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Prime Minister.

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM TRIPOLI 141030Z JUNE 80

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TEL NUMBER 298 OF 14 JUNE 1980

MY TELNO. 297 : ATTACK ON EMBASSY

Ps
Ps/LPS
Ps/Mr Hurd
Ps/Pus
Sir S. Marland
Mr Moberly
Mr DENARD

PCD
News
Leads
Dio leak off
PS No to ~~D.S.~~

RC

1. I HAVE THIS MORNING PROTESTED IN STRONG TERMS TO THE HEAD OF PROTOCOL IN THE FLB. I SAID THAT :-

(A) THE ATTACK LAST NIGHT WAS A GROSS INFRINGEMENT OF THE INVIOABILITY OF DIPLOMATIC PREMISES AND THUS A GRAVE BREACH OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION. MY GOVERNMENT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE A VERY SERIOUS VIEW OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

(B) I RESERVED MY GOVERNMENT'S RIGHT TO CLAIM FULL COMPENSATION FOR ALL THE DAMAGE THAT HAD OCCURRED.

(C) THE FLB HAD FAILED TO PROVIDE MY EMBASSY AND MY STAFF WITH THE FULL PROTECTION TO WHICH THEY WERE ENTITLED AND WHICH HAD BEEN REQUESTED ON TWO OCCASIONS RECENTLY. I THEREFORE REPEATED MY REQUEST THAT, FROM NOW ON, PROPER PROTECTION BE PROVIDED BY THE LIBYAN AUTHORITIES.

(D) I HOPED THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ATTACK WOULD BE CAUGHT AND PUNISHED.

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2. MUKHTAR JAMAL CLAIMED THAT HE WAS QUITE UNAWARE OF
WHAT HAD HAPPENED. HE COULD ONLY APOLOGISE. AT MY
SUGGESTION, HE AGREED TO COME TO THE EMBASSY AND SEE THE
DAMAGE. IN THE EVENT, HE SENT ANOTHER FLB REPRESENTATIVE
WHO ALSO APOLOGISED, OFFERED WHATEVER HELP MIGHT BE
NECESSARY AND PROMISED A POLICE GUARD.

3. I HAVE AGREED TO ALLOW THE LOCAL POLICE, FIRE BRIGADE
AND OTHER EXPERTS LIMITED ACCESS TO THE DAMAGED AREA,
TO MAKE AN INSPECTION AND TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS. I ALSO
AGREED THAT MY SECURITY OFFICER, HUTTON, SHOULD ANSWER
CERTAIN QUESTIONS FROM THE POLICE ABOUT LAST NIGHT'S EVENTS
(MY FIRST SECRETARY AND I WERE BOTH PRESENT FOR THIS).

4. ALL IS QUIET AT PRESENT.

5. IF YOU AGREE, I THINK WE SHOULD FOLLOW UP MY PROTEST BY
A FORMAL NOTE TO THE FLB. I SHALL TELEGRAPH A DRAFT TEXT
A.S.A.P. MEANWHILE, GRATEFUL TO KNOW IF ANY OTHER POINTS
SHOULD BE INCLUDED.

EDES

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