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CONFIDENTIAL
DEDIP
FM FCO
TO DESKBY 101400Z WASHINGTON
TELNO 1945
OF 091830Z NOVEMBER 86

MR POWELL, 10 DOWNING ST.

[WH 127]

FOLLOWING PERSONAL FOR KERR FROM POWELL (NO.10)

YOUR TELNO 2848: CAMP DAVID

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT CHARLIE PRICE ASKED TO SEE ME THIS MORNING TO COMPARE NOTES ABOUT THE PROGRAMME AT CAMP DAVID. I DID NOT MENTION THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONCERN ABOUT THE TOTAL LENGTH OF TIME AVAILABLE. HE CONFIRMED YOUR SUSPICION THAT A REASON FOR NOT HAVING A PROPER PLENARY SESSION IS A DESIRE TO KEEP NUMBERS DOWN. HE PRESSED ME ON WHETHER WE ENVISAGED ANY FORMAL STATEMENT BEING ISSUED AS A RESULT OF THE TALKS. I SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE SEEING THE PRESS AFTER THE CAMP DAVID MEETING AND THAT IT WAS HER NORMAL PRACTICE TO AGREE WITH HER INTERLOCUTOR ON THE SPOT THE GENERAL LINES OF WHAT SHE SHOULD SAY.

2. I AM INCLINED TO ADVISE AGAINST TRYING TO NEGOTIATE A LATER FINISH, ALTHOUGH YOU MIGHT EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT 1330 IS NOT AN ABSOLUTE DEADLINE AND THAT WE CAN RUN OVER A BIT IF NECESSARY. WE CAN LIVE WITH A PRESS CONFERENCE

AT 1530 IF NECESSARY. BUT OUR PREFERENCE REMAINS A SLIGHTLY EARLIER START.

3. ON YOUR POINT ABOUT WEINBERGER, I DO NOT THINK WE SHOULD GET INVOLVED DISCUSSING PARTICIPATION ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

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