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CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO
TO DESKBY 212200Z TOKYO
TELNO 796
OF 211846Z SEPTEMBER 89

FOR PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY
FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF ECD(E)

WAS RECEIVED
FM UKREP BRUSSELS
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EC/TURKEY

SUMMARY

1. COMMISSION STILL WORKING TOWARDS 'NEUTRAL' REPORT ON TURKISH APPLICATION. WISH TO DISCUSS IN MARGINS OF OCTOBER FAC AND TO SUBMIT FORMALLY TO COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER. WILL DEFER ANY DECISION ON NEGOTIATIONS, LET ALONE MEMBERSHIP UNTIL BEYOND 1992. LATEST CONTACTS WITH TURKS IN STRASBOURG SUGGEST THAT, SUBJECT TO SOME DECLARATION OF POLITICAL WILL, THEY MIGHT ACCEPT ABSENCE OF DECISION UNTIL THEN, BUT THEY WILL STILL PRESS FOR OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS IN 1993.

DETAIL

2. PRAT (CHEF DE CABINET TO COMMISSIONER MATUTES) HAS GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF CURRENT WORK WITHIN THE COMMISSION TO PREPARE THE REPORT ON THE TURKISH BID FOR MEMBERSHIP, AND OF MATUTES' OWN CONTACTS IN STRASBOURG ON 15 SEPTEMBER WITH BOZER (DEPUTY TURKISH PRIME MINISTER).

3. ON THE REPORT, THE COMMISSION WAS NOW ALMOST READY TO PRODUCE AN AGREED VERSION FOR THE COUNCIL. THIS WAS LIKELY TO FOLLOW THE LINES WHICH I DISCUSSED EARLIER WITH PRAT AND DURIEUX (DIRECTOR-GENERAL EQUIVALENT IN DGI) (PAKENHAM'S RECORD OF 29 JUNE). IT SHOULD THEREFORE CONCLUDE: THAT THE COMMISSION AND THE COMMUNITY WERE NOT AT PRESENT IN A POSITION TO TELL THE TURKS WHETHER IT MADE SENSE TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS - SUCH A STEP BEING PREMATURE: THAT IT

WOULD FIRST BE NECESSARY TO SEE HOW THE COMMUNITY WAS DEVELOPING PRE-1993: IN ANY CASE, THERE WAS NO REASONABLE PROSPECT OF NEGOTIATIONS BEING SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD: A CONCLUSION ON THE TURKISH BID WAS THEREFORE NOT DESIRABLE FOR EITHER SIDE AT PRESENT: BUT AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH WOULD BE NECESSARY, FOCUSSED ON THE REINFORCEMENT OF PRESENT ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENTS AND ALLOWING FOR FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN TURKEY'S POSITION (INCLUDING PERHAPS THE COMPLETION OF CUSTOMS UNION, NEW FINANCIAL PROTOCOL, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, RISK CAPITAL, JOINT VENTURES AND POLICY DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES).

4. SINCE MY EXCHANGES AT END-JUNE, BOTH MATUTES AND LATER DELORS HAD ENDORSED THIS APPROACH. MATUTES NOW PLANNED TO SUBMIT THIS REPORT TO THE FAC ON 6-7 NOVEMBER. BUT FIRST HE WANTED TO DISCUSS THE PRESENT SITUATION INDIVIDUALLY AND PRIVATELY WITH EACH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WHO WOULD ATTEND THE 3 OCTOBER FAC. HE WOULD THEREFORE BE LOOKING TO ARRANGE SUCH TALKS IN THE MARGINS WITH YOU.

5. AS FOR THE CONTACTS WITH BOZER, MATUTES HAD HEARD WHAT HE EXPECTED TO HEAR. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO PRAT THE TURKS HAD FINALLY COME TO REALISE THAT THE COMMISSION REPORT WOULD NOT BE POSITIVE, NOR WOULD IT BE OVERTLY NEGATIVE. THEY EMPHASISED THAT THE VERY LEAST THEY WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT WAS A POLITICAL DECLARATION BY THE COMMUNITY THAT ONE DAY THEY WOULD BE READY TO ACCEPT TURKEY. MATUTES HIMSELF THOUGHT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO FIND SOME VERY ANODYNE FORMULA WHICH NONETHELESS SATISFIED TURKISH WISHES.

6. IN ADDITION, THE TURKS WARNED THAT IF THE REPORT CONTAINED NO SINGLE POSITIVE ELEMENT FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW, THEY WOULD MAKE A LOT OF TROUBLE (NOT LEAST WITHIN NATO). THEY, THEREFORE, INSISTED ON A SECOND DECLARATION BY THE COMMUNITY, THAT FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP WOULD OPEN IN 1993. ACCORDING TO PRAT, HOWEVER, THE MOST THAT MATUTES WOULD BE PREPARED TO PROMOTE WAS A STATEMENT IN THE REPORT ITSELF THAT IN 1993 THE COMMUNITY SHOULD START A LONG PROCESS OF REFLECTION ON WHAT HAD SO FAR BEEN ACHIEVED AND WHERE THE NEXT STEPS SHOULD LEAD.

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MAJOR

PTMIAN 7999

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