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TO IMMEDIATE ROME

TEL NO 13 OF 24 JANUARY

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON PARIS BONN UKREP BRUSSELS UKDEL NATO
OTTAWA TOKYO.

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GUADELOUPE SUMMIT : ITALIAN REACTIONS.

1. THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON MR JUDD ON INSTRUCTIONS AT SHORT NOTICE ON 23 JANUARY TO REPORT FURTHER DISQUIET ON THE PART OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT OVER THE GUADELOUPE SUMMIT. PREFACING HIS REMARKS BY PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BRIEFING WHICH HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY SIR JOHN HUNT (WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS FULLER THAN THAT RECEIVED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT FROM ANY OF THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND 25% MORE THAN WHAT HAD APPEARED IN LE MONDE AS COMPARED WITH THE 25% LESS PROVIDED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT), HE THEN SPOKE TO THE BOUT DE PAPIER (TEXT IN MIPT) WHICH HE SUBSEQUENTLY LEFT WITH MR JUDD. HE SAID THAT SIMILAR DEMARCHES WERE BEING MADE BY ITALIAN AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON, BONN AND PARIS.
2. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION HE EMPHASISED THAT THE ITALIAN'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN WAS THE DILUTION OF POLITICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG THE NINE AND OF POLITICAL CONSULTATION IN N A T O CAUSED BY PRIVILEGED DISCUSSION OF IMPORTANT TOPICS BY THREE MEMBERS OF THE NINE WITH THE UNITED STATES. THEY WERE ALSO CONCERNED THAT THERE APPEARED TO BE NO GUARANTEE THAT THE GUADELOUPE SUMMIT IDEA MIGHT NOT BE REPEATED. AND THE INFORMAL, NO-CONCLUSIONS, NATURE OF THE MEETING WAS BELIED BY THE FACT THAT FOLLOW-UP ACTION HAD ALREADY BEEN PUT IN HAND EG. ON TURKEY. HIS GOVERNMENT VIEWED THIS DEVELOPMENT WITH GRAVE DISQUIET. THEY FURTHER BELIEVED THAT, IF IT WERE NECESSARY TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS IN A RESTRICTIVE SETTING, A FLEXIBLE USE OF THE QUOTE ECONOMIC SEVEN UNQUOTE FORMULA WITH ATTENDANCE DEPENDING ON SUBJECT WAS A BETTER WAY OF GOING ABOUT THINGS.

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3. MR JUDD TOOK NOTE AND UNDERTOOK TO CONVEY WHAT DUCCI HAD SAID TO HIS COLLEAGUES. HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT IN HIS VIEW, FAR FROM WEAKENING POLITICAL CO-OPERATION AND N A T O POLITICAL CONSULTATION, THE U K, BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIPS, COULD IN FACT ENHANCE BOTH PROCESSES. THE RECORD OF THE U K CONTRIBUTION TO BOTH N A T O AND POLITICAL CO-OPERATION SPOKE FOR ITSELF.

OWEN

FILES

WED

EID (I)

PLANNING STAFF

DEF-D

NAM-D

FR-D

PS

PS/MR JUDD

PS/PS

SIR A DUFF

SIR R HUBBERT

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MR FERGUSON

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