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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Prime Minister.

London SW1A 2AH

You asked about this.

3 May, 1984

A. J. C. 3/5

Dear David,

Libya

Thank you for your letter of 24 April in which you asked whether we could shed any light on the report to the Prime Minister that our Ambassador and his staff had left the Embassy by the afternoon of 17 April.

Mr Miles reported in his telegram number 163 at 1548Z on 17 April that he and his staff were being prevented from leaving the Embassy and that he had protested to the Foreign Liaison Bureau, who had offered to send police cars to move the women in the building to safety. At 1740Z Mr Miles reported (Tripoli telegram number 167) that he had asked permission for women and children to return home at once. I enclose copies of both telegrams.

The Department were also in intermittent contact with the Embassy in Tripoli during 17 April. From a report of one of those telephone calls the member of the Department who briefed John Coles in Lisbon that evening gained the erroneous impression that the women and children had already been released from the Embassy.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq
10 Downing Street

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GRS 150

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FM TRIPOLI 171740Z APR
TO FLASH FCO
TELNO 167 OF 17/4/84

NFB 020/1	
18 APR 1984	

MY TELNO 166: ANGLO LIBYAN RELATIONS.

65a

1. ACTING HEAD OF EUROPEAN DEPT AT FLB RANG AT 1900 LOCAL. HE REQUESTED LIFTING OF THE SEIGE OF PB AND RELEASE OF THE SECRETARY AND MEMBERS, RELEASE OF LIBYAN CIVILIANS ARRESTED AT HEATHROW AND RELEASE OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT HELD AT HEATHROW: HE DEPLORED AN ATTACK MADE ON THE LIBYAN SCHOOL AND HUMILIATION OF STUDENTS. HE SAID NO FOOD AND DRINK WERE BEING ALLOWED IN TO THE PB.

2. I MADE THREE REQUESTS.

1). PERMISSION FOR BRITISH AUTHORITIES TO ENTER THE PB.

2). PERMISSION FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN TO LEAVE THIS EMBASSY BUILDING AND RETURN HOME AT ONCE.

3). A MEETING WITH TRAIKI , IN THE SPIRIT OF OUR EARLIER FRIENDLY MEETING.

3. GRATEFUL FOR BACKGROUND AND ANY INSTRUCTIONS IN CASE I AM CALLED TO A MEETING.

4. WE ARE STONE-WALLING ALL PRESS ENQUIRIES.

MILES

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| ANGLO/LIBYAN RELATIONS | |
| LIMITED | |
| NENAD | CONS D |
| MAED | PS |
| M & VD | PS/MR LUCE |
| NEWS D | PS/PUS |
| PUSD | SIR J LEAHY |
| PROTOCOL D | MR WRIGHT |
| DEF D | MR ADAMS |
| SECURITY D | MR EGERTON |
| MED | |

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AK

NFB 020/1	
RECEIVED	
18 APR 1984	

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GRS 8D

CONFIDENTIAL
 FM TRIPOLI 171548Z APR
 TO FLASH FCO
 TELNO 165 OF 17/4/84

MY TELNO 163: ANGLO/LIBYAN RELATIONS.

NFB 020/1
 (64)

1. MY STAFF AND I ARE BEING PREVENTED FROM LEAVING THE EMBASSY BY A GROUP OF REVOLUTINARIES WHO ARE ISSUING ORDERS TO THE POLICE.
2. I HAVE PROTESTED TO THE DIRECTOR OF TRAIKI'S OFFICE WHO OFFERED TO SEND POLICE CARS TO MOVE THE WOMEN TO SAFETY. I ACCEPTED. FAWZI HANZA THEN SAID THAT THIS ACTION WAS RECIPROCITY FOR SIMILAR ACTION AT THE PB IN LONDON. I AM NOW TRYING TO SPEAK TO TRAIKI.

MILES

ANGLO/LIBYAN RELATIONS	
LIMITED	
NENAD	CONS D
MAED	PS
M & VD	PS/MR LUCE
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DEF D	MR ADAMS
	MR EGERTON

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LIBYA
Relations
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3F MAY 1984

