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Mr Ingham

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FM ROME
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 718
OF 261638Z NOVEMBER 86

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIME MINISTER
IN THE MARGINS

1. WE HAVE HAD A REQUEST FROM SANDRO VIOLA, A LEADER WRITER ON
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FOR WHAT IS NOW ITALY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL
DAILY, LA REPUBBLICA, FOR A SHORT INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIME
MINISTER EITHER IN THE MARGINS OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL OR IN THE
TWO OR THREE DAYS FOLLOWING IT. HE WILL BE ACCREDITED FOR THE
COUNCIL.

2. VIOLA WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND
THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR RESPONSE TO THIS, BOTH NATIONALLY,
AT THE EC LEVEL, AND BY OTHER AFFECTED WESTERN COUNTRIES
IN RESPONSE TO RECENT INCIDENTS. VIOLA HAS WRITTEN A NUMBER
OF ARTICLES APPLAUDING BRITAIN'S STAND ON THIS SUBJECT AND HAS
BEEN CRITICAL OF THE ATTITUDE OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. IF IT
WERE POSSIBLE TO FIND TIME, WE BELIEVE THE RESULTING ARTICLE WOULD
BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL, AND WOULD ACHIEVE GOOD
PUBLICITY FOR THE PRIME MINISTER WITHIN ITALY.

BRIDGES

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RFHPAN 4231

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NEWS.D
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PS
PS/PUS
PS/MRS CHALKER
MR THOMAS
MR BRAITHWAITE
MR RENWICK

COPIES TO:
NO 10 DOWNING ST.

✓ Powell
We can't
do this in the
margins of
the Euro Council which
the PM is chairing,
and I shall be
embarrassed by
the long list of
interviews
if we do it
later
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