

GRS 370

UNCLASSIFIED

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TO ROUTINE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 925 OF 19 NOVEMBER

INFO UKREP BRUSSELS UKDEL NATO

INFO SAVING DUBLIN PARIS ROME LUXEMBOURG COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE

EMBASSY BRUSSELS ATHENS

ANGLO-GERMAN CONSULTATIONS: PRESS REACTIONS

1. THE CONSULTATIONS ARE WELL AND POSITIVELY REPORTED IN THIS MORNING'S PRESS. FOUR LEADING DAILIES (FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, DIE WELT, STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG AND SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG) HAVE FRONT PAGE ITEMS (THE LAST WITH A PHOTOGRAPH). MOST OF THE REGIONAL PRESS IS NOT PUBLISHED TODAY BECAUSE OF YESTERDAY'S HOLIDAY.
2. THE JOINT REACTION OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE CHANCELLOR TO PRESIDENT REAGAN'S SPEECH IS THE LEAD ITEM IN THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG (FAZ) UNDER THE HEADLINE QUOTE SCHMIDT AND MRS THATCHER WELCOME REAGAN'S INITIATIVE UNQUOTE. FAZ MENTIONS THE PRIME MINISTER'S REFERENCE TO QUOTE A REMARKABLE INITIATIVE UNQUOTE AND HER WARM GREETING FOR THE PRESIDENT'S INTENTION TO SEEK A MASSIVE REDUCTION IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS. FOR DETAILED GERMAN REACTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH SEE MIPT.
3. THE STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG (STZ), UNDER THE HEADLINE QUOTE ANXIETY FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY UNQUOTE COMMENTS ON THE CONSIDERABLE IDENTITY OF VIEW BETWEEN BONN AND LONDON, IN PARTICULAR THAT MEMBER STATES' NET CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD IN FUTURE BE LIMITED. IT ALSO REFERS TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S DENIAL THAT THE UK WAS IN ANY WAY NEGATIVE ABOUT THE GERMAN/ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR A EUROPEAN ACT. FAZ SAYS THAT THERE WAS ONLY GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE COMMUNITY BUDGET PROBLEM, BUT THAT THE CHANCELLOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE

/ WAS NO

WAS NO PROPOSAL TO GET THE UK TO PAY BACK PART OF ITS REFUND.
THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT SEE A SOLUTION TO THE BUDGET PROBLEM
UNTIL NEXT YEAR, WHILE THE CHANCELLOR THOUGHT IT WOULD BE SUFFICIENT
FOR AGREEMENT ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO BE REACHED AT NEXT WEEK'S
EUROPEAN COUNCIL.

4. THE BRITISH COMMITMENT TO BERLIN IS THE LEAD IN DIE WELT
WHICH REPORTS THE CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS AT THE LUNCH ABOUT THE
ESSENTIAL ROLE OF THE ALLIES TO THE DEFENCE AND FREEDOM OF THE
CITIZENS OF BERLIN. THE SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG (SZ) PICKS UP THE
CHANCELLOR'S PRAISE FOR THE ROLE OF THE BRITISH FORCES IN GERMANY.

5. THE JOINT PRESS STATEMENT IS WIDELY REPORTED. THE SZ HAS THE
HEADLINE QUOTE BROAD AGREEMENT WITH LONDON UNQUOTE AND STRESSES
THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS AS CONFIRMED BY
THE JOINT STATEMENT. IT ALSO QUOTES THE WISH OF THE HEADS OF
GOVERNMENT THAT THESE SHOULD BE DEVELOPED FURTHER.

6. NONE OF THE GERMAN PAPERS MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO THE CONTROVERSY
FEATURED IN THE BRITISH PRESS ABOUT THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH
AT THE LUNCH.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES

UNWIN

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]
[THIS TELEGRAM WAS NOT ADVANCED]

FCO/WHITEHALL

WED