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FM FCO 292000Z DECEMBER 81
TO FLASH BRUSSELS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 158 OF 29 DECEMBER
AND TO FLASH OTHER EC POSTS
MIPT

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1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE COREU BEING SENT DIRECT TO
PARTNER FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

BEGINS

THE PRESIDENCY WISHES TO CONFIRM TO PARTNERS THE MESSAGE WHICH
HAS ALREADY BEEN PASSED THROUGH BRITISH EMBASSIES IN CAPITALS
THAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR A SPECIAL INFORMAL MEETING
OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TEN ABOUT POLAND TO TAKE PLACE AT
LANCASTER HOUSE ON 31 DECEMBER, STARTING AT 10.30 GMT AND ENDING
IF POSSIBLE BY 1700 GMT. ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE AS
SUGGESTED FOR THE MEETING ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR 30 DECEMBER
(AS SET OUT IN COREU CPE/MUL/ETR 4219). ENDS.

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FM FCO 291849Z DEC 81
TO FLASH BRUSSELS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 157 OF 29 DECEMBER
AND TO FLASH OTHER EC POSTS
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON UKDEL NATO MOSCOW AND WARSAW

POLAND: MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE VERY URGENTLY FROM ME TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER (ATHENS PLEASE PASS TO CHEYSSON AS WELL AS TO THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER) AND (UK REP) TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION.

BEGINS:

SINCE OUR EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS I HAVE SEEN AN ACCOUNT OF THE CONVERSATION AT LUNCH IN WASHINGTON YESTERDAY BETWEEN OUR AMBASSADORS AND SECRETARY HAIG, AND I HAVE ALSO HEARD TODAY OF UNILATERAL AMERICAN MEASURES AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION WHICH PRESIDENT REAGAN WILL ANNOUNCE THIS EVENING. THIS EVOLUTION IN THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE, TOGETHER WITH EVENTS IN POLAND ITSELF, LEAD ME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD BY OUR PUBLICS IF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE TEN DID NOT MEET WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE BELGIAN PRESIDENCY I AM THEREFORE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR US TO MEET AT LANCASTER HOUSE IN LONDON ON THURSDAY 31 DECEMBER, STARTING AT 10.30 GMT AND ENDING IF POSSIBLE BY 1700 GMT. ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE AS SUGGESTED FOR THE MEETING WHICH I HAD ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR WEDNESDAY 30 DECEMBER. THE AGENDA WOULD BE PREPARED BY OUR POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND THEIR ECONOMIC COLLEAGUES WHEN THEY MEET HERE TOMORROW.

I HOPE THAT YOU WILL AGREE THAT THIS MEETING OF MINISTERS IS NECESSARY AND THAT YOU CAN MANAGE TO BE PRESENT, EVEN AT THIS VERY SHORT NOTICE. IF YOU CANNOT COME YOURSELF, I SHOULD BE VERY CONTENT IF YOU WERE TO NOMINATE A SUBSTITUTE, WHETHER A DEPUTY MINISTER OR A SENIOR OFFICIAL. IF ANY OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT MY SUGGESTION OF A MEETING I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THESE COULD BE VOICED AT THE OUTSET OF TOMORROW'S MEETING OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS, IF NOT BEFORE.

ENDS.

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2. FOR ATHENS. PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE MESSAGE TO CHEYSSON. QUOTE I REALISE THAT THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM YOUR OWN SUGGESTION THAT THE TEN SHOULD MEET ON THE EVE OF ANY GATHERING OF NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS. BUT I DO NOT WANT TO DELAY OUR OWN MEETING WHILE NATO MAKES UP ITS MIND, AND FROM THE AMERICAN POINT OF VIEW IT SEEMS TO ME BETTER TO HOLD OUR MEETING INDEPENDENTLY UNQUOTE.

3. MIFT CONTAINS THE TEXT OF A COREU BEING SENT DIRECT TO FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

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