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YZ HSRB:
WONFO 029/15



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F C O (DESKBY 151930Z)

GPS 35Z

~~SECRET~~ 151930Z

WASHING ON 151752Z

TO IMMEDIATE F C O
TELNO 1289 OF 15 APRIL 1982.

FOLLOWING FOR GILLMORE

FCO TELEGRAM NO 703: STINGER

1. EAGLEBURGER TOLD ME THIS MORNING, WITH CONSIDERABLE DISCOMFORT, THAT HAIG HAD RELUCTANTLY DECIDED THAT HE MUST ASK US TO PUT OUR REQUEST FOR STINGER ON ICE FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS. EAGLEBURGER EMPHASISED THAT THIS MEANT DELAY, BUT NO CHANGE OF US READINESS TO LET US HAVE THE EQUIPMENT. HAIG HAD GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT EVERYTHING SHOULD BE MADE READY TO TURN THE EQUIPMENT OVER TO US AS SOON AS HE GAVE THE WORD. BUT AFTER THE DIFFICULTIES YESTERDAY OVER THE LEAKS ABOUT US SUPPORT FOR US, HAIG SIMPLY COULD NOT TAKE THE RISK OF THIS FURTHER VERY MATERIAL PIECE OF SUPPORT LEAKING. IT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CAUSE THE COMPLETE COLLAPSE OF HIS PRESENT EFFORTS.

2. I SAID THAT I KNEW THIS WOULD CAUSE DISAPPOINTMENT. I DID NOT KNOW WHAT OUR DEADLINE WAS FOR GETTING THIS EQUIPMENT TO OUR FORCES. BUT EAGLEBURGER SHOULD BE UNDER NO DOUBT WHATEVER THAT THE STINGER WAS ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR OPERATION WHEN WE REACHED THAT POINT. EAGLEBURGER FULLY UNDERSTOOD THIS. THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT WE WOULD BE SUPPLIED WITH THIS EQUIPMENT IF EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION FAILED. HE KNEW HOW AWKWARD THE DELAY WOULD BE FOR US BUT HE ASKED FOR OUR UNDERSTANDING IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

