

GRS 200

UNCLASSIFIED

FM ROME 250800Z OCT 84

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 722 OF 25 OCT

INFO SAVINGS TO OTHER EC POSTS.

ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT: PRESS REACTIONS

1. THE ITALIAN PRESS OF 20 OCTOBER GAVE WIDE COVERAGE TO THE SUMMIT. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO PURELY EDITORIAL COMMENT, ALL THE PAPERS DESCRIBE THE SUMMIT AS A CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS. THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE MEETINGS HAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN WARM AND RELAXED.
2. IL POPOLO (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT) NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE SUMMIT PROVIDED EVIDENCE OF REAL BRITISH COMMITMENT TO EUROPE AND EUROPEAN COOPERATION. ALL THE PAPERS DRAW ATTENTION TO THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED BY BRITISH MINISTERS TO THE FORTHCOMING ITALIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE COMMUNITY. THE REPORTS ALSO AGREE THAT THE TWO SIDES FOUND THEMSELVES IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON A WIDE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. THE GRATITUDE EXPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER FOR ITALIAN PROTECTION OF OUR INTERESTS IN LIBYA HAS APPRECIATED. ON THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLANDS, CRAXI HAS REPORTED TO HAVE PROMISED THE 'MAXIMUM POSSIBLE IMPARTIALITY' AND TO HAVE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD MAINTAIN A COMMON POSITION.
3. CORRIERE DELLA SERA, MESSAGERO AND IL POPOLO ALL CARRY SUBSTANTIAL REPORTS ON INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UK AND ITALY IN THE WAKE OF THE SUMMIT. THE TONE OF THESE REPORTS HAS ENCOURAGING AND COMPLIMENTARY. THEY COVER PROSPECTS FOR DEFENCE/ INDUSTRIAL COLLABORATION PROJECTS, SUCH AS EH 101 AND A129, AND FOR SALE OF THE SEA HARRIER TO THE ITALIAN NAVY.

FCO PSE PASS INFO SAVINGS TO OTHER EC POSTS.

BRIDGES

**THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED**

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