

RESTRICTED

GRS 200

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FM TEL AVIV 040830Z MAY 81

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 195 OF 4 MAY

AND TO PRIORITY ROME

INFO ROUTINE WASHINGTON, PARIS, BONN

MY TEL NO 180. ISRAEL/EUROPE

1. BEGIN, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT HE NO LONGER INTENDED TO RETIRE AT 70 IF HE COULD FORM THE NEXT GOVERNMENT, BITTERLY, AND PUBLICLY, ATTACKED SCHMIDT AND GISCARD AT A HERUT PARTY MEETING ON 3 MAY.

2. BEGIN SAID THAT SCHMIDT'S REMARKS ON HIS RETURN FROM SAUDI ARABIA (SCHMIDT'S INTERVIEW IN BONN WAS SHOWN ON ISRAELI TELEVISION ON 2 MAY) ABOUT GERMAN MORAL COMMITMENT TO THE PALESTINIANS SHOWED "NO REMNANT OF HEART, HUMANITY, MORALITY OR MEMORY". BEGIN DESCRIBED SCHMIDT AS A HYPOCRITE, SEEKING TO FORGET GERMAN CRIMES AGAINST THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND INTERESTED ONLY IN SELLING WEAPONS AT HIGH PRICES AND BUYING OIL CHEAPLY. ANTI-SEMITES HAD ALWAYS RESENTED JEWS FOR THEIR "LOVE OF LUCRE" - BUT "IF YOU WANT TO SEE UNBRIDLED GREED AND AVARICE, GO SEE GISCARD D'ESTAING OF FRANCE AND HELMUT SCHMIDT OF GERMANY. THE FRENCH HAVE CONVENIENTLY FORGOTTEN ALL THE LOFTY IDEAS OF THEIR REVOLUTION AND THE GERMANS WANT TO FORGET THEIR UNFORGIVEABLE CRIMES."

3. WHILE BEGIN WAS SPEAKING, KIMCHE, IRONICALLY, WAS TELLING THE GERMAN CHARGE THAT THE ISRAELIS WANTED TO COOL MATTERS UNTIL THEY HAD SEEN THE FULL TEXT OF SCHMIDT'S REMARKS.

ROBINSON

MIDDLE EAST STANDARD

NENAD ES & SD
MED ERD
NAD ESID
UND CONS DEPT
EESD CONS EM UNIT
ECD CABINET OFFICE
WED
RID
MAED

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
ARAB/ISRAEL DISPUTE

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
ADVANCED

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