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FM WASHINGTON 161830Z APR 83

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1020 OF 16 APRIL

INFO PRIORITY BONN, PARIS, MOSCOW, UKDEL NATO, UKREP BRUSSELS,
TOKYO, ROME, OTTAWA.

INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS

CHANCELLOR KOHL'S VISIT, 14-15 APRIL

THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR GAVE A COMMUNITY BRIEFING ON 16 APRIL.

2. KOHL AND GENSCHER HAD HAD A WORKING DINNER WITH SHULTZ AND HIS SENIOR ADVISORS ON 14 APRIL: BREAKFAST WITH VICE PRESIDENT BUSH ON 15 APRIL: AND MEETING WITH LEADING SENATORS, INCLUDING BAKER, PERCY, AND KENNEDY: LUNCH WITH THE PRESIDENT, HIS WHITE HOUSE ADVISERS, AND WEINBERGER AND A SEPARATE SESSION WITH WEINBERGER.

3. THE TALKS HAD CONCENTRATED ON CURRENTLY SECURITY PROBLEMS AND THE WILLIAMSBURG SUMMIT. KOHL HAD EMPHASISED THAT NATO'S DOUBLE DECISION SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN 1983 IN BOTH ITS PARTS. DEPLOYMENT WAS AS IMPORTANT AS ARMS CONTROL. NO OTHER ISSUE SHOULD DISTRACT THE ALLIES' ATTENTION. CONSULTATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE OVER THE LAST YEAR HAD BEEN EXEMPLARY AND SHOULD CONTINUE. KOHL BELIEVED THAT THE ALLIANCE SHOULD STILL GO FOR THE ZERO OPTION, IF NECESSARY STEP BY STEP, HE DID NOT THINK THE RUSSIANS HAD SAID THEIR LAST WORD ON THE LATEST US PROPOSALS. THEY WOULD PLAY POKER UNTIL THE FIRST DEPLOYMENT TOOK PLACE, AND WOULD STEP UP THEIR PROPAGANDA MEANWHILE. BUT THEY WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO COMPROMISE. DESPITE DIFFICULTIES WITH EUROPEAN (AND PERHPAS AMERICAN) PUBLIC OPINION, THE EUROPEANS WERE FIRM: KOHL HAD BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH MITTERRAND AND OTHER EUROPEAN LEADERS.

4. KOHL HAD TOLD THE AMERICANS THAT ONE SIGN OF SOVIET REALISM HAD BEEN THE INVITATION THEY HAD ISSUED IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS ELECTION. HE PROPOSED TO VISIT MOSCOW BEFORE THE SUMMER RECESS (THE AMERICANS HAD NOT DEMURRED). HE HAD SUGGESTED THAT REAGAN TOO SHOULD MEET ANDROPOV AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, PROVIDED THE MEETING WERE WELL PREPARED AND PROMISED RESULTS.

5. KOHL HAD TOLD THE AMERICANS THAT THE EUROPEANS GENERALLY WANTED A POSITIVE CONCLUSION TO THE CSCE. THEY ATTACHED AS MUCH IMPORTANCE AS THE AMERICANS TO HUMAN RIGHTS, NOT ONLY FOR PROMINENT DISSIDENTS BUT ALSO FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE, SUCH AS JEWS AND GERMANS SEEKING TO EMIGRATE. A MEETING ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAD NOW BEEN AGREED IN MADRID. THE CSCE WORDING WAS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY, BUT KOHL HOPED SOMETHING COULD BE WORKED OUT.

6. IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF IT COULD NOW BE AGREED IN MADRID THAT THE CDE SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR. EUROPEAN OPINION WOULD BE REASSURED IF THE SOVIETS ATTENDED, AND ALIENATED IF THEY DID NOT. EITHER WAY WOULD HELP WITH INF DEPLOYMENT.

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7. THE DISCUSSION WITH THE PRESIDENT ON WILLIAMSBURG HAD BEEN UNSUBSTANTIAL AND SURPRISINGLY LOW KEY. KOHL HAD ARGUED THAT THE SUMMIT SHOULD DISCUSS THE TRADITIONAL ECONOMIC SUBJECTS, AND AVOID EMPHASISING DIVISIVE PROBLEMS. HE ACCEPTED THAT EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS WOULD BE RAISED, BUT HAD REMARKED THAT THE VERSAILLES EXPERIENCE SHOULD ACT AS A DETERRENT, THE SUBJECT SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN PRIORITY, AND THE MEDIA SHOULD NOT BE LED TO EXPECT RESULTS. REAGAN HAD AGREED ON THE NEED TO AVOID CONTROVERSY; HE HOPED THAT SUFFICIENT PROGRESS COULD BE MADE BEFOREHAND SO THAT THE SUMMIT COULD SIMPLY TAKE NOTE. THE GERMANS HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE AMERICANS WOULD NOW PRESS EVEN HARDER FOR EARLY PROGRESS IN COCOM, OECD, AND ELSEWHERE.

8. IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS, HERMES SAID THAT KOHL HAD BRIEFLY MENTIONED THE EC/US AGRICULTURE DISPUTE, ARGUING THAT THIS AND OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES WOULD NOT SIMPLY GO AWAY BUT NEEDED TO BE KEPT IN PERSPECTIVE: ALLIED COHESION WAS MORE IMPORTANT. HE HAD NOT RAISED THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT, THOUGH THE GERMAN EMBASSY HAD PRESSED HIM TO (HERMES SUGGESTED THORN SHOULD SPEAK ON HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT). THERE HAD BEEN NO SUBSTANTIAL TALK OF POLAND OR THE MIDDLE EAST.

9. WE SHALL REPORT US REACTIONS SEPARATELY.

ADVANCE BULLARD, THOMAS, GILLMORE, WOOD (WED).

FCO PASS SAVING: ATHENS, BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, DUBLIN, LUXEMBOURG, THE HAGUE.

WRIGHT

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

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