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FM BONN 131130Z SEP 84

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 850 OF 13 SEPTEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS

INFO ROUTINE OTHER E C POSTS

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: GERMAN ATTITUDES

1. IN MY FIRST TALKS AND MEDIA INTERVIEWS HERE I HAVE BEEN STRESSING THE POINT, MADE TO ME IN LONDON, THAT THE CONGRUENCE BETWEEN BRITISH AND GERMAN INTERESTS OUGHT TO LEAD MORE OFTEN TO A COMMON ATTITUDE AND JOINT ACTION. I HAVE SAID THAT THE DECISIONS OF STUTTGART AND FONTAINEBLEAU, IF CARRIED OUT, OPEN THE DOOR INTO A NEW WORLD FOR WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER'S PAPER "EUROPE - THE FUTURE" PROVIDES A MAP. I HAVE ADDED A PHRASE WHICH GOT SOME LOCAL PUBLICITY: THAT WHAT THE COMMUNITY LACKS IS THE GERMAN VIRTUES OF REASON, DISCIPLINE AND ORDER.
2. AS TO CURRENT BUSINESS, I HAVE BEEN OVER THE GROUND, ORALLY AND/OR IN WRITING, WITH THE AUSWARTIGES AMT (RUHFUS), THE MINISTRIES OF FINANCE (TIETMEYER) AND ECONOMY (MUELLER-THUNS) AND THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE (GRIMM) ON THE LINES OF YOUR TELNO 209 TO DUBLIN.
3. THE REPLIES HAVE BEEN CHARACTERISTIC. RUHFUS SAID THAT HE KNEW WE THOUGHT THE GERMANS WET (SCHLAPP - NOT FOR QUOTATION). BUT HAVING BEEN LONGER IN THE COMMUNITY THAN BRITAIN THEY HAD PERHAPS A BETTER SENSE OF WHAT OTHERS WOULD ACCEPT AND A STRONGER INSTINCT FOR COMPROMISE. HIS ASSURANCE OF FUTURE COOPERATION WITH BRITAIN WAS THEREFORE QUALIFIED.
4. PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT, TIETMEYER LAST NIGHT WARNED ME THAT THERE WERE MANY IN BONN WHO WERE NO FRIENDS OF BRITAIN, EITHER BECAUSE THEY WERE FRIENDS OF FRANCE OR BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT BRITAIN HAD DONE TOO WELL AND GERMANY NOT WELL ENOUGH OUT OF FONTAINEBLEAU, OR FOR OTHER REASONS. HE THOUGHT WE WERE IN DANGER OF ADDING TO THE NUMBER OF THESE BY OUR CURRENT APPROACH, ESPECIALLY OUR INSISTENCE ON THE NEED TO BRING FORWARD NEW OWN RESOURCES INTO 1985 IF NECESSARY (POINT 111(C) IN YOUR TUR). HE CONCEDED THAT IN LOGIC THE CONNECTION BETWEEN NEW OWN RESOURCES AND ENLARGEMENT WAS WEAK. (RUHFUS LOOKED UNCOMFORTABLE ON THIS POINT TOO.) BUT IT WAS ONLY BY MAKING THIS LINK AND PINNING IT TO THE DATE 1 JANUARY 1986 THAT KOHL AND GENSCHER HAD BROUGHT THE POLITICAL PARTIES HERE TO CONTEMPLATE NEW OWN RESOURCES BEFORE 1987. KOHL IN PARTICULAR HAD GIVEN TOO MANY ASSURANCES TO THE BUNDESTAG, AND HAD BEEN TOO CATEGORICAL TOO OFTEN IN CABINET, TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE HIS STAND ON THIS. TIETMEYER SPOKE ABOUT THE IDEAS HE HAD OUTLINED TO MR STEWART DURING THE BUDGET COUNCIL LAST WEEK, DESCRIBING THEM AS THE EXTREME LIMIT OF WHAT GERMANY AND ESPECIALLY KOHL MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO ACCEPT. ONCE

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NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN AND PORTUGAL HAD BEEN CONCLUDED, THE TREATIES OF ACCESSION SIGNED AND THE RATIFICATION PROCESSES LAUNCHED, THINGS MIGHT LOOK DIFFERENT AND THE QUESTION PERHAPS BE RECONSIDERED. BUT TO FORCE THE ISSUE NOW COULD ONLY DRIVE IT UP AGAINST A BRICK WALL.

5. TIETMEYER'S OTHER MAIN POINT WAS THAT THAT IN A FEDERAL STATE SUCH AS THE FRG PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES TOOK MONTHS. A SETTLEMENT OF THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES WAS NEEDED WITHIN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT IF THERE WAS TO BE MACHINERY IN PLACE TO SUPPLY THE FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY FROM NOVEMBER ONWARDS.

### COMMENT

6. MANY IN LONDON KNOW TIETMEYER BETTER THAN I YET DO. BUT I WAS IMPRESSED BY HIS SINCERITY AND BY HIS REPEATED REFERENCES TO KOHL PERSONALLY. THE MISSING VOICE IN THE CHORUS OF WELCOME GIVEN TO ME HERE HAS BEEN THAT OF THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE (APART FROM GRIMM HIMSELF). KOHL IS A MORE SENSITIVE SOUL THAN HE APPEARS, AND IS CURRENTLY LOOKING A BIT LONELY HERE FOLLOWING THE IGNOMINIOUS CARSTENS AFFAIR AND THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE VISITS OF HONECKER AND ZHIVKOV OF WHICH HE HAD SPOKEN SO CONFIDENTLY. YESTERDAY IN THE BUNDESTAG HE SPOKE SOMEWHAT BITTERLY ABOUT THE SPAAK COMMITTEE AND HIS WITHDRAWAL OF CARSTENS' NOMINATION. I THINK IT WOULD PAY US TO LOOK FOR SOLUTIONS IN CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH DO NOT INJURE KOHL'S PRIDE OR REQUIRE HIM TO EAT TOO MANY OF HIS WORDS. I AM THEREFORE GLAD TO SEE THAT OUR LATEST PROPOSAL ON NEW OWN RESOURCES (YOUR TELNO 481) GOES SOME WAY TO MEET THE GERMANS. WE SHALL EMPHASISE TO THEM THAT WE ARE TRYING TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE CHANCELLOR'S POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES.

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO:

FCO: TICKELL, RENWICK, FAIRWEATHER, WALL  
CABINET OFFICE: WILLIAMSON, STAPLETON, LAMBERT  
TREASURY: UNWIN, FITCHEW, BOSTOCK, MORTIMER, PEET.

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