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1400-Swiss

① cc. PS/No 10.

RESTRICTED
FM ISTANBUL
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 027

OF 220920Z APRIL 92

AND TO ROUTINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT FOR PS/ENVIRONMENT SEC *on there*.
INFO TO PRIVATE SECRETARY, PS/MR GAREL JONES, MR APLEYARD,
INFO TO MR GREENSTOCK, MR JAY, HEADS ECD(E) AND WED

- We spoke.
- Grateful for an early view

GWJ
23/iv

FROM PS/FOREIGN SECRETARY

EC ENLARGEMENT: EFTA HEADS OF GOVERNMENT

1. THE PRIME MINISTERS OF SWEDEN, NORWAY AND FINLAND AND THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNSELLOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WILL ALL BE VISITING LONDON SOON. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO OFFER CARL BILD T LUNCH ON 7 MAY (YOUR LETTER OF 15 APRIL). THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY FOR MRS BRUNDTLAND TO SEE THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO WILL BE OUT OF LONDON DURING HER VISIT. WE HAVE RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR MEETINGS WITH JEAN PASCAL DELAMURAZ AND PRIME MINISTER AHO:

- SWISS FEDERAL COUNCILLOR: ~~MONDAY MORNING 27 APRIL~~ OR TUESDAY 28 APRIL.
- FINNISH PRIME MINISTER: WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, 29 APRIL.

SWITZERLAND

2. THE SWISS INTEND TO APPLY FOR EC MEMBERSHIP BUT THE TIMING IS UNCERTAIN. SWISS FEDERAL COUNCILLOR JEAN-PASCAL DELAMURAZ (ECONOMICS MINISTER) WILL VISIT THE UNITED KINGDOM ON MONDAY 27 APRIL AND TUESDAY 28 APRIL, AS PART OF HIS PROGRAMME OF CALLS ON THE TROIKA IN PREPARATION FOR A POSSIBLE SWISS EC APPLICATION. HE WILL CALL ON THE FOREIGN SECRETARY. A SHORT CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH WE INTEND TO GIVE TO ENLARGEMENT DURING OUR PRESIDENCY AND IN THE RUN-UP TO THE 1996 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL. IF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DIARY ALLOWS, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY HOPES HE MAY AGREE TO SEE DELAMURAZ BRIEFLY ON ~~27 OR~~ 28 APRIL.

FINLAND

3. PRIME MINISTER ESKO AHO OF FINLAND WILL BE IN LONDON TO GIVE

A LECTURE TO CHATHAM HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL. HE WOULD WELCOME A BRIEF MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER EARLIER THAT DAY. THE PRIME MINISTER LAST SAW MR AHO FOR 45 MINUTES IN DECEMBER 1991.

4. THE FINNS, WITH OUR ENCOURAGEMENT, APPLIED FOR EC MEMBERSHIP IN MARCH. WE HAVE WORKED HARD ON THE RELATIONSHIP WITH A POTENTIAL EC PARTNER, AND MR AHO'S CENTRE RIGHT GOVERNMENT COALITION REGARD THE UK AS THEIR PRINCIPAL FRIEND WITHIN THE EC. DOMESTICALLY, HE IS FACING INCREASING DIFFICULTIES GIVEN THE POOR STATE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY. HE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR REASSURANCE OF BRITAIN'S CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR FINLAND'S MEMBERSHIP BID.

5. IF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DIARY ALLOWS, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY HOPES THAT HE CAN SEE MR AHO BRIEFLY ON 29 APRIL.

6. I AM COPYING THIS TEL TO PHILIP WARD (DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT).

THORNE

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FRAME ENLARGEMENT ECD(E) [-]

ADDITIONAL 1

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