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FRANCO-ITALIAN SUMMIT, VENICE, 5 OCTOBER

SUMMARY

1. A WIDE-RANGING BILATERAL BETWEEN MITTERRAND AND ANDREOTTI. AGREEMENT TO PRESS FOR AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE BY THE END OF 1990. ALSO AGREEMENT ON NEED TO HELP EASTERN EUROPE. MITTERRAND PROPOSAL ON DRUGS. ANDREOTTI EXPRESSES RESEVATIONS ABOUT THE WYOMING AGREEMENT ON CW.

DETAIL

2. THE TENTH FRANCO-ITALIAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUMMIT TOOK PLACE IN VENICE ON 5 OCTOBER. PRESIDENT MITTERRAND AND SIX OF HIS MINISTERS (INCLUDING DUMAS AND BEREGOVOV) HAD TALKS WITH THEIR ITALIAN COUNTERPARTS. MITTERRAND HAD AN HOUR-LONG TETE-A-TETE WITH ANDREOTTI. AFTER LUNCH, MITTERRAND FLEW TO BOLOGNA TO RECEIVE AN HONORARY DEGREE, RETURNING TO PARIS IN THE EVENING.

EMU

3. ANDREOTTI AND MITTERRAND AGREED THAT THEY SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO SECURE AGREEMENT AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AT STRASBOURG IN DECEMBER THAT AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE ITALIAN PRESIDENCY IN THE SECOND HALF OF 1990. AFTER THE TALKS, MITTERRAND TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE: 'MADRID BEGAN THIS PROCESS, PARIS IS CARRYING IT FORWARD, AND I HOPE ROME WILL CONCLUDE IT.'

THERE WAS ALSO REPORTEDLY DISCUSSION OF A FRENCH PROPOSAL THAT THE STRASBOURG DISCUSSION SHOULD BE DECIDED BY MAJORITY VOTE. ANDREOTTI IS REPORTED TO HAVE AGREED WITH THIS IDEA.

OTHER EC TOPICS

4. THERE WAS PREDICTABLY AGREEMENT ON FISCAL HARMONISATION AND THE SOCIAL CHARTER. MITTERRAND HOPED THAT THE SOCIAL CHARTER

WOULD BE APPROVED AT STRASBOURG. THERE WAS ALSO DISCUSSION OF THE ITALIAN ENTRY INTO THE AIRBUS PROGRAMME AND DE MICHELIS IS REPORTED TO HAVE DISCUSSED THE BAGNOLI STEELWORKS WITH DUMAS. BEREGOVY AND FINANCE MINISTER FORMICA (TREASURY MINISTER CARLI WAS UNABLE TO GET AWAY FROM ROME) SIGNED A DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT.

AID TO EASTERN EUROPE

5. MOST OF TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS HAVE SEIZED ON THIS TOPIC AS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IN THE MITTERRAND/ANDREOTTI DISCUSSIONS. BOTH FRANCE AND ITALY EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE BUSH PLAN TO HELP POLAND. THEY ALSO SUPPORTED THE US SUGGESTION THAT THE IMF SHOULD RESCHEDULE POLISH DEBTS. ANDREOTTI TOLD JOURNALISTS: 'OUR HELP MUST BE IMMEDIATE. BEFORE ECONOMIC REFORMS ONE HAS TO BE ABLE TO SUROLES TO CHANGE COURSE '. DE MICHELIS URGED THAT CAUSE THE P
SIMILAR ASSISTANCE BE GIVEN TO HUNGARY AND YUGOSLAVIA.

DRUGS

6. MITTERRAND EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE BUSH PLAN AND PROPOSED THE FORMATION OF AN EC CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, MADE UP OF ONE EXPERT REPRESENTING EACH COUNTRY (SOCIOLOGISTS OR LEGAL EXPERTS WERE SUGGESTED) TO COORDINATE THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS AND HARMONISE ANTI-DRUGS LEGISLATION AMONGST THE TWELVE. ANDREOTTI IS REPORTED TO HAVE WELCOMED THIS IDEA.

MIDDLE EAST

7. ANDREOTTI GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S VISIT TO ROME EARLIER THIS WEEK. BOTH FRANCE AND ITALY EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR MUBARAK'S 10-POINT PLAN AND AGREED TO PRESS FOR AN EC STATEMENT IN FAVOUR OF IT. MITTERRAND DESCRIBED THE MUBARAK PLAN AS 'THE ONLY CARD LEFT TO PLAY. WE MUST SUPPORT IT BECAUSE IT FORCES OTHER PARTIES - ESPECIALLY SHAMIR -TO SHOW THEIR HANDS'. ON LEBANON, ANDREOTTI AND MITTERRAND AGREED THAT AN EC INITIATIVE WAS NO LONGER APPROPRIATE, AND OFFERED THEIR FULL SUPPORT TO THE TRIPARTITE COMMITTEE OF THE ARAB LEAGUE

IMMIGRATION

8. THERE WAS A SHORT DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS ATTACHED TO IMMIGRATION INTO THE EC FROM OTHER MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES.

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MITTERRAND CALLED FOR RESTRICTIONS ON IMMIGRATION, 'OTHERWISE WE SHALL BE SUBMERGED'. ANDREOTTI REPORTED THAT ITALY WAS ALREADY IN THE PROCESS OF INTRODUCING QUOTAS.

DISARMAMENT

9. ANDREOTTI EXPRESSED ITALIAN RESERVES ABOUT THE WYOMING AGREEMENT BETWEEN BAKER AND SHEVARDNADZE ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS, ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE PROPER FORUM FOR SUCH AGREEMENTS WAS GENEVA, RATHER THAN BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS. MITTERRAND ANNOUNCED THAT HE HOPED TO RELAUNCH THE CW NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA.

BILATERAL

10. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT COSSIGA WOULD UNDERTAKE A STATE VISIT TO FRANCE 29-31 JANUARY 1990.

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