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MR.

LUX/FCO 005/17

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00 F C O DESKBY 170700Z

00 BRUSSELS

16 MAY 1982

00 COPENHAGEN

00 THE HAGUE



00 ROME

00 DUBLIN

00 PARIS

00 BONN

00 ATHENS

00 UKMIS NEW YORK

00 WASHINGTON

00 UKDEL NATO

GRS 280

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 170700Z

FM LUXEMBOURG 162110Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 122 OF 16 MAY

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



FM LUXEMBOURG 162110Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 122 OF 16 MAY

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FM UKREP BRUSSELS.

FALKLANDS.

1. BEFORE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TEN MET HERE THIS EVENING IT BECAME KNOWN THAT THE IRISH AND ITALIANS WOULD BE UNABLE TO TAKE A DECISION TODAY. THEY AND OTHERS WANTED MORE TIME FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER MINISTERS AND WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS.
2. WHEN THE SUBJECT WAS REACHED, AFTER AN HOUR ON THE MANDATE (SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM), OLESEN (DENMARK) PROPOSED POSTPONING THE DISCUSSION. THERE HAD BEEN A HEATED DISCUSSION IN THE DANISH PARLIAMENT AND HIS GOVERNMENT WERE IN A VERY DIFFICULT POSITION. CHEYSSON (FRANCE) SUPPORTED POSTPONEMENT OF DISCUSSION UNTIL TOMORROW AND WARNED THAT THIS WAS A SERIOUS MATTER OF WAR OR PEACE. YOU AGREED ON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DECISION TO BE TAKEN AND OFFERED TO UP-DATE COLLEAGUES ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE UN AND ON THE MILITARY SIDE.
3. TINDEMANS PROPOSED THAT DISCUSSION SHOULD BE POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW. (1800 HOURS). YOU AGREED ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DECISION TO BE TAKEN WAS FULLY RECOGNISED BY ALL.
4. AFTER THIS VERY BRIEF DISCUSSION YOU EXPRESSED SURPRISE TO TINDEMANS THAT THE SUBJECT HAD BEEN TAKEN AFTER AND NOT BEFORE THE MANDATE. TINDEMANS DEFENDED HIMSELF BY SAYING THAT THIS WAS ON THE INSISTENCE OF CHEYSSON. HE PROMISED HOWEVER THAT FALKLANDS WOULD BE THE FIRST SUBJECT TO BE DISCUSSED TOMORROW.
5. WE ARE TAKING THE LINE WITH THE PRESS THAT THERE HAVE BEEN PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS, BUT THAT IN VIEW OF THE NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN MINISTERS THE DECISION WILL BE TAKEN TOMORROW.

THOMAS

F C O ADVANCE TO:-

FCO EVANS CROWE LAMBERT EMERGENCY UNIT GIFFARD URE  
CAB WADE-GEARY HANCOCK GOODENOUGH COLVIN FULLER HATFIELD  
DOT CORLEY