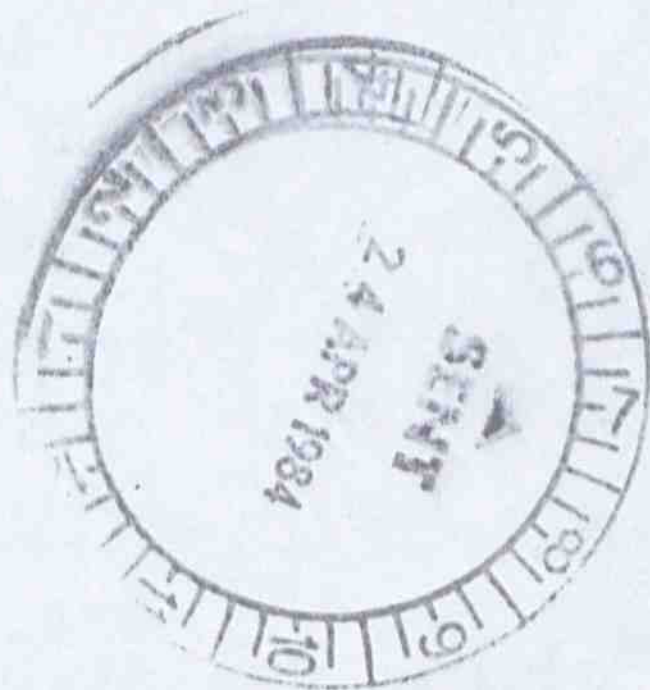


LIBYAN CRISIS  
PS/1/12/12  
PS/1/12/12  
PS/MR WHITNEY  
PS/PUS  
LORD N GORDON LENNOX  
MR WRIGHT  
MR EGERTON  
MR ADAMS  
SIR J LEAHY  
CHIEF CLERK  
MR WHITE  
SIR S. [unclear]  
HD/NENAD  
HD/MAED  
HD/DEFENCE  
HD/FUSD  
HD/CONSULAR  
HD/NEWS  
HD/SECURITY  
HD/PROTOCOL  
HD/POD  
RESIDENT CLERK

ADVANCE COPIES 2527

HOME OFFICE  
No. 10 DOWNING ST  
CABINET OFFICE BRIEFING ROOM  
DS11 MOD  
DSC, MOD  
RESIDENT CLERK, MOD

MR FREELAND } LEGAL ADVISERS  
MS DENZA }



Prime Minister

CONFIDENTIAL  
FM TRIPOLI 241425Z APR  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 230 OF 24/4/84  
AND TO IMMEDIATE ROME

ADVANCE COPY  
IMMEDIATE

ANGLO-LIBYAN RELATIONS.

1. WILLEY OF THE BBC TOLD ME THIS MORNING THAT HE WAS APPROACHED CONFIDENTIALLY LAST NIGHT BY KHALIFA AZZABI (EXPELLED FROM THE PB IN 198 AND NOW QADHAFI'S ENGLISH INTERPRETER BUT NOT IN MY OPINION A BAD EGG). AZZABI TOLD HIM THAT QADHAFI HAD DECIDED THAT, IF THE BRITISH POLICE ENTERED THE PB AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF LIBYAN STAFF, WHICH WOULD BE AN INCURSION INTO LIBYAN TERRITORY, THE LIBYANS WOULD BURN DOWN THIS EMBASSY. IN ANY CASE THEY WANTED TO GET US OUT FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT OVERLOOKING THE NAVAL BASE.

2. WILLEY SAID HE HAD ALSO BRIEFED MY ITALIAN COLLEAGUE, WHOSE REACTION WAS THAT THIS WAS NOT VERY LIKELY SINCE BURNING THE FRENCH EMBASSY COST THE LIBYANS ABOUT 10 MILLION DOLLARS. BUT QUARONI SAID HE HAD BETTER GET THE ITALIAN FLAG UP QUICKLY SO THAT THEY WOULD AT LEAST HAVE SOMETHING TO BURN.

3. QUARONI'S OPINION IS NOT TO BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS DID NOT KEEP THEM AWAY FROM THE JORDANIAN EMBASSY LAST MONTH. THE REFERENCE TO THE PB AS LIBYAN TERRITORY GOES BACK TO QADHAFI'S RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE.

4. TRAIKI HAS TOLD AFP THAT IF BRITISH SOLDIERS/POLICE ENTER THE PB, THE LIBYANS WILL FOLLOW SUIT HERE.

FILES

[TELETYPE 44]