

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BONN

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

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INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, MADRID, PARIS, ROME, THE HAGUE
INFO IMMEDIATE BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN

FRAME ECONOMIC

EUROPEAN COUNCIL MADRID : GERMAN VIEWS ON INTERNAL EC FRONTIERS

SUMMARY

1. SIGNS OF NEW GERMAN REALISM ABOUT RISKS IN REMOVING ALL INTERNAL FRONTIER CONTROLS.

DETAIL

2. I HAVE LEARNED FROM TALKS WITH GERMAN MINISTRIES THAT KOHL WANTS TO FIND AN OPPORTUNITY AT MADRID FOR AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL EC FRONTIERS. THE RECENT SURGE OF CONCERN IN THE FRG ABOUT FOREIGNERS COMING TO LIVE HERE AND THE RISE OF THE REPUBLICANS ON THE RIGHT OF GERMAN POLITICS HAVE LED TO REALISATION THAT SOMETHING SERIOUS MUST BE DONE TO AVERT THE RISK THAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION, TERRORISTS AND DRUG PEDDLERS WILL BENEFIT FROM ABOLITION OF INTERNAL FRONTIER CONTROLS. KOHL IS LIKELY AT MADRID TO SUGGEST THAT THE NATIONAL COORDINATORS FOR THIS SUBJECT BE GIVEN THE REMIT OF WORKING UP A SCHEME FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION BETWEEN POLICE FORCES. NEUSEL, PUS AT THE INTERIOR MINISTRY, TELLS ME THAT THE GERMANS REALISE THAT A EURO-FBI IS PREMATURE BUT WANT TO DEVELOP RELATIONS BETWEEN POLICE FORCES VIA STRUCTURED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION TO ACTIVE COOPERATION. THE WORK ON COMMON ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING ASYLUM AND THE BRITISH IDEAS ON COOPERATION AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING WERE RELEVANT.

3. ONE IDEA, WHICH I HEARD FROM STAVENHAGEN, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY IS THAT POLICE CONTROLS AT FRONTIERS MIGHT BE REMOVED IN PARALLEL WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN POLICE FORCES. STAVENHAGEN WAS EVEN WILLING TO ENTERTAIN THE THOUGHT THAT FRONTIER CONTROLS MIGHT BE REMOVED ONLY AS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INCREASED POLICE COOPERATION BECAME EVIDENT. OTHERS IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, NOTABLY THE AUSWAERTIGES AMT, ARE NOT KEEN ON THE IDEA OF DIRECT LINKAGE BETWEEN THE BUILD-UP OF POLICE COOPERATION AND THKERR AND ME THIS MORNING THE ONE WAY OF HANDLING THE POLITICAL NEED FOR REMOVING FRONTIER CONTROLS MIGHT BE TO SPEAK OF THE ARRANGEMENTS AT FRONTIERS THAT REMAINED NECESSARY FOR SOME

TIME AS FRONTIER CHECKS.

4. NEUSEL SAID THAT THE COMPLETE ABOLITION OF FRONTIER CONTROLS AMONG THE SCHENGEN COUNTRIES WAS IMPOSSIBLE ON THE SET DATE OF 1 JANUARY 1990 AND HIS PERSONAL BET WAS THAT 1 JANUARY 1993 MIGHT BE REALISTIC. THERE TOO ''COMPENSATING MEASURES'' MUST BE WORKED OUT AND IMPLEMENTED. SOME WOULD REQUIRE RATIFIABLE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. GRIMM REMARKED THAT ONE PARTICULAR PROBLEM FOR THE GERMANS WAS FRENCH REFUSAL TO ALLOW ANY KIND OF HOT PURSUIT BY GERMAN POLICE FORCES ACROSS THE BORDER INTO FRANCE.

5. STAVENHAGEN, LIKE OTHER GERMAN CONTACTS, WAS RELAXED ABOUT THE IDEA THAT BRITISH PORTS AND AIRPORTS, BEING EXTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNAL EC FRONTIER CROSSING POINTS, SHOULD RETAIN POLICE CHECKS.

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