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PS/172 kuce
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LORD N GORDON LENNOX
MR WRIGHT
MR EGERTON
MR ADAMS
SIR J LEAHY
CHIEF CLERK
MR WHITE
Sir S Bullard
HD/NEPAD
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HD/DEFENCE
HD/FUSD
HD/CONSULAR
HD/NEWS
HD/SECURITY
HD/PROTOCOL
Mr Pod
RESIDENT CLERK

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

MR FREELAND } LEGAL ADVISERS
MRS DENZA }

IMMEDIATE

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Prime Minister

CONFIDENTIAL

FM TRIPOLI 250738Z APR

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 234 OF 25/4/84

INFO IMMEDIATE ROME.

MY TELNO 233: ARRESTS, PRISONERS, ETC.

1. I ASKED JERBI ON EVENING OF 24 APRIL WHETHER LEDINGHAM HAD BEEN ON THE FLIGHT WITH SHAIBI AS I SUGGESTED. JERBI SAID HE THOUGHT NOT. I REFERRED TO MATUQ'S CASE WHICH JERBI HAD ALREADY RAISED WITH ME ON THE USUAL LINES AND WHO I HAD TOLD HIM WAS NO DIPLOMAT. I SAID IT WAS STRICTLY AGAINST OUR PRINCIPLES TO BARGAIN OVER PRISONERS AS HE PROBABLY KNEW. I HOPED MATUQ WOULD BE RELEASED. I WAS SURE HE WOULD BE RELEASED IF LEDINGHAM WAS RELEASED. I TOLD JERBI TO PASS IT ON. PLEASE CONTINUE TO HOLD MATUQ AT LEAST FOR ANOTHER 24 HOURS.

2. JERBI COMPLAINED THAT FEMALE INMATES OF THE PB WERE BEING SEARCHED IN AN OBSCENE MANNER. I SAID I WOULD ENQUIRE. WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO PRESS HIM TO FIELD OBSERVERS TO COVER THIS SORT OF QUESTION? LATER HE RANG ME TO SAY THAT WIVES OF TWO DIPLOMATIC STAFF HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND ILL TREATED. AS USUAL I RIDICULED HIS INABILITY EVEN TO TELL ME THE NAMES OF THE DIPLOMATS, BUT IN THE END SAID I WOULD INFORM LONDON THOUGH I COULD SEE NO WAY FOR YOU TO DEAL WITH SUCH A COMPLAINT.

MILES

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