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TO IMMEDIATE ANKARA  
TELNO 170  
OF 081100Z APR 92  
AND TO IMMEDIATE ATHENS  
INFO ROUTINE PARIS, BONN, ROME, THE HAGUE, BRUSSELS  
INFO ROUTINE LUXEMBOURG, MADRID, LISBON, UKDEL NATO

GREECE AND THE WEU: LETTER TO FROM MITSOTAKIS TO THE PRIME MINISTER

1. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MITSOTAKIS DATED 31 MARCH (COPIED TO YOU BY FAX, AND TO OTHER POSTS BY BAG), IMPLICITLY THREATENING NOT TO RATIFY THE UNION TREATY IF GREECE DOES NOT SECURE FULL COVERAGE UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE MODIFIED BRUSSELS TREATY. SINCE THE DUTCH HAVE RECEIVED AN IDENTICAL LETTER, WE BELIEVE IT TO BE A ROUND ROBIN.
2. ALL PARTNERS HAVE NOW ACCEPTED A TEXT WHICH STRESSES THAT ARTICLE V WILL NOT BE INVOKED IN RESPECT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN ALLIES. THIS IS PART OF A DECLARATION WHICH CANDIDATE MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES WILL BE REQUIRED TO ACCEPT AS PART OF THE PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION/ASSOCIATION.
3. PLEASE TELL THE GREEKS, AT WHATEVER LEVEL YOU THINK RIGHT, THAT THE POINTS IN MITSOTAKIS'S LETTER HAVE BEEN REGISTERED IN LONDON, BUT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPLY BEFORE THE ELECTION.
4. IF THE SUBSTANCE OF MITSOTAKIS'S LETTER IS RAISED, YOU MIGHT SAY THAT WE WELCOME GREECE'S WISH TO ACCEDE TO THE WEU. THE DRAFT ENLARGEMENT PROPOSALS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION WILL OFFER GREECE FULL MEMBERSHIP ON THE SAME BASIS AS EXISTING MEMBERS AND THEREFORE WITH A STATUS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OFFERED TO OTHER ALLIES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. IT WILL OF COURSE BE FOR THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES TO DECIDE WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE OFFER - AS WE VERY MUCH HOPE THEY WILL. THERE IS NO QUESTION OF IMPOSING DISTINCTIVE CONDITIONS ON GREECE'S MEMBERSHIP OF WEU, OR OF ALTERING THE ROLE OF THE WEU AS THE DEFENCE COMPONENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION. EQUALLY, HOWEVER, ALL PARTNERS ARE CLEAR THAT THE ARTICLE V DEFENCE GUARANTEE WAS NEVER INTENDED TO APPLY TO DISPUTES BETWEEN ALLIES. THE DRAFT WEU ENLARGEMENT PACKAGE IS INTENDED TO CLARIFY THAT POINT.
5. GRATEFUL ALSO FOR YOUR ASSESSMENT OF HOW CREDIBLE THE

THREAT OF NON-RATIFICATION MAY BE: WE NOTE THAT MITSOTAKIS  
STOPS SHORT OF MAKING AN EXPLICIT LINK WITH ARTICLE V  
NEUTRALISATION.

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