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KOHL'S BRUSSELS SPEECH, 18 OCTOBER

SUMMARY

1. KOHL'S SPEECH TO A CATHOLIC GROUP IN BRUSSELS ON GERMAN POLICY FOR EUROPE SETS OUT BROAD GERMAN AIMS BOTH ON COMMUNITY MATTERS AND ON DEFENCE AND SECURITY. WHILE COMMITTING HIMSELF FIRMLY TO THE GOAL OF EUROPEAN UNION KOHL WAS CAREFUL TO QUALIFY THIS WITH REFERENCES TO THE NEED FOR PRAGMATISM. PROPOSALS AT ASPEN (BONN TELNO 1019) FOR A EUROPEAN POLICE FORCE AND AN EVENTUAL EUROPEAN ARMY REPEATED.

DETAIL

2. THE SPEECH (FAXED TO ARTHUR ECD(I)) WITH A QUOTATION FROM JEAN MONNET ABOUT THE NEED FOR THE UNITY OF EUROPE TO INVOLVE AN AGREED TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY. AFTER REHEARSING THE BACKGROUND TO GERMANY'S COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FRANCO/GERMAN RELATIONSHIP KOHL TURNED TO THE EUROPEAN ACT WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AN IMPORTANT PHASE IN EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT WHICH WENT WELL BEYOND THE CREATION OF A SINGLE MARKET.

3. KOHL LISTED THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY ON THE INTERNAL MARKET. HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE PROGRESS MADE ON THE WHITE PAPER. HE CITED TAX AND PUBLIC PURCHASING AS AREAS CAUSING VERY DIFFICULT PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY FOR SOME MEMBER STATES. FISCAL HARMONIZATION WAS NECESSARY FOR AN INTERNAL MARKET WHICH COULD WORK AND WAS AN INDISPENSABLE CONDITION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF FRONTIER CONTROLS ON THE CIRCULATION OF GOODS. SOME THOUGHT THAT FRONTIER CONTROLS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED FOR POLICE REASONS. THIS RAISED THE QUESTION WHAT EUROPE SHOULD DO ABOUT THE GROWING PROBLEMS OF TERRORISM, DRUGS AND ORGANISED CRIME. IT WAS TO DEAL WITH THIS THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED A FEDERAL EUROPEAN POLICE FORCE MODELLED ON AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.

4. THERE SHOULD BE A SOCIAL AS WELL AS AN ECONOMIC SPACE TO GAIN THE SUPPORT OF ALL FOR THE INTERNAL MARKET BUT THIS SHOULD NOT LEAD

TO A LEVELLING OF NATIONAL STANDARDS OF PROTECTION NOR TO 'SOCIAL DUMPING'. GROWING PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS MUST BE MET BY A MORE SERIOUS RESPONSE AT EUROPEAN LEVEL.

5. A EUROPEAN MONETARY AREA WOULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY A LONG AND DIFFICULT ROAD. THERE SHOULD BE NO HASTY MEASURES AND PRAGMATISM WAS NEEDED.

6. EUROPE MUST BE OPEN TO THE REST OF THE WORLD IN THE FIELDS OF TRADE AND COOPERATION. THERE MUST BE NO 'FORTRESS EUROPE'.

7. ON EAST/WEST RELATIONS FURTHER PROGRESS ON ARMS CONTROL WAS DESIRABLE BUT NOT TO THE DETRIMENT OF SECURITY. GERMANY HAD PARTICULAR REASONS FOR WANTING AN END TO EAST/WEST CONFRONTATION AND A STABLE DIALOGUE. HE HOPED HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO MOSCOW WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THIS BUT THE COHESION AND PATIENCE OF THE WEST HAD BEEN ESSENTIAL TO WHAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR. THERE WOULD BE NO SEPARATE GERMAN ROUTE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST.

8. THE GERMAN PROBLEM COULD ONLY BE RESOLVED IN COMPANY WITH OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONTEXT THE CMEA DECLARATION WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP.

9. THE CONCEPT OF A COMMON EUROPEAN DEFENCE POLICY IN CLOSE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AMERICANS WAS A PRIORITY FOR THE FUTURE. THE WEU PLATFORM AND THE INTEGRATION OF SECURITY POLICY WITH EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION WERE IMPORTANT FIRST STEPS AS WAS FRANCO/GERMAN COOPERATION. BUT WE SHOULD THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT PROGRESSIVELY REALIZING COMMON EUROPEAN DEFENCE. THIS COULD EVENTUALLY LEAD TO A COMMON EUROPEAN ARMY, BUT COULD BE ACHIEVED ONLY IN CLOSE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AMERICANS. KOHL ADDED THAT THIS MIGHT SEEM SOMEWHAT UTOPIAN. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE WEU ASSEMBLY MIGHT AT THE SAME TIME BE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

10. KOHL REFERRED TO MITTERRAND'S CALL AT HANOVER FOR MORE ACTION ON CULTURE - IT WAS REGRETTABLE THAT EUROPE PRODUCED ONLY A SMALL PART OF ITS OWN MEDIA PROGRAMMES. THERE SHOULD BE MORE YOUTH EXCHANGES.

11. CONCLUDING KOHL SAID THAT THE SINGLE ACT WAS ONLY ONE STEP TOWARDS EUROPEAN UNITY. EUROPE WOULD PROGRESS ONLY IF ALL ACCEPTED

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THAT COMMUNITY DEFENCE OF OUR INTERESTS WAS MORE ADVANTAGEOUS THAN ACTION BY A SINGLE MEMBER STATE. IT WAS NOT AT ALL A QUESTION OF ABANDONING NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY BUT OF CONCENTRATING OUR SOVEREIGNTY AND EXERCISING IT TOGETHER. NOR WAS THERE ANY QUESTION OF SUPPRESSING NATIONAL IDENTITIES THROUGH CENTRALIZED REGULATION - THIS HAD NEVER BEEN AN OBJECTIVE.

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