

Telno 3658

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FM FCO 232000Z MAR 83

TO IMMEDIATE BUCHAREST

TELEGRAM NO 72 OF 23 MAR.

MY TELNO 42: PAPASOIU

ENR 02013		
RECEIVED		3.15
24 MAR 1983		
DESK OFFICER		COUNTRY
INDEX	PPA	Action taken

1. MINISTERS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ON HIS RETURN TO ROMANIA, PAPASOIU MAY BE SUBJECTED TO TREATMENT HARSHER THAN THAT INDICATED IN YOUR TELNO 73, 1982. THEY FEAR THAT THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES MAY JUDGE HIS CASE ON POLITICAL RATHER THAN ON LEGAL GROUNDS.
2. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR, DURING A CALL ON ANOTHER MATTER, RAISED THE SUBJECT OF PAPASOIU'S ENFORCED RETURN WITH MR RIFKIND ON 22 MARCH. HE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE MR RIFKIND ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE ATTITUDE THE AUTHORITIES IN ROMANIA WERE ADOPTING TOWARDS PAPASOIU. GLIGA REMARKED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE NO GROUNDS FOR THE HOME OFFICE'S ASSUMPTION THAT PAPASOIU WAS INDEED A ROMANIAN CITIZEN.
3. PLEASE SPEAK URGENTLY TO THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES AND ASK FOR CLARIFICATION PROVIDED THAT IN YOUR JUDGEMENT AN APPROACH ON THE LINES SET OUT BELOW WOULD NOT BE LIKELY TO MAKE PAPASOIU'S POSITION WORSE THAN IT ALREADY IS. THE PRIME MINISTER WILL WISH TO BE ABLE TO SAY, BY 241430Z MARCH, THAT YOU ARE SPEAKING TO THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT PAPASOIU WAS REMOVED FROM THE UK FOR A BREACH OF THE IMMIGRATION LAWS, AND NOT FOR POLITICAL REASONS. WE THEREFORE EXPECT THAT THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES WILL DEAL WITH HIM SIMILARLY, I.E., FOR BREACH OF THE APPROPRIATE ROMANIAN LAWS, AND NOT ON A POLITICAL BASIS.
4. IF THE ROMANIANS SUGGEST EITHER THAT PAPASOIU IS NOT A ROMANIAN CITIZEN OR THAT HE IS TO BE STRIPPED OF HIS ROMANIAN CITIZENSHIP, YOU SHOULD SIMPLY UNDERTAKE TO REPORT AND SHOULD GIVE NO REPEAT NO INDICATION OF ANY POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT ACTION BY HMG. (FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION ONLY, THE HOME OFFICE ARE UNABLE AT THIS STAGE TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO ANY COURSE OF ACTION SHOULD THE ROMANIANS DECIDE TO DECLARE PAPASOIU A STATELESS PERSON.)

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5. PLEASE REPORT ROMANIAN REACTION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM.

6. SEE MIFT FOR FUTURE INSTRUCTIONS.

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