

7PM ADD PREMIER AT LONDON AIRPORT.

WAITING TO GREET SIR ANTHONY AND LADY EDEN AS THEY STEPPED FROM THE STRATOCRUISER WERE MR R.A. BUTLER, LORD PRIVY SEAL, MR OLIVER POOLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY, MR HAROLD WATKINSON, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, AND OTHER HIGH RANKING OFFICIALS.

7.12.PM ADD PREMIER AT LONDON AIRPORT.

SIR ANTHONY, WHO LOOKED SUN-TANNED, AND SMILED AS HE LEFT THE PLANE, SHOOK HANDS WITH MR BUTLER AND THE OTHERS THERE TO MEET HIM.

LADY EDEN, WEARING AN AMERALD GREEN FEATHER CLOCHE HAT AND LOVAT GREEN CHECK COAT LOOKED ALMOST PALE IN COMPARISON WITH HER HUSBAND.

AS SHE STEPPED ONTO THE TARMAC SHE RECEIVED A KISS FROM MR BUTLER AND ANOTHER FROM SIR ANTHONY'S SON, NICHOLAS EDEN. THE PREMIER AND HIS WIFE STAYED CHATTING FOR A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE WALKING TO THE V.I.P. LOUNGE, WHERE THEY STAYED FOR SOME 20 MINUTES.

SIR ANTHONY SPENT MOST OF THE 20 MINUTES DISCUSSING HIS PREPARED STATEMENT WITH MR BUTLER, WHILE HE SIPPED A CUP OF COFFEE, LADY EDEN COULD BE SEEN, SITTING IN AN ARMCHAIR WITH A GLASS OF SHERRY IN HER RIGHT HAND, TALKING TO NICHOLAS EDEN SITTING ON THE ARM OF THE CHAIR.

SIR ANTHONY AND MR BUTLER POSED FOR A FEW MINUTES AT THE DOOR OF THE LOUNGE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE BATTERY OF PHOTOGRAPHERS BEFORE WALKING THE 50 YARDS TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

7.16.PM ADD PREMIER AT LONDON AIRPORT.

LADY EDEN DID NOT ACCOMPANY THE PRIME MINISTER TO FACE THE TELEVISION AND NEWSREEL CAMERAS AND PRESS MEN WHO FILLED THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

SIR ANTHONY, AT EASE AND SMILING, LOOKED REMARKABLY FIT; MR BUTLER IN CONTRAST, LOOKED SOMEWHAT PALE BESIDE THE DEEPLY TANNED PRIME MINISTER.

SIR ANTHONY READ FIRST FROM A TYPESCRIPT, PART OF WHICH HAD BEEN SCORED OUT AND THEN FROM A HAND WRITTEN NOTE.

HE SAID "I AM GLAD TO BE BACK AMONGST YOU ALL.

"AS YOU KNOW I WENT AWAY TO GET FIT AND I NOW AM ABSOLUTELY FIT TO RESUME MY DUTIES.

"FIRST OF ALL I MUST THANK MY COLLEAGUES, ALL OF THEM, LEAD BY MR BUTLER FOR THE WAY IN WHICH THEY HAVE CARRIED ON.

"THEY HAVE KEPT ME INFORMED OF ALL THE MAJOR DECISIONS THAT HAVE HAD TO BE TAKEN AND I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH EACH ONE OF THEM.

"THERE ARE JUST ONE OR TWO THINGS I WANT TO SAY TO YOU.

"FIRST OF ALL, IN ALL THESE MONTHS, WE HAVE BEEN A UNITED GOVERNMENT. "WE SHALL STAY A UNITED GOVERNMENT, TO FACE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH WE KNOW LIE AHEAD AT HOME AND ABROAD.

"THERE IS NOW, I AM SURE FROM MY POST BAG AS WELL FROM MANY OTHER EVIDENCES, A GROWING UNDERSTANDING IN CANADA AND ALSO IN THE UNITED STATES ABOUT THE ACTION WHICH BRITAIN AND FRANCE WERE COMPELLED TO TAKE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

"I AM SURE THAT THIS WILL GO ON INCREASING.

"THE FORMATION OF A UNITED NATIONS FORCE COULD BE THE TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. DOES ANYONE SUPPOSE THAT THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A UNITED NATIONS FORCE BUT FOR BRITISH AND FRENCH ACTION? OF COURSE NOT".

HERE SIR ANTHONY PAUSED FOR A FEW MOMENTS WHILE CAMERAMEN CHANGED THEIR LENSES. THEN HE WENT ON "IT IS TRUE THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY POSSIBLE TO ALLOW EVENTS TO DRIFT-~~ET~~ TO LET HOSTILITIES SPREAD AND DEVELOP, TO ALLOW THE MOSCOW-CAIRO AXIS TO PERFECT ITS PLANS.

"ALL THIS WOULD HAVE GIVEN US MUCH LESS IMMEDIATE ANXIETY THAN WE HAVE HAD TO BEAR.

"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY TO DO NOTHING, IT ALWAYS IS FOR ANY GOVERNMENT AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POPULAR IN SOME QUARTERS.

"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FATAL, MY FRIENDS, JUST AS IT WAS FATAL IN THE YEARS BETWEEN THE WARS.

"EVERYBODY KNOWS NOW WHAT THE SOVIETS WERE PLANNING AND PREPARING TO DO IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

"RUSSIA SUPPLIED ARMS IN SUCH QUANTITIES AS HAS NOW BEEN REVEALED BECAUSE SHE KNEW THAT THE EGYPTIAN DICTATORS AMBITIONS SUITED HER OWN BOOK.

7.47 PM. ADD PREMIER AT LONDON AIRPORT.

( THIS PRECEDES MESSAGE TAPED AT 7.34).

" THE AIM WAS JUST THIS- MORE SATELLITES, BUT THIS TIME IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

WITH GREAT EMPHASIS SIR ANTHONY DECLARED: " I AM CONVINCED MORE CONVINCED THAN I HAVE BEEN ABOUT ANYTHING IN ALL MY PUBLIC LIFE- THAT WE WERE RIGHT, MY COLLEAGUES AND I, IN THE JUDGMENT AND THE DECISION WE TOOK AND THAT HISTORY WILL PROVE IT SO."

HE CONTINUED: " YOU ASK ABOUT THE FUTURE. IT SEEMS TO US THAT TWO THINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

" THE CANAL MUST BE CLEARED BY ALL AVAILABLE MEANS AND WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

" ITS FUTURE MUST BE SETTLED QUITE PERMANENTLY."

" EVERY COUNTRY CONCERNED MUST TAKE A FRESH LOOK AND MAKE A NEW EFFORT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BESET THE MIDDLE EAST FOR FAR TOO LONG."

7.34 PM. ADD PREMIER AT LONDON AIRPORT.

TURNING TO THE " TRAGIC SITUATION IN HUNGARY" HE SAID: " THE HUNGARIANS THEY HAVE SHOWN THAT WHATEVER THE OPPRESSION, FREEDOM LIVES ON. I WAS GLAD WHEN MR BUTLER TOLD ME THAT PARLIAMENT HQD DECIDED TO DEBATE THAT SITUATION NEXT WEEK.

" I AM SURE THAT IS A RIGHT DECISION AND THAT EVERYONE IN THIS COUNTRY, OR ALMOST EVERYONE, IS IN SYMPATHY WITH HUNGARY AT THIS TIME.

" THERE ARE TASKS IN PLENTY TO FACE US."

" I HAVE COME BACK REINVIGORATED TO DO WHAT I CAN WITH MY COLLEAGUES TO SOLVE THEM."

SIR ANTHONY ROSE AND BEFORE HE LEFT THE ROOM ADDED: " THANK YOU ALL, GOOD NIGHT, IT IS GOOD TO BE BACK AMONG YOU."

SIR ANTHONY AND LADY EDEN THEN LEFT BY CAR FOR 10 DOWNING STREET.

NICHOLAS EDEN TRAVELLED IN THE FRONT SEAT BESIDE THE DRIVER. MR BUTLER FOLLOWED IN A SECOND CAR.