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TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 598 OF 3 JULY 1981
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, BONN, TOKYO, ROME AND UKREP BRUSSELS
MY TELNO 595: OTTAWA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

1. AFP THIS AFTERNOON REPORTS THAT IN A LETTER TO M BERGERON OF THE FORCE OUVRIERE TRADE UNION PUBLISHED TODAY ON THE SUBJECT OF EMPLOYMENT, PRESIDENT MITTERRAND WROTE THAT QUOTE I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY AT LUXEMBOURG ON 29-30 JUNE TO CONFIRM THAT I MADE THE STRUGGLE AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT THE REAL PRIORITY UNQUOTE. HE ADDED THAT QUOTE YOUR PREOCCUPATIONS ARE THE SAME AS MINE, BUT THE DIFFICULTIES OF COORDINATING ECONOMIC POLICIES SHOULD NEVERTHELESS NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED UNQUOTE.

2. THE LETTER REPORTEDLY WENT ON TO SAY THAT M MITTERRAND WAS IN FAVOUR OF A QUOTE PRAGMATIC DEMARCHE UNQUOTE AND THAT AT OTTAWA HE WOULD OUTLINE THE SAME POLICY GUIDELINES AS THOSE AT LUXEMBOURG, QUOTE DRAWING UPON THE COHESION OF EC MEMBERS STATES WHICH HAD BEEN REAFFIRMED IN PARTICULAR REGARDING INTEREST RATES, NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH JAPAN UNQUOTE. THE LETTER APPARENTLY CONCLUDED THAT QUOTE IT WILL BE A QUESTION OF REAFFIRMING MORE GENERALLY THE NEW CHOICES MADE BY FRANCE IN THE FACE OF THE (PRESENT) CRISIS, THE TECHNOLOGICAL CHALLENGES AND THE REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPMENT UNQUOTE.

HIBBERT.

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