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UNCLASSIFIED
FM MOSCOW
TO FLASH FCOLN
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TELECON AMBASSADOR/PRIVATE SECRETARY

APPLICATION OF CEILING TO BRITISH ORGANISATIONS IN MOSCOW.

1. THE MINISTER WAS SUMMONED BY SERGEYEV ONE OF THE DEPUTY HEADS OF UPDK AT 1630 MOSCOW TIME ON 22 MAY.
2. SERGEYEV SAID THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH KOVALEV'S STATEMENT ON 20 MAY (MY TELEGRAM 831) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STAFF, BOTH BRITISH AND SOVIET, WORKING FOR BRITISH ORGANISATIONS IN MOSCOW WOULD HAVE TO BE REDUCED TO 205. THE ORGANISATIONS CONCERNED INCLUDED THE EMBASSY, BRITISH FIRMS, BANKS, AIRLINE COMPANIES AND PRESS REPRESENTATIVES. SOVIET STAFF INCLUDED INDIVIDUALLY-ENGAGED DOMESTIC STAFF.
3. SERGEYEV INVITED US TO MAKE PROPOSALS WITHIN A WEEK AS TO HOW WE PROPOSED TO RESPOND TO THIS DEMAND.
4. MARSHALL UNDERTOOK TO REPORT. HE RESERVED HMG'S POSITION ON ALL ASPECTS OF WHAT SERGEYEV HAD SAID.
5. UPDK CLAIMED THAT 110 SOVIET STAFF WORK FOR THE EMBASSY AND 114 FOR THE NON-EMBASSY CATEGORIES COMBINED. TOTAL: 224. ACCORDING TO OUR CURRENT WORKING ESTIMATE THERE ARE 78 UK-BASED MEMBERS OF THE EMBASSY STAFF INCLUDING BRITISH TEACHERS AT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SCHOOL AND JUST UNDER 50 UK-BASED IN THE NON-EMBASSY CATEGORIES. TO THIS WE MAY NEED TO ADD NANNIES AND POSSIBLY ONE OR TWO OTHERS. SAY 140 AS A WORKING FIGURE. THIS WOULD LEAVE ROOM FOR 65 SOVIETS WITHIN THE QUOTA.
6. GERASIMOV'S PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON SERIOUSLY CONFUSED THESE FIGURES.
7. COMMENT AND ANALYSIS FOLLOW.

BRAITHWAITE

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