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FM BONN 211315Z APR 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 344 OF 21 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS PRIORITY WASHINGTON PARIS

Prime Minister.
This, in my view, strengthens the case for a
summit level meeting sooner rather than later.
It may be that you should talk to Herr
Schmidt on the telephone to-morrow & ask him
to delay any announcement until after the weekend.
You should also float the idea of a meeting if
the Foreign Secretary talks with Herr Genscher
have been at all encouraging.

FEDERAL CHANCELLOR'S INVITATION TO MOSCOW

1. WADE-GERY, WHO IS IN GERMANY ON OTHER BUSINESS, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON VON STADEN THIS MORNING. HE FOUND VON STADEN WORRIED ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. IN CONTRAST TO THE US ADMINISTRATION (CF SIR N. HENDERSON'S CONVERSATION WITH BREZINSKI REPORTED IN WASHINGTON TELNO 1536), VON STADEN SAID THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S MAIN WORRY WAS OVER IRAN RATHER THAN AFGHANISTAN. HE EMPHASISED AGAIN THE GERMAN FEAR OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF US MILITARY MEASURES (E.G. A US NAVAL BLOCKADE) AND INDICATED THAT ANXIOUS CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN HERE TO POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH SOVIET AND THIRD WORLD (OTHER THAN IRANIAN) VESSELS MIGHT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE SCOPE OF SUCH A BLOCKADE.
2. HE EMPHASISED THAT IT WOULD BE THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR'S INTENTION TO GO TO MOSCOW AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIANCE. HE ALSO GAVE THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT THE CHANCELLOR HAD VIRTUALLY MADE UP HIS MIND TO GO, AND THAT A POSITIVE DECISION WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE END OF THIS WEEK SUBJECT TO THREE PROVISOS: A) ANY NEW FACTORS WHICH MAY EMERGE FROM GROMYKO'S VISIT TO PARIS, BEARING IN MIND THE GERMAN BELIEF THAT GROMYKO IS AT PRESENT IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY: B) POSSIBLE SOVIET WITHDRAWAL OF THE INVITATION (WHICH THE GERMANS CLEARLY DO NOT EXPECT), FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT ON 23 APRIL OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO RECOMMEND GERMAN NON-PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPICS: C) ANY MAJOR OBJECTIONS OF PRINCIPLE ON THE PART OF THE FRG'S THREE PRINCIPLE ALLIES. VON STADEN GAVE NO SIGN OF BEING AWARE OF THE STRENGTH OF FEELING IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THE INADEQUACY OF THE FRG'S PERFORMANCE SO FAR, AND DID NOT APPEAR TO FORESEE ANY SERIOUS OBJECTION ON THE PART OF THE US ADMINISTRATION.
3. WADE-GERY, WHO MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE HAD NO (NO) BRIEF TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS OF SUBSTANCE, CONFINED HIMSELF TO EXPRESSING OUR APPRECIATION OF THE GERMAN READINESS TO CONSULT.

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