

CR3266

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Wash (63)
2 Pa.
26/6

CONFIDENTIAL
BY ROME 251339Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 239 OF 25 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY TOKYO
INFO SAYING WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO
EEC POSTS.

10RS 014/2		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 13		
5 JUL 1979		
UKREP OF RUSSEL SPECIALLY OTHER		
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

NY TELNO 274: ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

1. ON HIS RETURN FROM STRASBOURG ON 22 JUNE ANDREOTTI RECONFIRMED TO PRESIDENT PERTINI THE RESIGNATION WHICH HE FIRST HANDED IN ON 31 MARCH FOLLOWING THE DEFEAT OF HIS FIFTH GOVERNMENT ON ITS INITIAL VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.
2. THE CONSTITUTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS MOVE IS THAT PERTINI CAN NOW START THE FORMAL PROCESS OF CONSULTATION WHICH WILL LEAD TO THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT. HE IS EXPECTED TO DO SO ON 27 JUNE, THOUGH THERE IS NO LIKELIHOOD OF HIS GIVING A MANDATE TO ANYONE UNTIL AFTER ANDREOTTI'S RETURN FROM TOKYO. MEANWHILE ANDREOTTI REMAINS AS CARETAKER PRIME MINISTER ON THE SAME BASIS AS BEFORE.
3. THE ODDS ARE STILL THAT ANDREOTTI WILL BE THE FIRST TO BE INVITED, EARLY IN JULY, TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT. BUT WHETHER HE WILL SUCCEED IN DOING SO, GIVEN THE CONTINUING OPPOSITION OF THE SOCIALISTS TO SOLUTIONS INVOLVING ANDREOTTI'S REMAINING AS PRIME MINISTER, IS PERHAPS MORE PROBLEMATIC THAN IT APPEARED TO ANDREOTTI WHEN I SAW HIM ON 11 JUNE. (NY TUR).
4. FCO PLEASE PASS TO SAYING ADDRESSEES.

CAMPBELL
FCO | WH DISTN
WED

[REPLATED AS REQUESTED]

CONFIDENTIAL