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FM BONN

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 824

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INFO PRIORITY MOD UK, WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO, MOSCOW

SHORT-RANGE INF

1. CONTRARY TO SOME FEARS, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ROCK THE BOAT ON AN INF INTERIM SOLUTION BY PRESSING FOR NEW NEGOTIATING REQUIREMENTS ON SRINF.

DETAIL

2. KOHL YESTERDAY CHAIRED A MEETING WITH WOERNER AND GENSCHER TO RESOLVE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENCE/AUSWAERTIGES AMT DIFFERENCES OVER HANDLING OF SRINF AS PART OF THE INF INTERIM SOLUTION CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION.

3. FMOD HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN CONCERNED AT THE THREAT TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC POSED BY SOVIET SRINF SYSTEMS (IN PARTICULAR THE VERY SHORT-RANGE SCUDS) NOT INCLUDED IN THE LRINF NEGOTIATIONS. FMOD HAVE ALSO OPPOSED, ON MILITARY GROUNDS, A ZERO/ZERO LRINF SOLUTION. THE NEW CDS EQUIVALENT, WELLERSHOF, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW TODAY THAT HE OPPOSED ZERO/ZERO, BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO BOW TO OVERRIDING POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. FMOD CONSIDER 100 LRINF ON EACH SIDE RATHER TOO LOW FOR COMFORT. THE LOWER THE LEVEL OF LRINF THE MORE RIGOROUS THEY BELIEVE THE CONTROL OF SRINF MUST BE, TO AVOID A GREY AREA AND SOVIET CIRCUMVENTION.

4. SOME FMOD REPRESENTATIVES HAVE THEREFORE BEEN SUGGESTING MORE AMBITIOUS REQUIREMENTS ON SRINF THAN THE ALTERNATIVES OF A FREEZE AT 1982 LEVELS OR A US RIGHT TO MATCH AT DECEMBER 85 LEVELS SO FAR PROPOSED BY THE US AS COLLATERAL CONSTRAINTS. RIGHT WING POLITICAL SPOKESMEN (DREGGER, TODENHOEFER) HAVE THIS WEEK ADVOCATED A CONCURRENT AGREEMENT ON SRINF AS A PRECONDITION OF AN LRINF AGREEMENT. FDP SPOKESMAN FELDMANN HAS ARGUED AGAINST THIS, AS ENDANGERING THE PROSPECTS FOR LRINF. STRAUSS HAS SO FAR REMAINED SILENT.

5. GENSCHER AND THE AUSWAERTIGES AMT HAVE ARGUED THAT THE US COLLATERAL CONSTRAINTS ARE ADEQUATE AND THAT THE GERMANS SHOULD NOT ROCK THE BOAT AT THIS JUNCTURE IN A WAY WHICH MIGHT PREJUDICE AN LRINF OUTCOME. GENSCHER SEEMS MORE OF LESS TO HAVE CARRIED THE DAY. YESTERDAY'S FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DECISION IS THAT, AS PART OF AN INTERIM LRINF SOLUTION, THERE MUST BE BINDING COMMITMENT TO START NEGOTIATING IMMEDIATELY ON SRINF, INCLUDING SYSTEMS IN THE RANGE 150/500 KMS. (BOTH SIDES ARE SAID TO HAVE AGREED THIS ALREADY, INFORMALLY). THE SUBSEQUENT GOAL ON SRINF SHOULD BE AGREEMENT ON EQUAL CEILINGS AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE LEVEL (SOME HERE ARE PRIVATELY SAYING A LEVEL ABOVE ZERO). THIS NEGOTIATION WOULD TAKE PLACE AS A CONTINUATION OF THE INF NEGOTIATIONS AGREED BY THE NATO DOUBLE DECISION AND WOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 23 OF THE INTEGRATED DECISION.

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6. DETAILS WILL NO DOUBT BE DISCUSSED TODAY IN THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP
IN BRUSSELS.

BULLARD

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