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FM PARIS 231650Z MAY 85

TO PRIORITY F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 428 OF 23 MAY

INFO ROUTINE BONN, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO

INFO SAVING ROME

BONN TELNO 511: GENSCHER VISIT TO PARIS, 22/23 MAY

SUMMARY

1. OFFICIALLY THE BAROMETER IS AGAIN SET AT FAIR BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE FRG, ESPECIALLY AFTER GENSCHER'S EXPRESSIONS HERE OF SUPPORT FOR EUREKA AND CRITICISM OF THE US APPROACH ON SDI.

DETAIL

2. BESIDES ADDRESSING THE WEU PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY, GENSCHER CALLED NOT ONLY ON DUMAS BUT ALSO ON MITTERRAND AND FABIUS: A CLEAR MARK OF FAVOUR.

3. IN HIS WEU SPEECH GENSCHER CALLED ON EUROPEANS TO COMBINE THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN ORDER NOT TO BECOME MERE SUBCONTRACTORS TO THE US, AND TO COORDINATE THEIR REACTIONS TO SDI: NO ONE SHOULD GOT IT ALONE.

4. AT A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE BOTH HE AND DUMAS DOWNPLAYED THE RECENT STRAINS AND STRESSED THE SPECIAL NATURE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE FRG. GENSCHER DESCRIBED US HANDLING OF THE SDI RESEARCH ISSUE AS THE AMERICANS GOING THROUGH EUROPE WITH THEIR CHEQUEBOOKS. THE FRG'S SUPPORT FOR EUREKA, HE SAID, STEMMED FROM THE BELIEF THAT EUROPE COULD NOT RISK LOSING ITS BEST BRAINS. HE ANNOUNCED THAT AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF FRENCH AND GERMAN MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE WOULD SHORTLY BE HELD TO DEFINE A JOINT APPROACH TO SDI AND THE GENEVA TALKS. GENSCHER ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE TOLD THE PRESS THAT FRENCH AND GEMAN VIEW ON THE HANDLING OF INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS IN MILAN (ESPECIALLY MAJORITY VOTING) WERE NOW CLOSE.

5. FURTHER REPORT WILL FOLLOW WHEN OFFICIAL CONTACTS AVAILABLE.

F C O PLEASE PASS SAVING

FRETWELL

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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