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TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 442

OF 291725Z MAY 86

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS, PARIS

INFO ROUTINE OTHER EC POSTS, WASHINGTON

YOUR TELNO 258 (NOT REPEATED)

CONVERSATION WITH CHANCELLOR KOHL: 28 MAY: EC QUESTIONS

FILES ON GERMANY Relation 1973

1. I WENT THROUGH OUR OBJECTIVES FOR THE BRITISH PRESIDENCY IN THE FORM AGREED WITH NO 10 (BUDD'S LETTER TO POWELL OF 22 MAY), EMPHASISING THE PRIME MINISTER'S WISH TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH KOHL: THE NEED TO STAY BELOW THE 1.4 PERCENT CEILING: THE NECESSITY OF BUILDING ON THE TOKYO COMMUNIQUE AND THIS YEAR'S PRICE FIXING TO TACKLE THE BEEF SECTOR: THE PROBLEM OF PROTECTIONISM: AND THE MESSAGE TO THE UNITED STATES THAT ANYTHING COULD BE THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION, BUT THAT UNILATERAL MEASURES COULD ONLY LEAD TO RETALIATION.

2. KOHL NODDED FROM TIME TO TIME, SAYING THAT UNILATERAL MEASURES WOULD NOT IN FACT HELP THE US EITHER. HE FULLY AGREED ABOUT THE 1.4 PERCENT CEILING. HE COULD NOT MAINTAIN HIS BUDGETARY POLICY AT HOME IF A "TOTALLY MAD" BUDGET IN BRUSSELS WERE LET THROUGH. THANKS TO CHIRAC, THIS WAS ALSO THE FRENCH VIEW: FRANCE SEEMED TO BE STARTING OUT ON THE ROAD THAT KOHL HAD TAKEN THREE YEARS AGO. ON AGRICULTURE, HE SAID THAT THE FARMERS' PSYCHOLOGY WAS CHANGING BUT THAT THE PROCESS WOULD TAKE TIME. THE PROBLEM HAD BEEN NEGLECTED FOR FAR TOO LONG.

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MR DEREK THOMAS

MR RATFORD

MR DAUNT

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TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 444

OF 281805Z MAY 86

YOUR TELNO 258: CONVERSATION WITH CHANCELLOR KOHL, 28 MAY

1. WHEN I SAW KOHL TODAY I SPOKE AS INSTRUCTED ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S BEHALF (BUDD'S LETTER TO POWELL OF 22 MAY), WISHING HIM LUCK IN THE COMING ELECTIONS, THANKING HIM FOR HIS LETTER ABOUT CHERNOBYL AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THEIR NEXT MEETING AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL IN THE HAGUE.

2. KOHL SENT HIS WARM REGARDS TO THE PRIME MINISTER. LATER, IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION ABOUT EC QUESTIONS, AND AGAIN AS HE WAS SEEING ME OUT, KOHL ASKED ME TO REPORT THAT IF EVER THE PRIME MINISTER WANTED SOMETHING SAID OR PROPOSED WHICH SHE FELT THAT SHE COULD NOT INITIATE ON ACCOUNT OF BRITAIN'S PRESIDENCY ROLE, HE WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY HE COULD. HE ASKED THAT THIS SHOULD BE ARRANGED NOT THROUGH BUREACRATIC CHANNELS BUT BY A TELEPHONE CALL FROM ME TO HIM OR TO TELTSCHIK.

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