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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM UKREP BRUSSELS 181755Z MAY 1982

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1860 OF 10 MAY 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE COPENHAGEN ROME PARIS UKMIS NEW YORK
INFO PRIORITY BRUSSELS THE HAGUE DUBLIN BONN LUXEMBOURG ATHENS
WASHINGTON UKDEL NATO

OREPER (AMBASSADORS) 10 MAY : FALKLANDS

## SUMMARY

- 1. MEETING CALLED AT MY REQUEST TO CONSIDER MODALITIES FOR TAKING DECISIONS ON RENEWAL OF SANCTIONS BEFORE THEIR EXPIRY ON 17 MAY. PRESIDENCY PROPOSED, AND AMBASSADORS AGREED, THAT:
- A) POLITICAL COMMITTEE SHOULD BE CONVOKED FOR 1600 HOURS ON 15 MAY (IN BRUSSELS).
- B) COREPER SHOULD MEET AT 1900 HOURS THE SAME DAY, WITH POSSIBILITY OF RECONVENING ON 17 MAY.
- C) PRESIDENCY SHOULD DECIDE IN THE LIGHT OF THE OUTCOME OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WHETHER IT WAS NECESSARY TO CALL A MINISTERIAL MEETING. IF DIRECTORS FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT, THEY WOULD CONVOKE THIS FOR AFTERNOON OF 16 MAY (IN BRUSSELS).

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D) THE FORMAL DECISION TO RENEW WOULD PROBABLY BE TAKEN IN THE ECOFIN COUNCIL MEETING OF 17 MAY.

## DETAIL

- 2. NOTERDAEME (PRESIDENCY) CONFIRMED ON LEGAL ADVICE THAT ON SANCTIONS REMAINED VALID UNTIL MIDNIGHT ON 17 MAY.

  HE EXPLAINED THAT AT VILLERS-LE-TEMPLE MINISTERS HAD REACHED TWO DECISIONS: TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING MEASURES AND TO TAKE A DECISION ON WHETHER TO RENEW THEM BEFORE THEY EXPIRED. IT HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED HOW THIS WOULD BE TAKEN, BUT IT WAS 'DANS L'ESPRIT' OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE COURSE OF NEXT WEEKEND.
- 3. NO ONE RAISED ANY SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES ABOUT THE PRESIDENCY'S PROPOSED PROGRAMME, BUT RUGGIERO (ITALY) SAID THAT COLOMBO MIGHT HAVE SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE TIMING WHILE LEPRETTE WARNED THAT CHEYSSON WAS CURRENTLY SCHEDULED TO SPEND THE AFTERNOON OF 16 MAY IN PARIS BRIEFING THE PRESIDENT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE ANGLO-FRENCH SUMMIT IN LONDON THE FOLLOWING DAY. RIBERHOLT (DENMARK) STRESSED THAT A PRIOR DECISION IN POLITICAL COOPERATION WAS A PRECONDITION FOR COMMUNITY AGREEMENT.
- 4. EMPHASISING THAT I WAS NOT (NOT) COMMENTING ON THE LIKLIHOOD I SAID THAT IN THE EVENT OF AGREEMENT IN NEW YORK THE COMMUNITY WOULD NEED TO REPEAL SANCTIONS BEFORE THEIR EXPIRY DATE. I ASSUMED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN CALLING A SPECIAL MEETING OF COREPER AND SECURING THE NECESSARY AGREEMENTS WITHIN A FEW HOURS. NO ONE DEMURED.
- 5. A NUMBER OF MY COLLEAGUES REPORTED APPROACHES BY THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR. NOTREDAEME CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD REPLIED ORALLY TO THE MEXICAN DEMARCHE ALONG THE LINES AGREED IN COREPER LAST WEEK (PARA 5 OF MY TEL NO 1811).
- TAKING THE FOLLOWING LINE WITH THE PRESS: COREPER HAVE MET TO REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR TAKING A DECISION ON RENEWING SANCTIONS BEFORE THEIR EXPIRY ON 17 MAY. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE PRESIDENCY SHOULD CALL MEETINGS OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, COREPER ON 15 MAY. IF ASKED, WE ARE CONFIRMING THAT CONTINGENCY PLANS EXIST FOR MINISTERS TO MEET OVER THE WEEKEND SHOULD THIS BE NECESSARY.

"NECESSARY.

FC ADVANCE TO :-

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