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Date Printed:
17 Mar 2003

DOC_NBR: 1983LONDON12096

CHANNEL: n/a
HANDLING: n/a

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ACTION PA-02

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-01 PM-08 INRE-00 SP-02
PRS-01 /047 W

-----201645 081048Z /10

O 081042Z JUN 83
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4256
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3426
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12096

STATE FOR PA - HUGHES; DEFENSE FOR PA - CATTO; WHITE
HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE - SPEAKES; USIA FOR BALDYGA

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, SCOM, UK
SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT FOLLOWING THE BRITISH
-- ELECTION ON JUNE 9

1. WE HAVE BEEN DISCOURAGING REQUESTS FROM TV REPORTERS
HERE WHO HAVE ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF POST-
ELECTION INTERVIEWS WITH US OFFICIALS TO ELICIT
REACTIONS TO THE ELECTION RESULTS. WE RECOMMEND THAT
WASHINGTON AGENCIES FOLLOW SUIT.

2. ELEMENTS OF THE MEDIA WOULD NOT BE ADVERSE TO
QUOTING WASHINGTON COMMENTS IN A CONTEXT WHICH COULD
MAKE THEM EMBARRASSING TO MRS. THATCHER.

3. IN OUR VIEW, US COMMENT ON THE RESULTS OF THE
BRITISH ELECTIONS SHOULD COME FROM THE WHITE HOUSE
EXCLUSIVELY, AND FOCUS ON THE FACT THAT WE LOOK FORWARD
TO CONTINUING THE CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE
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ALWAYS ENJOYED WITH THE THATCHER GOVERNMENT. EFFORTS IN
OFFICIAL STATEMENTS TO INTERPRET THE ELECTION RESULTS--
FOR EXAMPLE, AS A PUBLIC VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN INF
DEPLOYMENTS--WOULD NOT PLAY WELL HERE AND COULD BE
COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. LOUIS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
~~REVIEW AUTHORITY: ERIC W FLEISHER~~
DATE/CASE ID: 28 MAY 2003 200101860

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