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TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 708 OF 27 FEBRUARY 1981

INFO MODUK UKDEL NATO PARIS BONN

FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

MIPT: SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH MR HAIG: REVIEW OF THE ALLIANCE

1. HAIG RAISED THIS SUBJECT. HE SAID THAT THE PROSPECT OF ANOTHER ROUND OF ALLIANCE STUDIES, AFTER WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS FOUR YEARS OF KOMERISMS, WAS A PERSONAL NIGHTMARE. HE THOUGHT THAT SUCH STUDIES, INCLUDING THE UK IDEA OF A MAJOR REVIEW, MIGHT RISK GIVING SOME OF THE OTHER ALLIES AN EXCUSE TO RESILE FROM THEIR PRESENT COMMITMENTS, GRIND THEIR OWN AXES AND WEAKEN ALLIED COHESION BOTH WITHIN THE AREA OF THE ALLIANCE AND OUTSIDE ITS FORMAL BOUNDARIES. WHILE HE ACCEPTED THAT AT SOME POINT A FURTHER REVIEW COULD BE NECESSARY, HE WOULD PREFER THEREFORE THAT WE DID NOT PRESS OUR PROPOSAL FOR THE MOMENT.

2. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT WE ACCEPTED THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS POINT TO INITIATE SUCH A REVIEW. HAIG COMMENTED THAT HE EXPECTED THE GERMANS WOULD ALSO BE HAPPY TO HEAR THIS.

HENDERSON

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NAD

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PS

PS/LPS

PS/MA HURD

PS/PUS

SIR A ACHLAND

MR P.H. MOBERLY

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