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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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November 1, 1979

Dear Helmut:

It was good speaking to you Tuesday and to find again that we are on exactly the same track with respect to the December TNF decisions. I want you to know that I have written Prime Minister Van Agt urging him not to introduce the Dutch proposal into NATO during Allied consultations there next week.

I have also sent messages to the Prime Ministers of Belgium, Italy and the United Kingdom, asking them to do what they can to convince the Dutch not to go ahead with their proposal. You, I know, will do the same. In all these letters I also explained why I was attracted to the possibility of reducing our nuclear stockpile by 1000 weapons in conjunction with TNF modernization and asked that they give the most serious consideration to this idea. As we discussed on the phone, the US will now proceed to raise this idea in Alliance consultations on TNF, with a view to incorporating it in the Alliance TNF consensus.

We are at a crossroads in the Alliance. By working together, I believe we can move to a decision in December that will provide for needed improvements in Alliance defenses and build a strong foundation for NATO arms control efforts.

Sincerely,

His Excellency
Helmut Schmidt
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
Bonn

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Review on Nov 1, 1985

DECLASSIFIED
F.O.I. 2953, Sec. 3.6
PER 426/100 [initials] RE NLS-99-74
BY [initials] NARS DATE 6/7/00