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FM TOKYO

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 61

OF 170800Z JANUARY 86

mf

MY TELNO 39: VISIT OF THE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER

1. WHEN I CALLED ON MR ABE THIS AFTERNOON AT HIS INVITATION, HE SAID HOW MUCH HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS TALKS WITH YOU ON 21 JANUARY AND TO HIS CALLS ON THE PRIME MINISTER AND MR BRITAN. HE WOULD BE GLAD OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU ABOUT HIS DISCUSSIONS THIS WEEK WITH THE SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER AND TO HEAR YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST. ECONOMIC PROBLEMS REQUIRED ATTENTION. HE WELCOMED THE INTENSIFICATION OF ANGLO-JAPANESE EXCHANGES GENERALLY.

2. MR ABE TOOK THE INITIATIVE IN RAISING TIN AND SQUID FISHING OFF THE FALKLANDS. REFERRING TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER TO MR NAKASONE ABOUT TIN, MR ABE SAID THAT HE HOPED TO BE IN A POSITION TO BRING A CONCERTED JAPANESE GOVERNMENT POSITION TO LONDON.

3. ON SQUID, MR ABE SAID THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WERE DOING THEIR BEST TO MEET OUR REQUIREMENTS ON SELF-RESTRAINT. HE HIMSELF HAD BEEN SURPRISED TO LEARN THE LEVEL OF JAPANESE FISHING IN FALKLANDS WATERS. IT WOULD HOWEVER BE DIFFICULT TO MEET OUR REQUEST TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF JAPANESE VESSELS TO 45, PARTICULARLY AS JAPANESE FISHING BOATS HAD ALREADY SET SAIL. HIS OFFICIALS WOULD HOWEVER PUT FORWARD NEW PROPOSALS (SEE MY TELNOS 62 AND 63). WHICH HE HOPED WOULD PROVE ACCEPTABLE. HE STRESSED THAT THEY WERE THE RESULT OF STRENUOUS EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

GIFFARD

INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT

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- MR DAVID THOMAS

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- MR M LUNN(MM)) DTI ASHDOWN HOUSE
- MR J DENISON CROSS) DTI ASHDOWN HOUSE
- MR K HALL (MM)) DTI ASHDOWN HOUSE
- MR T VENESS ITP2) DTI 1 VICTORIA ST
- MR R TAYLOR ITP2) DTI 1 VICTORIA ST
- MR BRIAN MURRAY) DTI 1 VICTORIA ST
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