

CONFIDENTIAL

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ZZ TRIPOLI

GRS 165

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FM FCO 171715Z APR 84

TO FLASH TRIPOLI

TELEGRAM NUMBER 145 OF 17 APRIL

ANGLO-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. FIRST AND FOREMOST WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE WELFARE OF YOURSELF, YOUR STAFF AND FAMILIES, PARTICULARLY WITH THE LATEST NEWS IN YOUR TELNO 165. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU THE MINISTER OF STATE'S TELEGRAM TO PEKING AND LISBON.

2. THE RECENT EVENTS HAVE MORE OR LESS FORCED US TO BREAK OFF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN THE REASONABLY NEAR FUTURE AS YOU WOULD EXPECT. WE SHOULD HOWEVER BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR URGENT ADVICE ON THE MODALITIES AND TIMING. WE HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND THE NEED TO MINIMISE THE RISKS TO THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND TO YOUR EMBASSY. ONE IMPORTANT ASPECT IS THE APPOINTMENT OF PROTECTING POWERS AND WHO THEY MIGHT BE. OUR PRELIMINARY THOUGHT IS THAT THE ITALIANS MIGHT BE ASKED TO LOOK AFTER US. GRATEFUL FOR YOUR VIEWS.

3. WE SHOULD ALSO BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR VIEWS ON ADVICE TO BE GIVEN TO THE RESIDENT COMMUNITY IN LIBYA AND TO INTENDING VISITORS.

HOWE

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ANGLO/LIBYAN RELATIONS

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