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MADRID EUROPEAN COUNCIL : DANISH COMMENT

SUMMARY

1 GENERALLY FAVOURABLE COMMENT ON AN OUTCOME SEEN AS SATISFACTORY FOR ALL AND A POSITIVE STEP FORWARD FOR THE COMMUNITY. MRS THATCHER'S PERFORMANCE COMMENDED.

DETAIL

2. ALL THE MAIN DANISH DAILIES TODAY (28 JUNE) CARRY ARTICLES, WITH A FEW EDITORIALS, ON THE MADRID COUNCIL. MOST HAD PREDICTED A STORMY MEETING, WITH THE UK IN DANGER OF BEING ISOLATED, BUT THE OUTCOME AND THE MANNER OF ITS ACHIEVEMENT ARE ROUNDLY WELCOMED. THE MEDIA PRESENT THE MADRID CONCLUSIONS AS A VICTORY FOR COMMON SENSE. THERE IS THE ODD REFERENCE TO A UK 'COMPROMISE' BUT MRS THATCHER'S TACTICAL SKILL AND POLITICAL SENSE ARE PRAISED. PRESIDENT MITTERAND IS PICTURED AS THE ONLY LOSER.

3. BOTH PRIME MINISTER SCHLUTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER ELLEMANN-JENSEN ARE QUOTED AS DESCRIBING THE ATMOSPHERE AT MADRID AS POSITIVE. ELLEMANN-JENSEN ADDED THAT THE OUTCOME PRESENTED NO PROBLEMS FOR DANISH DOMESTIC POLITICS. THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, THE MAIN OPPOSITION PARTY, HAVE ALSO COMMENTED FAVOURABLY ON THE MADRID CONCLUSIONS BUT HAVE STRESSED THAT EMPLOYMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES MUST PLAY A CENTRAL ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION. THE LEFT WING (AND ANTI-EC) SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY AND THE ANTI-EC MOVEMENT, WHICH WON FOUR SEATS AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, TAKE THE VIEW THAT DENMARK HAS RELINQUISHED SOME OF HER SOVEREIGNTY BY ACCEPTING STAGE 1 OF THE DELORS REPORT.

4. SCHLUTER IS DUE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE FOLKETING MARKET COMMITTEE ON 30 JUNE TO REPORT ON MADRID. THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S PARTY HAVE INDICATED THAT HE CAN EXPECT A ROUGH PASSAGE. OTHERWISE, THE CONSENSUS IN DENMARK WELCOMES THE RESULTS FROM MADRID.

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