

CONFIDENTIAL

GPS 200
CONFIDENTIAL
FM BONN 241750Z APR 81
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 301 OF 24 APRIL
AND PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS

SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FRG

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: RESTRUCTURING
FOLLOWING FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY

AT HIS MEETING TODAY WITH GENSCHER, REFERRING TO ANGLO/GERMAN EXCHANGES AT OFFICIAL LEVEL, LORD CARRINGTON ASKED GENSCHER WHAT HE THOUGHT THE PROSPECTS WERE FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE PROBLEM BY THE END OF THE YEAR. GENSCHER'S REPLY WAS TO ASK IF LORD CARRINGTON THOUGHT THAT THE ONE PERCENT CEILING COULD BE KEPT. HE DOUBTED IT COULD BE KEPT AFTER ENLARGEMENT. LORD CARRINGTON SAID IT HAD TO BE KEPT. APART FROM ANYTHING OTHER, CONSIDERATIONS THE DISCIPLINE OF THE ONE PERCENT CEILING WAS ESSENTIAL FOR REFORM. HE ASKED IF GENSCHER THOUGHT FRENCH SUPPORT FOR THE ONE PERCENT CEILING WAS SOLID. GENSCHER SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW AND THOUGHT THAT A GOOD DEAL MIGHT DEPEND ON THE FRENCH ELECTIONS. SUBJECT TO THE STRENGTH OF THE CHALLENGE FROM EITHER CHIRAC OR MITTERAND, GISCARD MIGHT FIND BETWEEN THE TWO BALLOTS THAT HE HAD TO DO DEALS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE FRENCH POSITION ON THE ONE PERCENT CEILING. AGRICULTURE WAS AN IMPORTANT ISSUE IN THE ELECTION. HE AGREED WITH LORD CARRINGTON'S HOPE THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD PRODUCE A GOOD PAPER QUICKLY.

TAYLOR

[THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT ADVANCED]

FCO/WHITEHALL
ECD

CONFIDENTIAL