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TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 214 OF 27 FEBRUARY.

YOUR TELNO 205: MRS GANDHI'S VISIT: PROGRAMME

1. I HAD A FURTHER SESSION WITH MRS JAYAKAR AND RANA ON 26 FEBRUARY.

2. MRS JAYAKAR CONFIRMED THAT MRS GANDHI WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A SHORT (5-10 MINUTES) SPEECH AT THE HAYWARD GALLERY WHICH SHE CONSIDERS TO BE AN EVENT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. WE DISCUSSED THE DIFFICULTIES OF THIS (PARA 9 OF YOUR TELNO 194). WE BOTH FEEL THAT THE SPEECH CAN BE AN INFORMAL AFFAIR AND CAN TAKE PLACE EITHER RIGHT AT THE BEGINNING OR POSSIBLE WHEN THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS TAKE TEA (WHICH ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED INDIAN TIMETABLE, WILL TAKE PLACE AT 5.15 PM) AFTER THE WALK ROUND. FROM MY TALK WITH MRS JAYAKAR I AM SURE THAT WE MUST PLAN THE HAYWARD GALLERY VISIT AS CAREFULLY AS POSSIBLE. MY SUGGESTION IS THAT: THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS SHOULD BE MET AT THE ENTRANCE BY MRS JAYAKAR, KENNETH ROBINSON AND A FEW OTHERS SEMICOLON THAT THERE SHOULD THEN BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MRS GANDHI TO GIVE HER INFORMAL SPEECH SEMICOLON THAT THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS ARE THEN SHOWN AROUND SELECTED ITEMS IN THE EXHIBITION SEPARATELY (NOT LEAST BECAUSE THE EXPLANATIONS REQUIRED WILL BE VERY DIFFERENT) SEMICOLON AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE THE VERY MINIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE (EG PHOTOGRAPHERS AND SECURITY MEN) MILLING AROUND THEM AS THEY WALK AROUND (THIS IS SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN STRESSED TO US CONSTATNTLY BY THE INDIANS FOLLOWING THEIR EXPERIENCES DURING THE PARIS VISIT). MRS JAYAKAR PLANS TO LEAVE FOR LONDON ON 12 MARCH AND HAS SUGGESTED THAT SHE AND I SHOULD DISCUSS THE WALK AROUND IN DETAIL WITH KENNETH ROBINSON AFTER I ARRIVE. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR EARLY CONFIRMATION THAT THE INDIAN SIDE CAN PLAN ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MRS GANDHI WILL GIVE A SHORT SPEECH AT THE HAYWARD GALLERY.

3. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE SCIENCE MUSEUM EXHIBITION. THE INDIANS HAD HEARD THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MAY HAVE TO LEAVE BEFORE 1630 AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT IF POSSIBLE SHE COULD STAY A LITTLE LONGER (I.E. UNTIL 1700) FOR THE GOI RECEPTION, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND IF SHE COULD NOT SPEND MORE THAN 15 MINUTES AT IT. AGAIN WE ENVISAGE THE PROGRAMME AS FOLLOWS: TWO PRIME MINISTERS ARRIVE SEPARATELY SEMICOLON MET BY DAME M WESTON AND PROFESSOR MENON (5 MINUTES) SEMICOLON PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH (7-10 MINUTES) SEMICOLON SEPARATE BUT COORDINATED TOURS AROUND THE EXHIBITION WITH PROFESSOR MENON SHOWING THE PRIME MINISTER AROUND AND DAME M WESTON WITH MRS GANDHI (25 MINUTES) SEMICOLON MOVE TO INDIAN

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GOVERNMENT RECEPTION. THE INDIANS HAVE SAID THAT THEY ARE BLOCKING OFF 1-1/2 HOURS IN MRS GANDHI'S PROGRAMME FOR THE SCIENCE MUSEUM EVENT AS IT INCLUDED THE MAJOR OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (GOI) FUNCTION.

4. RANA HAS CONFIRMED THAT THEY ARE CONTENT FOR HMG TO HOST THE THEATRE VISIT WITH A MINISTER PRESENT. MRS GANDHI WOULD LIKE TO SEE "CATS" AT THE NEW LONDON THEATRE (START TIME 1945) RANA IS STILL NOT CERTAIN OF THE EXACT NUMBERS IN THE INDIAN PARTY BUT HAS ADVISED US TO BOOK ON THE BASIS OF UP TO 12 SEATS FOR INDIAN CONTINGENT (INCLUDING 3 AMERICAN FRIENDS). MRS JAYAKAR CONFIRMED THAT MRS GANDHI'S THREE AMERICAN FRIENDS SHOULD ALSO BE INVITED TO THE INAUGURAL CONCERT, HMG'S RECEPTION, THE HAYWARD, THE SCIENCE MUSEUM AND THE GOI RECEPTION.

5. RANA'S REVISED PROGRAMME FOR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON NOW RUNS AS FOLLOWS:

1600 MRS GANDHI REACHES SCIENCE MUSEUM

1730 MRS GANDHI LEAVES AT THE END OF GOI RECEPTION

1740 MRS GANDHI ARRIVES AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TEA WITH THE SPEAKER

1800 MEETING WITH CPA

1845 LEAVE HOUSE OF COMMONS FOR CLARIDGES

1855 ARRIVE CLARIDGES

1930 LEAVE CLARIDGES FOR THEATRE

1940 ARRIVE AT NEW LONDON THEATRE.

6. I ASKED ABOUT MRS GANDHI'S PLANS FOR THURSDAY 25 MARCH. MRS JAYAKAR CONFIRMED THAT MRS GANDHI WANTED NO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS ON THE 25TH. RANA SAID THAT IT MAY BE VERY DIFFICULT TO LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE WHAT MRS GANDHI WOULD DO ON THAT DAY. BUT THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE CO-ORDINATED BY MRS GANDHI'S CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER, SUBASH TANDON.

7. RANA REPORTED THAT ON FRIDAY 26, IN ADDITION TO CALLS BY MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN COMMUNITY IN THE MORNING, MRS GANDHI HAD EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN SOME FUNCTION CONNECTED WITH THE BLIND. RANA MENTIONED THE GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND (LADY LOTHIAN). I RECOMMENDED THAT THE INDIANS SHOULD INSTEAD ARRANGE THIS WITH THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND (SIR JOHN WILSON) WHICH DEVOTED A LARGE PART OF ITS EFFORT TO INDIA. FOR

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FRIDAY EVENING, RANA CONFIRMED THAT MRS GANDHI WOULD GIVE A LECTURE AND ATTEND A BUFFET SUPPER GIVEN BY THE SCIENCE POLICY FOUNDATION AT THE ROYAL SOCIETY FROM 1930 UNTIL 2130. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR URGENT CONFIRMATION THAT DR MAURICE GOLDSMITH AND HIS ORGANISATION ARE SUFFICIENTLY REPUTABLE FOR MRS GANDHI TO DO THIS. FROM OUR RECORDS (DR GOLDSMITH VISITED INDIA IN 1980) WE ARE NOT SURE THAT HIS CREDENTIALS STAND UP TO SERIOUS EXAMINATION BUT IF, AS WE ARE TOLD, THE EVENT IS BEING HELD AT THE ROYAL SOCIETY IT MAY BE A SUFFICIENTLY PRESTIGIOUS OCCASION. WE ASKED RANA ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTS SPONSORED BY HMG ON THE 26TH. HE SAID THAT THEY WOULD CERTAINLY LOOK AT ANY PROPOSALS.

8. MRS JAYAKAR CONFIRMED THAT SONIA GANDHI WOULD ACCOMPANY MRS GANDHI. RANA SAID THAT HE HOPED TO GET US A FULL LIST OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY EARLY NEXT WEEK. SINCE TALKING TO MRS JAYAKAR AND RANA, RAM SATHE HAS TELEPHONED ME TO SAY THAT MRS GANDHI HAD DECIDED THAT SHE WOULD NEED NO SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM THE MEA IN LONDON. THE PRINCIPAL ADVISOR ACCOMPANYING HER WOULD BE P C ALEXANDER, HER PRINCIPAL SECRETARY (EQUAL TO THE CABINET SECRETARY). ACCORDINGLY WE MAY NEED TO RETHINK THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PLENARY TALKS AT 1200 ON MONDAY 22 MARCH, BUT I SUGGEST THAT WE WAIT FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF THE ACCOMPANYING PARTY BEFORE MAKING FIRM DECISIONS ON HOW TO STRUCTURE THE TALKS ON MONDAY MORNING (I.E. WHETHER TO RECOMMEND A FULL TWO HOURS TETE-A-TETE OR WHETHER THE SECOND HOUR SHOULD STILL BE A PLENARY SESSION WITH JUST A HANDFUL OF OFFICIALS PRESENT).

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

11 February 1982

A. J. C. 12/2

h-a.

Dear John,

Visit by the Prime Minister of India

Further to my letter of 9 February, you will wish to know that we have just heard from our High Commission in New Delhi that Mrs Gandhi has now agreed to conduct the opening ceremony at the Hayward Gallery on Tuesday 23 March.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street



11 FEB 1982

