

FRENCH AIR FORCE/AERONAVALE ASSISTANCE TO ROYAL AIR FORCE.

2/4

- 1. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE ABOVE WHICH IS DUE TO TAKE PLACE
 AS DISCREETLY AS POSSIBLE 22/23 APR 82. IN MAKING THE ARRANGEMENTS
 YESTERDAY, HEAD OF THE FRENCH AIR FORCE, GENERAL FLEURY, COULD
 NOT HAVE BEEN MORE HELPFUL. WHEN WE HAD AGREED THE FORMAT FOR
 THE PRACTICE COMBAT TRAINING HARRIER VERSUS MIRAGE I WAS TOLD THAT
 M. HERNU WOULD LIKE TO SEE ME. THE MINISTER, HAVING STRESSED THE
 PARAMOUNT NEED FOR NO PUBLICITY OF THE EXCHANGE, THEN ASKED ME
 IF I WAS SATISFIED WITH WHAT THE FRENCH AIR FORCES WERE PROVIDING IN
 RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST. I SAID I WAS CERTAIN WE WOULD BE VERY
 SATISFIED AND THAT I THOUGHT THE SPEED OF REACTION OF THE FAF IN
 MEETING OUR SHORT NOTICE REQUEST WAS REMARKABLE. M. HERNU THEN
 ASKED ME TO PASS HIS REGARDS TO MR NOTT WITH THE MESSAGE THAT IF
 THERE WAS ANYTHING MORE HE COULD DO TO HELP THEN WE SHOULD LET
 HIM KNOW STRAIGHT AWAY.
- 2. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD WISH THE ABOVE PASSED ON IN CASE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD WISH TO THANK M. HERNU.