM

TELEGRAM NUMBER 10 OF 8 FEBRUARY

AND TO REYKJAVIK, OSLO, COPENHAGEN, HELSINKI

INFO SAVING UKREP BRUSSELS

MIPT : ACID RAIN

TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE IS AS FOLLOWS :

BEGINS 1. FOLLOWING NORDIC COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN REYKJAVIK ON 12-13 DECEMBER 1984, THE NORDIC PRIME MINISTERS SENT A COPY OF THEIR STATEMENT ON ACID RAIN TO THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER.

2. IN HER REPLY, MRS THATCHER MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS :
UK SHARES CONCERN IN NORDIC COUNTRIES TO INTENSIFY EFFORTS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY, TO SOLVE AIR POLLUTION PROBLEMS.

UK HAS PROUD RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT IN TACKLING DOMESTIC AIR POLLUTION.

TOTAL UK EMISSIONS OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE HAVE FALLEN BY 40 PER CENT SINCE 1970 AND OVER 20 PER CENT SINCE 1980.

UK WILL MAINTAIN EFFORTS BOTH DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY TO FIND COST-EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS.

WE AGREE EMISSIONS OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND NITROGEN OXIDES SHOULD BE REDUCED. OUR AIM IS TO REDUCE TOTAL EMISSIONS OF THESE GASES FROM STATIONARY AND VEHICULAR SOURCES BY 30 PER CENT FROM 1980 LEVELS BY THE END OF THE CENTURY.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE PROPOSE TO MAINTAIN THE ATTACK ON OTHER EMISSIONS. THE RECENT DECISION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO INTRODUCE UNLEADED PETROL NO LATER THAN 1989 RESULTS FROM AN INITIATIVE TAKEN 18 MONTHS AGO BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

THE UK WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE CLOSELY AND FULLY WITH THE NORDIC GOVERNMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION OF AIR POLLUTION AND ACIDIFICATION. ENDS.

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