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Draft betrayed

"Rules of Engagement"

COPY NO.!!!

D E H O C / TOP SECRET

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GRS

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FM FCO 012110Z MAY 82

TO FLASH WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 888 OF 1 MAY

PERSONAL FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY FROM GILLMORE

1. OUR VISITOR OF THIS MORNING SPENT SEVERAL HOURS WITH HIS HOSTESS IN THE COUNTRY. THE LATTER SUMMONED LEACH.
2. AFTER SEVERAL HOURS' DISCUSSION OUR MORNING VISITOR WAS ENTIRELY SATISFIED THAT THE RISKS WHICH WE ENVISAGED THIS MORNING ARE IN EFFECT UNLIKELY EVER TO ARISE. THIS IS BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO LEACH, THE CONFIGURATION OF THE SHELF AND THE LACK OF DEPTH MEAN THAT THE PLANNED EVENT WAS ONLY LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN AREAS WHERE OUR PREVIOUS WARNINGS COULD LEGITIMATELY BE HELD TO APPLY.
3. FOR THESE REASONS, BECAUSE THE OPERATIONAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST A FURTHER WARNING WE^{RE} COMPELLING AND BECAUSE LEACH WAS ANYWAY RELUCTANT TO DESPATCH OUR ATTACKER FAR FROM OUR ZONE, OUR MORNING VISITOR WAS SATISFIED THAT WE NEED NOT INSIST ON THE CHANGE IN ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WE HAVE SOUGHT.
4. IN SHORT, HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE EVENT IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LEAVE US EXPOSED TO LEGAL OR MORAL REPROACH.
5. LEACH'S POLITICAL MASTER WAS APPARENTLY CONSULTED AND IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN AGAINST THE CHANGES WE ENVISAGED.

PYM

LIMITED

HD/EMERGENCY UNIT

HD/DEFENCE D

MR GILLMORE

MR WRIGHT

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