

GRS 455

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INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO, MODUK, UKDEL NASSAU

WASHINGTON TELNO 1662: ARMS CONTROL: LATEST SOVIET PROPOSALS

SUMMARY

GERMAN VIEWS ON
LATEST SOVIET INF PROPOSALS, AND HOW TO HANDLE.

DETAIL

2. WE DISCUSSED THE POINTS IN TUR WITH THE AUSWAERTIGES AMT (SCHMIDT) TODAY. ON KRASNOYARSK AND BALLISTIC MISSILE EARLY WARNING RADARS IN THE WEST, THE GERMANS HAVE NO COMMENT, BUT HAD THEMSELVES ALREADY TURNED UP THE RELEVANT LANGUAGE IN THE ABM TREATY WHICH PROHIBITS THE QUOTE FUTURE UNQUOTE DEPLOYMENT OF SUCH RADARS.

3. THE GERMANS SHARE OUR ANALYSIS OF THE INF PROPOSALS. THEY CONSIDER THEM UNACCEPTABLE AS THEY STAND, PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE DIRECT LINKAGE TO UK AND FRENCH WEAPONS. BUT THE GERMANS SEE SOME POSITIVE POINTS IN THIS LATEST MOVE. THEY NOTE INCIDENTALLY THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE ONLY INFORMAL ONES, MADE BETWEEN HEADS OF DELEGATION (TOWERS IN KAMPELMANN'S ABSENCE). THE GERMANS SAY THEY ARE IN SOME RESPECTS A DIRECT CONTRADICTION OF THE FORMAL SOVIET POSITION ON THE TABLE AT GENEVA, AND AS OUTLINED BY GORBACHEV IN PARIS.

4. THE POSITIVE POINTS ARE:

(A) RECOGNITION OF US INF STATIONING IN EUROPE IN PRINCIPLE AS AN INTERIM MEASURE:

(B) NO GENERAL BAN ON QUOTE CRUISE MISSILES UNQUOTE:

(C) NO LINKAGE TO THE SPACE OR STRATEGIC NEGOTIATIONS:

(D) REITERATION BY THE SOVIETS OF THE CONCEPT OF A FREEZE IN THE EAST (MADE TWO YEARS AGO, BUT NOT REPEATED EITHER BY GORBACHEV IN PARIS, OR IN THE CURRENT GENEVA SESSION):

(E) NO MENTION OF AIRCRAFT.

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5. ALTHOUGH SOME STATEMENT MIGH EMERGE FROM THE WARSAW PACT SUMMIT, THE GERMANS DOUBT WHETHER THE SOVIET UNION WILL SEEK EARLY PUBLICITY VALUE FROM THESE PROPOSALS, TO DO SO COULD THROW DOUBT ON THE GORBACHEV PARIS PROPOSALS, OR AT THE VERY LEAST CAUSE GENERAL CONFUSION, GIVEN THE CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN THE TWO PROPOSALS. GIVEN THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAVE OPENED AN INFORMAL CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION (SHADES OF QUOTE WALK IN THE WOODS UNQUOTE) THE WEST SHOULD ACTIVELY USE THAT CHANNEL TOO, AND SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE SEEK TO MAKE PUBLIC CAPITAL OUT OF THE SOVIET INCONSISTENCIES. TO DO SO WOULD SIMPLY RESULT IN THE SOVIET UNION CLOSING DOWN THAT INFORMAL CHANNEL. THE GERMANS WONDER WHETHER KARPOV'S RECALL TO MOSCOW FOR CONSULTATIONS IS RELEVANT.

6. THE GERMANS NOTE THE FLEXIBILITY INDICATED IN THE US SEPTEMBER '83 OFFER NOT TO DEPLOY THE FULL US QUOTA IN EUROPE IF THERE WERE AN AGREED GLOBAL CEILING FOR INF WITH A REGIONAL SUB-CEILING FOR THE SOVIET FORCES. WHILE TECHNICALLY STILL, PRESUMABLY, ON THE TABLE, IT MIGHT BE TACTICALLY WISE FOR THE AMERICANS TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THIS AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

BULLARD

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