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FM WASHINGTON 242330Z APRIL 80

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1607 OF 24 APRIL

INFO PRIORITY PARIS, BONN, UKDEL NATO, MOSCOW.

CURTEL NO 1563: FEDERAL CHANCELLOR'S INVITATION TO MOSCOW.

1. NSC STAFF HAVE TOLD US THAT THE GERMANS WILL BE MAKING A FORMAL APPROACH TO VANCE THIS AFTERNOON ON THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. THAT SCHMIDT WISHES TO SOLICIT PRELIMINARY VIEWS FROM THE UNITED STATES AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS GOING TO MOSCOW TO MEET BREZHNEV AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW AMERICAN REACTIONS BEFORE HE MEETS HIS EUROPEAN COUNTERPARTS AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL:

B. THAT HE HIMSELF IS OPEN-MINDED AT PRESENT ON THE MATTER:

C. THAT IN ANY EVENT HE HIMSELF WOULD NOT CONTEMPLATE VISITING MOSCOW BEFORE THE END OF JUNE: AND

D. THAT THE AMERICANS COULD REST ASSURED THAT IF HE DID GO HE WOULD CLEAVE TO ORTHODOX ALLIANCE POSITIONS ON THE SUBJECTS OF IRAN, AFGHANISTAN AND T.N.F.

2. NSC STAFF REITERATED THEIR INTEREST IN KNOWING HMG'S THINKING AT THIS STAGE AS TO WHAT ADVICE THE CHANCELLOR SHOULD BE GIVEN.

HENDERSON

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