

GRS 180

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Ps/No 10 D St*

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BONN 181615Z JUL 85

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 731 OF 18 JULY

AND TO IMMEDIATE MOD FOR PS/S OF S, PS/MINISTER OF STATE (DP),

PS/PUS, PS/CDEC

*DISTRIBUTION SELECTOR  
FILE COPY*

MIPT (NOT TO ALL) AND YOUR TELNOS 399 AND 400: EFA

*mk*

1. KOHL RAISED THIS DURING MY CALL ON HIM TODAY, SAYING THAT HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING IT THIS EVENING IN STRASBOURG WITH MITTERRAND. THE FIRST AND MUCH THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY FOR KOHL WAS THAT THE AIRCRAFT TO BE BUILT SHOULD BE ONE WHICH THE LUFTWAFFE WANTED. HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO HAVE A REPETITION OF THE STARFIGHTER EPISODE. EXPORT SALES WERE ALL VERY WELL, BUT THIS WAS THE SECOND CONSIDERATION, NOT THE FIRST.

2. I SAID WE WOULD PUT THE FIRST POINT EVEN MORE STRONGLY: THE AIRCRAFT MUST MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AIR FORCES CONCERNED. OUR SECOND PRIORITY WOULD BE A FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORK AND MANAGEMENT. THIRD, THE DECISION MUST BE TAKEN VERY SOON: OTHERWISE WE WOULD NOT ONLY MISS THE IN-SERVICE TARGET DATE OF 1995 BUT FIND OURSELVES FACED WITH FAITS ACCOMPLIS WHICH MIGHT SERVE NATIONAL INTERESTS BUT NOT THE JOINT INTEREST.

3. KOHL, SOUNDING RATHER BETTER INFORMED THAN I HAD EXPECTED, AGREED WITH THESE POINTS, ALTHOUGH HE INDICATED THAT "REQUIREMENTS" MIGHT BE SUBJECT TO FINE TUNING.

4. I TOLD HIM THAT A LOT DEPENDED ON HIS BEING ABLE TO PERSUADE MITTERRAND TO BE REASONABLE.

BULLARD

LIMITED  
DEFENCE .D  
WED  
SED  
ECD'S  
PS  
PS/MR LUCE  
PS/PUS  
MR DEREK THOMAS  
MR BRAITHWAITE  
MR GOODALL  
MR RENWICK  
MR JENKINS  
MR DAUNT.

*copy to  
Ps. No 10 D St.*

**CONFIDENTIAL**